



**Autumn Term 2018
Newsletter No 2**

24th September 2018

Dear Parents,

The Library Garden

Isn't this looking splendid now! All the children have visited the garden, and we are looking forward to using it for various purposes – reading outside, looking for mini-beasts, growing some vegetables, enjoying the sensory features. We have some more equipment to add and the hedge and bulbs to be planted; but it has certainly taken shape.

We wouldn't have this excellent addition to the school without the fundraising and help from so many people. We are grateful to FOSMS for their fundraising efforts, to the parents who ran the Grim Challenge and gave us their sponsorship money, to the Village Shop and the Frensham Fayre Committee for their donations, to the Tesco's Bags of Help Scheme – it has been a real community effort. Local garden designer Ruth Murphy of Blue Daisy Blue used her talents to great effect, and has volunteered hours and hours of her time – thank you Ruth for your skill and knowledge. And, of course, we are immensely grateful to ME Developments for donating to us their landscaping team who brought the plans into being over the summer holiday. How fortunate we are that the Marshall and Eaton families have children here at St Mary's: and that they decided to support the school in this way – Thank You! We are officially 'launching' the garden this Thursday afternoon.



Curriculum topics and VLE information

You should have received your child's curriculum for this half term and information on accessing the VLE however if you would like another copy please contact the office.



Protecting your child against flu

This year, as last year, all infant school age children are being offered influenza immunisation in school. You will find an explanatory letter and consent form in your child's book bag. Please return the consent form to the office as soon as possible, at the latest Friday 28th September.

The immunisation session has been booked for Monday 3rd December when an NHS team will come to St Mary's.

Beginning of year reminders: parking and school hours!

Please maximise the parking space around the green by parking closely together. When picking up your children please remember that we run our own one-way system around the green, passing the school on your right. Please do not park on the A287 and do not park in the bus stop – you are then preventing people from exiting safely on to the A287. If you collect your child at 3pm please leave quickly to let people arriving a little later have your parking space. The teachers dismiss children from 3pm until 3.15pm to allow for two waves of parking. In the morning the gate is opened at 8.40am and closes at 8.55 – by which time we expect children to be sitting ready for class to begin.

Dates for your diary

Please note the following dates for this half of term (they are also on the diary on our website):

- Monday 1st October - Waverley Abbey Open Evening
- Tuesday 2nd October - FOSMS AGM in School Hall
- Thursday 4th October - Life Bus visits school
- Friday 5th October - Waverley Abbey Open Morning
- Friday 5th October - FOSMS Curry Night
- Wednesday 10th October - Woodpeckers to the Albert Hall and Science Museum
- Friday 12th October – St Mary's Open Morning from 9.30am to 11.30am (2019 entry)
- Monday 15th October – Harvest Festival at 10am
- Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th October – Parents' Evenings
- Friday 19th October – Mufti Day
- 22nd October to 26th October – Half Term

Data Checking Sheets and e-Safety agreement

If you have not returned your sheets please do so as soon as possible.

FOSMS Curry Night



At 8pm on Friday 5th October FOSMS are holding their annual curry night at Rowledge Village Hall. Tickets cost £14 each, excluding drinks. Please register with the office and submit payment via BACs (Acc. 71496816 Sort Code 40-21-05), by cheque payable to FOSMS or cash. This event is organised by a



team of Woodpecker parents and is a very social way to start the new year and get to know other parents.

Autumn Bazaar

Planning is really under way for this fantastic event organised every year by FOSMS. Collection dates for donation items are on the school notice board and blue tubs will be in the classrooms for collections. Friday 19th October will be a Mufti Day where children will be asked to bring in a bottle for the tombola.

Open Morning

Our open morning is Friday 12th October, between 9.30 – 11.30am for children starting school in September 2019. If you have a younger child due to start next year you are very welcome to attend. Please would you also inform friends who are considering St Mary's for their child for 2018.

Book Fair



On Friday 12th October a book fair, supplied to us by The Book People will arrive at school for a whole week. There will be a wide choice of books available to purchase at excellent prices and all purchases go towards earning free school books for the St Mary's library. You will find a leaflet in your child's back pack today.

FOSMS AGM

The Friends of St Mary's are holding their AGM on Tuesday 2nd October at 9.15pm in the School Hall. The new committee will be officially appointed at this meeting. Please come along to support FOSMS. It is a good opportunity to get involved!

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival service at St Mary's Church will be on Monday 15th October at 10.00 am. We will be walking down to church at 9.40 am – if you have not already done so and would like to volunteer to walk down and back with the children please let the school office know in person or by email. (Do not volunteer if you have other children with you). You are most welcome to join us in the church for the service, but if you are driving to the church please approach the church from the Dockenfield direction rather than past our crocodile of walkers as this hinders our progress. Please send your child with a small harvest offering which is easy for your child to carry, for our harvest appeal. This year we will be donating to the Farnham Food Bank and you will find a leaflet in your child's bag with a suggested list of foods to donate.



Clubs

The clubs run by our teachers for Kingfishers and Woodpeckers at lunchtimes start this week. This term they include art club, eco-club and games club. Choir and Spanish club have already started. Spanish Club, on a Monday lunchtime, still has a few places available

for children in all classes. It is run by Penny Hardcastle of Perfecto Spanish - please contact her on penhardcastle@hotmail.com if your child would like to join.

Woodpecker visit to The Albert Hall and the Science Museum

Woodpeckers are going to London on Wednesday 10th October to visit the Science Museum and the Albert Hall to hear a special 'Primary Proms' concert. Letters have been sent out so please return your forms as soon as possible.

Goldfinches see The Snail and The Whale

Thank you to Frensham Heights School for inviting us and More House School for lending us their mini buses and drivers so that our new Goldfinches could enjoy a wonderful outing to see the 'Snail and the Whale' in the fabulous Aldridge Theatre.



Yours sincerely

Jennifer Downing
Headteacher

In Back Packs: Flu forms, Foodbank list, Book Fair flyer