



October 2023

Dear Parents

What a busy half term we have had, this half term has flown by. Both the children and staff have been busy and it has been wonderful to see the fantastic learning opportunities when myself and Mrs Philpott have visited classrooms. I am sure both you and the children are ready for a well deserved break.

On our return we are looking forward to learning about our new curriculum topics and will be working hard to begin preparations for all things Christmas at the end of the term.

I hope you and your families have an enjoyable and safe half term, and look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 30th October 2023.

Best wishes

Headteacher  
*Mrs J Barnett*



## Harvest

Thank you to you all for generous donations to Harvest once again this year; each year myself and the staff are overwhelmed by the amount we are able to collect as a school community. The photograph above does not show the entire donation as we ran out of room to display it! I know that once again our collection was gratefully received by One Can Trust; it is fantastic that we are able to support this local charity together as a school community in this way

The children very much enjoyed performing to you for Harvest and I'm sure you will agree they were amazing. I sincerely hope that you all enjoyed the performances. My thanks to the staff for all of their hard work in preparing the children for Harvest so brilliantly.

Headteacher  
Mrs J Barnett BA (QTS)  
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Maxwell Road  
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## Remembrance Day 2023

We will be celebrating Remembrance Day within school in the usual way with an assembly and a minutes silence. We will also be able to once again celebrate this at the War Memorial in conjunction with St Mary's church. A small group of children will represent our school as they have in previous years by participating in the Service, presenting a reading and laying a wreath. We will send further details after half term regarding this.

## Parent Helpers in School

We would like to thank our three parent/granny readers for their wonderful support, dedication and enthusiasm over the previous year and for coming back this year. Our children have absolutely loved sharing books with you and have made fantastic progress. If any other parents would be willing to offer their time as a parent reader, please do contact Mrs Levin via the school office - we would love to have you!



## Parents Evening

Thank you to all parents for attending appointments in school this week to meet with your child's teacher. We hope you found the meetings useful and informative. We feel it is important to share how your child has settled in to the new school year and to discuss the progress they are making as well as sharing what their expected attainment will be by the end of the academic year.

## Dates for School Closure for Staff Training Days

The staff training dates (INSET) for the remainder of the school year will be as follows:

- **Friday 9th February 2024**
- **Monday 15th April 2024**
- **Monday 3rd June 2024**

## News, Read all About it!

To stay informed about all the latest news and updates from SMAS, we kindly invite you to visit the News section on our school website.

[Click Here](#)

## Term Dates

Please click [HERE](#) to view school dates for 2022/23



## Reception Phonics Workshops

# Phonics

This term we will be holding Phonics Workshops for Parents of children in Reception and Key Stage 1 on 1st and 2nd November 2022. These sessions will be led by our phonics lead, Miss Olive and the class teachers.

The aim of this workshop is to provide parents with an understanding of how Phonics is taught at St Mary and All Saints and will cover our Phonics scheme 'Unlocking Letters & Sounds'. Parents will be able to learn about Phonics Phases, the correct pronunciation of sounds and the actions we use to segment and blend sounds. We will also discuss the link between phonics and reading and model how to support your child's decoding skills when reading. Miss Olive has already sent out further details about how to book onto these sessions.



## Christmas Service

Traditionally our Year 6 pupils take the Christmas service and this year we are once again celebrating this at St Mary & All Saints church in Beaconsfield. It really is a lovely festive event and I do hope you can join us on Tuesday 19th December 2023 at 10.15am. I would like to thank the Year 6 staff for their work on this.

## Display Boards

Below are a couple of examples of the wonderful displays around our school.





# Pond Life



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our PTA and the dedicated parents—Mr. Lord, Mr. Speck, Mrs. McGovern, Mrs. Kynaston, Mrs. Riche, and Mr. Smart—and our staff, Mrs Massie and Mrs McAulay who selflessly volunteered their time, effort, and expertise to help

rejuvenate our pond area this term. The transformation is truly magnificent, and the space has become an inviting sanctuary for frogs and various wildlife to establish their homes.

The improvement has transformed the pond into an invaluable educational resource for the children, providing them with an enriching opportunity to observe and learn about the myriad of creatures that inhabit the pond. This hands-on learning experience will not only instil in the children a deeper appreciation for the natural world but also foster their curiosity and understanding of the diverse ecosystems that exist in our environment.

We are excited about the endless learning possibilities that this newly revitalised pond area will offer our students, and we are deeply appreciative of the collective efforts that made it possible. Once again, a tremendous thank you to our PTA , all the supportive parents and our staff who contributed to this wonderful project.



## Car Parking

We do realise that parking is difficult outside the school and we ask that parents park considerately both in the morning and after school to ensure the safety of our children and out of respect to our local residents.

Please avoid:

- Parking on the corner of Maxwell Road and Garvin Avenue as this makes it difficult for our children to see to cross the road safely.
- Parking on the grass areas and across the drives of our local residents' houses.
- Parking in front of the school gates at any time during the school day to drop children off. This poses several problems ranging from a danger to children walking behind the car that may be reversing, to deliveries and visitors being unable to enter the school's car park, which in turn blocks Maxwell Road. In addition, this access point must be kept clear in the event of an emergency.
- Parking cars on the zigzags outside the school as this obstructs the view of the children trying to cross the road.

As part of the school's travel plan we would encourage parents and children to walk to school whenever possible. On the occasions when you must use a car we suggest you park away from the school. (Along Caledon Road, One Tree Meadow and walk across the footbridge to school or park in the Sainsbury's Car Park on the top level.) Sainsburys have kindly agreed to allow our parents to park from 8.30 - 9.15 am and 3.00 - 3.45 pm on the top level of the Sainsbury Car Park.

We ask that you please support these important safety guidelines. The school and Governors are working with the County and local Community Officer to make the area around our school SAFER for your CHILDREN.



## Our School Values

Each week during assembly we focus and reflect on a particular value. The weekly values are displayed in the hall on our Collective Worship board. Our first assembly of the week introduces the focus value and makes links to a story or reading from the Bible. The children have further opportunities for discussion and reflection throughout the week. Links are made to our core Christian Values of Wisdom, Creation and Love. I have listed below the values and focusses we have discussed so far and those we will be discussing next half term.

- New Beginnings
- Being me in my world (PSHE link)
- Trust
- Love
- Harvest
- Dignity
- Generosity
- Thankfulness
- Celebrating Differences (PSHE link)
- Joy (Anti-Bullying week)
- Remembrance
- Peace
- Dignity
- Community
- Wisdom

## Year 4 Davenies Superstars – 3rd October 2023



I am so proud of this amazing team. They worked extremely well together to achieve 2nd place overall in a competition against 11 other local schools. Henry, William, William, Evie, Freddie, Elissa, Aillie, Finn, Isla and Evie-Ray took part in 11 different activities including penalty shoot-out, snake shuttle, cricket bowling, space hopper relay, Frisbee golf, basketball and crazy croquet. The aim was to score as many points as possible in all activities across the afternoon. I think the marshals at Davenies were particularly impressed with their catching skills but I have to confess to being amazed at their prowess when it came to scoring basketball hoops. The afternoon finished with a (very competitive) tug of war and a fantastic tea consisting of hot dogs and doughnuts. Well done all of you, I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

Mrs Philpot

