

# School Newsletter

## Spring 1 2024

In harmony we  
Nurture, Inspire, Flourish



### Values for Spring: Love, Cooperation, Respect

What another inspirational Spring half term we have had with your children. Thank you for all your support in supporting learning at home, for the many volunteers that have helped out with swimming, Forest School, reading and trips. We can only continue to offer such a rich curriculum with the help of our volunteers, so let us know if you would like to join the team.

Our local history week has been a real success with our team of budding historians delving into Dorking in the past. Children explored the Deepdene Trail, Dorking caves and found out about the old school site.

We have some exciting trips planned for the coming months, following on from some great explorations at the Buddhist Temple, Painshill Park, Woking Mosque and the Imperial War Museum. Our choir sang amongst 9,000 other voices at the O2 at Young Voices, Jon from Surrey County Cricket has been teaching us all excellent skills and some of our children attended the Dorking Sportshall Athletics Competition.

Don't forget, any concerns or worries, please come and share them.

Kind regards  
Jacky Fyson



# Early Learning

This half term in Reception we have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about Length in our maths. Tallest, shortest, biggest, smallest. The children have had lots of fun drawing around their bodies to measure the length of each other. Super fun learning with the sun out too.



In Nursery the children have explored the concept and our value of “love” as we look at Valentines Day approaching...

We have looked at books about who we love and have linked this to our feelings and emotions as we also touched upon well-being week ( how we look after our bodies and minds). The children have used breathing techniques, we have spoken about ways to regulate our emotions and what we could do we when was in the red zone( angry/cross) some suggestions were going for a walk, the park, music, a hug and a drink of water.

# Year 1

This half term we have been learning about 'The Circus' and the diverse range of talents we all have in Love Class. Our 'Sensational Start', at the beginning of the term, was a visit from Sam the Circus Man. He gave us an amazing demonstration of his incredible talents. He then showed us how to balance peacock feathers, spin plates, juggle with brightly coloured scarves, walk the tightrope and so much more! What fun!



In D.T we have investigated, explored, designed and created circus themed hand puppets. Over the last week of term, we finished sewing our final products and evaluated them. Here are a few pictures of our wonderful creations. We have all really loved learning a new skill!



# Year 2

Wow, what an exciting first Spring Term Year 2 have had! In maths we have been looking at measuring. We have been using rulers and metre sticks to measure length and height and we have just moved on to interpreting pictograms.



In our English and Topic work we have been looking at Kenya and going on Safari! We have been comparing the difference between our lives and that of the children that live in Kenya



# Year 2

In Science we have looked at the life cycles and the forces of the push and pull. In our art work we have been creating silhouette pictures of a sunrise in Africa.



Finally, we have had a great time during our Local History Week! We have found out how St Johns has changed over the years and took a trip to the village hall to see where St Johns School use to be.

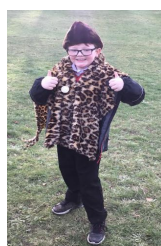


# Year 3

In Year 3, we have been learning all about the Romans: we have written about Gladiator battles and Roman banquets, we have made animations set in the Colosseum, we have made Roman pots and theatrical masks and we have learnt all about how the Romans lived in Rome. We thought about our harmony principle of diversity by considering how different life was for the Romans in Rome than it was for the Celts living in Britain. Life was changing - even over 2000 years ago!



The sun shone for us when we visited **Painshill Park**. We saw a Roman Mausoleum and visited the Roman-inspired Crystal Grotto. We played games to discover what life was like in the Roman Army. We then got our hands dirty making weapons and pots from clay and creating a model Roman village.



# Year 3

## Local History Week - Deepdene Trail

We visited the Deepdene Trail and learnt about the history of the house and gardens and their change of use over time. Back in school, we wrote poems which considered the comparison between the site in its glory days and now.



# Year 3

## **The Rise of Deepdene** **By Josh**

Glance at the beautiful view,  
Wander around the luxurious mausoleum,  
Notice the enchanted statues,  
Prance into the majestic grotto,  
Deepdene is laughing,  
Deepdene is smiling.



## **The Fall of Deepdene** **By Sophia**

Stomp through the overgrown  
bushes,  
Trudge to the graffitied and  
deserted Embattled Tower,  
Crawl into dirty, filthy tunnels,  
Venture to the abandoned grotto.  
Deepdene is blue,  
Deepdene is forgotten.



## Year 4

This half term we have been exploring the digestive system in animals and humans. We modelled this in class using bread, water, orange juice and food colouring to mirror what happens inside the digestive system. There were many green faces around the classroom - but still wanted to see more!



Year 4 had a lovely tour around Dorking with Mr Draper, teaching us about the wonderful rich history of our town. Whilst at the war memorial, some of us were able to spot our family names and learnt about the 14 year old boy who fought in the First World War. We also looked at the importance of the Dorking Cockerel to the town. Ask any of the Year 4 class about what happened underground! Of course we couldn't resist including a picture of our wonderful Miss Ames who was also having the time of her life at pump corner.



## Year 4

There has a lot of trumpet blowing this half term! We've been incredibly lucky to have a wonderful trumpet teacher coming in each Tuesday to teach us how to blow our own trumpets.



Year 4 have bowled us over with their cricket skills, thanks to the wonderful John. We have been focussing on our bowling, batting skills and teamwork skills



## Year 5

Courage Class had a great opportunity to visit the Buddhist Temple where we were greeted by one of the Monks, who delivered an introduction about the Temple, the life of the Buddha and monastic life. Finally, children were able to explore Buddhism faith by experiencing a short meditation and then there was time to ask any questions they had. This was a wonderful opportunity to experience and learn about the Buddhist faith and their way of life through mindfulness.



# Year 6

## Science

Year 6 have been investigating light this term. The sun shone brightly on the day we learned about shadows - giving us an unexpected opportunity to make our explore our own shadows outside.



## Topic

The Imperial War Museum provided Year 6 with a fantastic opportunity to explore the origins and reality of both World War I and World War II. They discovered the events that culminated in the 'Great War'. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about what life was like for the soldiers on the front line as well as what life was like at home for the women and children who kept Britain running. Next term, the children will be creating their own Anderson shelters (which will be tested in a bombing raid!) and so it was great for them to experience being inside one and understand what it might have been like for people at the time.



## O2 Young Voices

Children taking part in our wonderful school's choir, had the opportunity to perform in one of the world's greatest arenas alongside incredible artists and another 9,000 children at the Young Voices 2024. This was a Wonderful achievement that helped to grow children's self-belief, self-motivation, confidence, and ability to communicate as part of a team - which is invaluable! Add to this the numerous health benefits of singing in rehearsals, including breathing exercises to focus the mind - it's no wonder that Young Voices is the event of the year for our young choir! The concert is the culmination of a lot of hard work from the children and the teachers who support them throughout the year. We sang our hearts out and cannot wait for next year's Young Voice already!  
Miss Eidimtaite, Choir Lead.





**FAMILY  
LEARNING**

## **First Steps to Understanding my Child (ADHD, Autism and Neurodivergent) Course**



This **FREE** three-week course for parents and carers is delivered online in 2 hour sessions. The course is suitable for parents of children with a diagnosis or those awaiting assessment.

### **What will I learn?**

- Develop an understanding of terms, key features and behaviour of neurodiversity
- Apply techniques for understanding a child's profile and behaviour
- Develop language and skills for recording information to present to schools and professionals

**For course dates, more information and to book your place please click on [this link](#) or scan the QR code**

**Course also available for practical cooking ideas for neurodivergent children and a workshop to support the language of neurodivergence for English as an additional language (EAL) parents**



**SURREY  
ADULT  
LEARNING**

**Web : [www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning)**

**Email : [family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk)**

**Tel : 0300 200 1044**



**SURREY  
COUNTY COUNCIL**

# Online Safety



On the 6th February we celebrated 'Safer Internet Day'. With the internet being the foundation of everything we do nowadays, it is vital that the children understand how to use it and how to keep safe.

Early Years and Key Stage 1 took time to think about what they should do if they are not happy with something they have seen online. They discussed what they should do and who are there safe adults to share with. There was also further discussion about keeping our personal details safe online and the children thought of nicknames that they could use on their games.

Key Stage 2, discussed what forms of communication are appropriate to send and how inappropriate communication can affect another person's well-being.

More helpful websites for online safety are -

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.breckfoundation.org/>

<https://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



# The modern way to **learn music**

vocals • guitar • drums • keyboard



Free trial lesson • Inspirational teachers • Affordable prices  
Call **01932 343531** or email [contact@open2music.com](mailto:contact@open2music.com)

OPEN  MUSIC



## Introducing 'Open 2 Music' at St Mark and All Saints Primary School

'Open 2 Music' is an instrumental music service which has provided tuition in schools since 2007 and we are thrilled to be starting at St Mark and All Saints Primary School this Autumn Term!

### Why learn to play music?

"Playing music builds motivation and self-esteem"... "Music education helps young people feel inspired"... "Learning music builds skills for the future"... "Music lessons foster well-being"... "Research suggests children who play music do better in school and life"

### Is your child interested in learning to play an instrument?

Many children would like to learn to play an instrument, however parents are not always sure where to go to find a teacher and they want to make sure their child will like it before making a commitment to pay for lessons!

## \*\* FREE TASTER LESSONS \*\*

### \*\* GUITAR \*\* DRUMS \*\* PIANO / KEYBOARD \*\* VOCALS \*\*

We will be **holding some free taster lessons** this term and as we are new to the school please can you let us know what your preference of instrument/s your child is interested in starting, we can then register your interest and book in a free taster lesson!

### Let your child be inspired!

We are passionate about music! It goes without saying that all our tutors are fully qualified and vetted but they are also talented musicians who will inspire your child! We rarely have a waiting list and normally children can start lessons straight away...we want to capture their enthusiasm!

### Prices!

Lessons are 20 minutes each and are held weekly during term time.

1-2-1 Lessons: 20 mins - £11.50

Group of 2 Lessons: 20 mins - £9 per pupil per lesson.

(Group lessons for Guitar and Vocals only)

Places are limited so please get in touch to **book your free taster lesson** and to register your child's interest!

**Dorking Museum presents at Dorking Library**

# Great Game!



**Half term family activity at Dorking Library**  
**Tuesday 13th February 10am-2pm**

The centrepiece is Dorking's infamous Shrove Tuesday Football which was played on the High Street until it was banned in the 1890s. Now Dorking Museum brings this back as a fabulous table-top version of blow football!

Visitors will also be able to play the games of yesterday, such as bagatelle, shove-halfpenny & table-top croquet.

**Come and join us**

**With grateful thanks to The Arts Society Dorking**

All the activities are aimed at 4-11 year olds and are FREE, with materials provided

Children must be accompanied at all times

[www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk) [museum@dorkingmuseum.org.uk](mailto:museum@dorkingmuseum.org.uk)





St Paul's  
CHURCH

## Welcome Cafe: English Conversation Class

Qualified TEFL Teacher | Coffee | Cake

Fridays 10.00-11.45am  
During term time

St Paul's Church, Dorking,  
St Paul's Road West, RH4 2HT

All Welcome | No charge | Please come and enjoy!



[community@stpaulsdorking.org.uk](mailto:community@stpaulsdorking.org.uk) | 01306 743378 | @stpaulsdorking

# **Dorking Lawn Tennis & Squash Club (Roman Road)**

## **February Half Term Tennis Camps 2024**

**MONDAY 12TH - FRIDAY 16TH  
FEBRUARY  
CHOOSE ANY DAYS**



**KIDS 4-11 Yrs Old**

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY  
9:30 - 12PM**

**COST: MEMBERS £16 / NON MEMBERS £20**

**Pay By BACS Account: Brian Love 74084211 Sort 09-01-28**



**TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT BRIAN:  
DORKINGTENNIS@GMAIL.COM**

**QUOTE: NAME, AGE, CONTACT NUMBER, MEDICAL INFO  
OR CALL HEAD COACH BRIAN 07712 557076**

**COME AND JOIN US AT**  
**THE QUICK RESPONSE MEMORIAL WOODLAND**  
Registered Charity No: 1174651

Pasturewood Road, Holmbury St Mary RH5 6LG

**CHARITY EASTER EGG HUNT AND FUN DAY**

**On SUNDAY 24th MARCH**

**At 12.30pm**

**Fun and games for all the family**

**Easter Egg Hunt**

**Egg and Spoon Races for all ages**

**Easter Egg Stall**

**Easter Soft Toy Tombola**

**Games for all**

**Raffle**

**BBQ and Drinks for sale**



**Children £8 each**

**Please Register Children ASAP to avoid  
disappointment as numbers are limited**

**Email: [Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Debbiehornblow@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Tel: 07778873806**



# Lego® Club

We are running one off sessions on:

Wednesday 25th October 2023

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Wednesday 14th February 2024

9.30-11.30 am

Lego® Club is suitable for mainstream children age 6-11 that need to build on social communication skills.

The sessions promote social inclusion and helps to build confidence. Children will have the opportunity to socialise and make new friends while developing social communication and interaction skills.

The course costs **£10 per session**, payable in advance.

If you think this session might be right for your child, please call us to discuss reserving a place: **01306 740095**



# Diary Dates 2023/24

## February

<b>12th-16th February</b>	<b>Spring Half Term</b>
<b>21st February</b>	<b>11am Year 5 Inspire Session</b>
<b>22nd February</b>	<b>Quick Stick Hockey Tournament</b>
<b>23rd February</b>	<b>9am Celebration Assembly</b>
<b>23rd February</b>	<b>9am Reception Class Health Screening</b>
<b>26th February - 1st March</b>	<b>Multi-Cultural Book Week</b>
<b>28th February</b>	<b>9am Author visit and workshops</b>

## March

<b>1st March</b>	<b>World Book Day. Mufti (£1 contribution to support minibus fund)</b>
<b>1st March</b>	<b>9am Celebration Assembly</b>
<b>4th March</b>	<b>9am Year 6 Junior Citizen Event</b>
<b>5th March</b>	<b>9am Year 2 Look Out Discovery Centre</b>
<b>6th March</b>	<b>11am Year 6 Inspire Session</b>
<b>6th-8th March</b>	<b>PGL Marchants Hill Year 4</b>
<b>11-15th March</b>	<b>E-Safety Week</b>
<b>15th March</b>	<b>12 pm - 5pm Year 5 Polka Theatre Trip</b>
<b>18th March</b>	<b>9am Nursery Manor Farm Trip</b>

# Diary Dates 2023/24

## March

<b>19th March</b>	<b>2pm Early Years Easter Bonnet Parade</b>
<b>19th March</b>	<b>3:30 - 6pm Parent Consultation Evening</b>
<b>21st March</b>	<b>3:30 - 6pm Parent Consultation Evening</b>
<b>22nd March</b>	<b>8:30am Year 5 London Royal Observatory Trip</b>
<b>22nd March</b>	<b>4 - 5pm School Spring Disco</b>
<b>25th March</b>	<b>8:30am Year 6 Chartwell Trip</b>
<b>26th March</b>	<b>9am Year 1 Hever Castle Trip</b>
<b>27th March</b>	<b>Nursery last day of term</b>
<b>27th March</b>	<b>9:30am Easter Service at St John's Church</b>
<b>28th March</b>	<b>Mufti Day - £1.00 per child contribution to support the school minibus fund</b>
<b>29th March - 14th April</b>	<b>Easter Holiday</b>

## April

<b>15th April</b>	<b>Inset Day</b>
<b>16th April</b>	<b>9am Reception Bocketts Farm Trip</b>
<b>23rd April</b>	<b>8:30am Year 4 SES Water Reservoir Trip</b>