



APRIL 2022 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

Easter Blessings



On behalf of all the staff I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter. It was lovely to welcome the children back to school after their break – I am sure they are raring to go for their last term this academic year.

Yellow Day – Thursday 21st April

I would like to remind you of the activities that were listed in the **RE Newsletter** sent out at the end of last term. On Thursday we have our annual 'Yellow Day' where the children are invited to wear yellow clothes to school for the day with a £1 donation to the Catholic Children's Society. We are hoping lots of children have been busy creating either an Easter hat (EYFS and KS1) or an Easter garden (KS2) for this day. These will be on display for parents to view in the Activity Studio after school on Thursday.

Willow Walk

We are pleased that our Governors have worked very closely with Westminster Diocese to secure funding for new electronic gates for the Willow Walk entrance to school. These works will take place this week. These should be completed by the end of the week and will give further security to our school grounds and help parents to enter and exit with ease. Please be mindful of these works as you walk to/from school this week.

World Unite Day

It was fantastic to see all the children take part in our World Unite Day last month. We were so impressed by the range of costumes and colourful clothing that was proudly worn to school. Thank you to all parents/carers for all your hard work with the costumes.

Pyjama Day

On Friday 1st April we organised a fun pyjama day for all classes. We were very pleased to raise £336.60 for school resources.

Fairtrade Raffle

The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in our Fairtrade raffle. The raffle took place in Key Stage assemblies and the children were very generous with their cheering of the winners. The lucky prize winners were:

EYFS and KS1 – Evita Y1P, Albin Y2L and Iris Y1L.

KS2 - Dorian - Y3L, Harvey- Y3L and Emmanuel Y5L.

Reminder of Staff Training Day – school closure

On **Wednesday 6th July** there will be a training day for staff to implement a new systematic synthetic phonics teaching programme. This training is vital for staff and requires a whole day. Therefore, school will be closed for all children. The school will reopen for children on Thursday 7th July.

Year 3 and Year 4 Production – Jonah and the Whale.

Our first ever Lower Key Stage 2 play was a huge success. I would like to thank the families of Year 3 and Year 4 who donated £300.18 towards school funds. The children loved performing for their families and we received some very positive feedback about the children being given the opportunity to perform. We look forward to next year's performance!

PFA meeting

The PFA information evening organised last month was attended by 3 parents and with 2 apologies from other parents. Unfortunately, this is not enough parents to start to plan future events for the children to take part in. I have attached a letter to this newsletter from one of our parents who attended with some ideas of simple ways in which you may be able to help. The PFA is a lovely way to be involved in your child's school, make friends and make a real difference to the school fundraising. Please consider getting involved – we need all the help we can get.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Tea towels

The children are currently creating a design for a commemorative tea towel for the Platinum Jubilee. An order form will be sent home to you with your child's artwork. If you would like to order the tea towel please follow the instructions on the letter.

Picnic Afternoon

On **Tuesday 24th May** we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a special day of activities planned. We invite the children to wear **red, white and blue clothing** to school or they may like to come dressed as a Queen, Prince or Princess ! After school we would like to invite families to stay for a picnic on the school grounds. There will be refreshments, a tombola, raffle and other stalls. So put the date in your diary, come along with a picnic, picnic blanket/chairs and enjoy the celebrations. Pray for fine weather!

In order to have a tombola we will be organising a Mufti day on **Friday 20th May**. Please could the classes bring in the following items on that day:

Nursery and Reception classes	Box of chocolates
Year 1 and Year 2	Box of biscuits
Year 3 and Year 4	Boxes/tins of sweets
Year 5 and 6	Bottles of wine etc

Attendance Update

The Attendance Policy is now available on our school website. Requests for holidays/days out cannot be authorised. It is vital that children are present in school **every day**. Good attendance is linked to high academic performance.

The whole school attendance has been **93%** from 2nd September until 18th April. Unfortunately, this is still below the **96%** minimum target set by the Government. Class attendance can be seen below.

Nursery	90%	
	Lisbon	Padua
Reception	91%	89%
Year 1	94%	94%
Year 2	94%	94%
Year 3	94%	94%
Year 4	96%	96%
Year 5	97%	95%
Year 6	95%	93%

A particular well done to **Year 5 Lisbon** who achieved the highest class attendance during this time.

Extra Curricular Clubs

Below is a list of the clubs that are currently running before, after school or at lunchtimes payable by parents. If you would like to book your child onto any of the clubs you will need to do this via their individual website of which you have all been emailed details previously.

Club	Day of the week	Year Group
Xtra time multi skills	Monday after school	Reception to Year 6
Apex dance	Tuesday lunchtime	Year 1 and 2
Apex dance	Wednesday lunchtime	Year 3, 4,5 and 6
Yoga Club	Tuesday after school	Year 1 to 6
Shogun Karate	Wednesday before school	Year 1 to 6
Irish Dancing	Wednesday after school	Reception to Year 6
Arty Amber Art Club	Wednesday after school	Year 1 to Year 6
Xtra time football club	Friday after school	Reception to Year 6

The children are also able to join other clubs that are organised by members of our staff. These are not payable clubs and letters are sent out inviting year groups to attend.

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children:

Reception Padua

Rhys M achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 1 Award.

Tanuli F completed the Gymnastics Independent City Fun theme.

Henry P achieved a Puffin swimming award

Reception Lisbon

Rebecca P achieved the Duckling 4 and Puffin Award for swimming.

Year 1 Lisbon

Leo M achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 2 Award.

Year 1 Padua

Jayron K received a football medal from Xtra Time Sports Club.

Elisha A achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 1 Award.

Leonnie A achieved a 5m Rainbow Distance Award.

Year 2 Lisbon

Lorcan M received a Star Performer Award for football from Xtra Time.

Arthur M achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 4 Award. Arthur was also awarded Level 6 of the Gymnastic Proficiency Awards.

Laura B achieved a Diving Achievement Award from Swim England.

Year 2 Padua

Laura T was awarded a certificate from Jigsaw for being a singing and dancing member for three years.

Lenny S achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 1 Award.

Year 3 Lisbon

Hanna T achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 2 Award.

Bobby N achieved Water Skills Level 2 Award.

Tai D-A achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 3 Award.

Year 3 Padua

Noah O achieved a medal for a football mini tournament.

Emil K achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 4 Award.

Year 4 Lisbon

Igor M achieved Water Skills Level 2 Award.

Sophie A achieved Water Skills Level 2 Award.

Aron A achieved Water Skills Level 2 Award.

David B achieved 20m Rainbow Distance Award.

Natalia G achieved 25m Rainbow Distance Award.

Year 4 Padua

Asher N was awarded Grade 1 Piano practical which he passed with merit.

David S was awarded a medal for Team Sport Indoor Karting.

Year 5 Lisbon

Michelle B achieved 25m Rainbow Distance Award.

Emmanuel A was awarded a certificate from the Watford School of Music for taking part in a 'Beginner's First Concert'

Year 6 Lisbon

Perrin M won gold and silver medals in freestyle and butterfly during the Spring long course National qualifier meet.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 20 th April	Reception Lisbon trip to Hudnall Park
Thursday 21 st April	Yellow Day. £1 donation to the Catholic Children's Society. See above for details.
Tuesday 26 th April	K'nex day for Year 5 Lisbon and Padua.
Friday 29 th April	Year 1 Lisbon and Year 1 Padua trip to Tring Museum.
Monday 2 nd May	Bank Holiday – school closed.
Monday 9 th May to Thursday 12 th May	Year 6 SATs week.
Wednesday 18 th May	Isle of Wight meeting for Y6 parents - 7.30pm.
Friday 20 th May	Mufti Day – children to bring in a tombola prize (see above).
Tuesday 24 th May	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Day (see above).
Friday 27 th May	School finishes for half term. Y1-Y6 2.30pm finish. Reception classes 2.25pm finish.

Thank you for your continued support.

God bless and take care,

Elaine Harrold