



# Newsletter 1

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September

## **Important Dates for Term 1 (T1)**

### **September**

Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Osmington Bay (Residential Meeting) 7.00 pm for Y6 parents/7.45 pm for Y5 parents
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	11+ Test at BWS for boys
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Practice test at SWGS for the girls
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Friends of St Mark's (PTA) AGM – 7.30 pm venue
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Service (led by Y4) at St Mark's Church at 10.00 am – all Y4 parents invited

### **October**

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening 4.00 – 7.00 pm
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening 4.00 – 7.00 pm
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	T1 Ends
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Training Day #3 for staff only

### **Welcome Back**

Welcome back to the start of the academic year. I trust you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday and have returned refreshed and ready for another busy term. We look forward to working with you this year.

### **Osmington Bay (Residential) Meetings**

<b>Y6 parents</b>	7.00 pm – Team, Kit List, Expectations, Q&A
<b>Y5 parents</b>	7.45 pm – Residential 2020 (when the children are in Y6) – What/Why etc

### **Vacancies**

We are looking for someone to join our team to work at lunchtimes (MDSA) – advert enclosed  
We are also looking for someone to join our team as a teaching assistant (TA) – advert enclosed

### **Applying for secondary school places**

Parents with children in Y6 need to decide on a secondary school place before **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019**. Please visit: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-forms-guides-policies>

### **Claim your free school meals**

Our school gets hundreds of extra pounds to help your child if you register for free school meals or fill in a simple form: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-free-school-meals> At present all children in Reception, Y1 and 2 are entitled to a free school meal. Children in a junior school (Y3-6) are not entitled. However, if you are receiving a qualifying benefit, the school could be entitled to an extra ~£1320 Pupil Premium to support your child. Please ask in the school office or see Norma for more information. We use this extra money to subsidise/pay for school trips, provide specialist support, purchase specific resources, develop strategies to better engage children and parents both in and out of school – and we are always looking for new and innovative ways to make a bigger difference.

### **New Planner 2019-20**

V1 attached with very basic information. When other items are confirmed we will update you via the NLS/email rather than continually reissuing new planners. Please look carefully at dates of holidays as booking holidays based on a guess or last year is not a reason I can authorize if it goes wrong. Parents can sometimes get upset if they are contacted by the Education Welfare Officer due to [non-attendance](#).

### **'Meet the teacher' Session**

Starts promptly at 3.00 pm – please enter via Reception – children will be in assembly until 3.20 pm.

Monday 09-09-19	Y3	Ash Class
Tuesday 10-09-19	Y5	Maple Class
Wednesday 11-09-19	Y6	Willow Class
Thursday 12-09-19	Y4	Fir Class

### **BBC1's hit show 'Eat Well For Less?' is BACK and looking for households to take part!**

Eat Well For Less? is on the hunt for families / households looking to save money on their food shop!  
Is the cost of your weekly food shop **spiralling out of control**? Perhaps you're **desperate to save** but under pressure to keep providing the household favourites? Or do your **health requirements** affect your diet? Are you in need of some **new inspiration**? Maybe you need help adjusting to a new **financial situation**? Or are you just **bored of**

**buying and cooking the same foods** every week?... Masterchef's **Gregg Wallace** & award winning grocer **Chris Bavin** are on a mission to prove that it is possible for families to save money on their food budget without scrimping on taste and nutrition. They hope that by analysing the shopping habits of UK families, they can help to show where we can source the best and cheapest quality food. We're currently on the hunt for families / households to take part in our new series – so get in touch with the team TODAY!

**Email:** [eatwell@rdftv.com](mailto:eatwell@rdftv.com) or **Call:** 0117 970 7682

**\*Any information which you give us will be processed in accordance with our Privacy Notice, a copy of which is available on request\***

### **Reminders / notes/updates and everything else...**

- Parking in school car park is not allowed between 8.30 – 9.00 am to keep the turning circle free and traffic flowing. Please use the hatched 'drop off zone' to drop 'n' go only
- There is a strict no nuts policy in school – please be vigilant with cereal bars etc
- There is a no mobile phones policy for children under any circumstances for any reason, even if switched off
- The Adventure Playground is strictly 'out of bounds' before and after school for all children
- There are no ball games on the playground before or after school
- The main gates to the playground are closed at 3.40 pm daily as there are after school activities/clubs
- If it is raining please don't second guess if we won't be going outside and therefore not send in a PE kit
- For T1 all children are playing rugby outside. Please consider sending in tracksuits, sweatshirts, rain jackets etc in addition to trainers. Boots are not genuinely a requirement.
- Children must tie their long back for all PE lessons. Please provide hair bands – we receive growing requests from children for elastic bands via the Office which we cannot meet
- Children have to remove their earrings for PE lessons – they need to do this themselves or parents need to do this at home in the morning. If this is not possible parents must provide a roll of medical tape to keep them safe.
- Please be aware that many children are experiencing sores/blisters whilst breaking in their new shoes. Please be vigilant and provide any plasters from home if they require them
- School Uniform is available from our supplier Brigade whose website address is [www.brigade.uk.com](http://www.brigade.uk.com)
- Children can buy snacks on Friday from the 'tuck shop'. Items are prepared by our caterer. Please don't send in more than a £1 – this can buy bacon roll/pizza or fruit etc and a drink
- Before and after school clubs start this week (w/c 09-09-19 Dodgeball 7.45 am and Taekwondo until 4.30 pm)
- Please name all uniform including shoes – just about every piece of labelled clothing makes its way home
- Drop off and pick up from clubs is via Reception – any problems/queries please contact Tom Pugh 07858 904422
- Excessive School Dinner payments need to be cleared as soon as possible. Several families were embarrassed and upset when I had to draw their attention to it and enforced packed lunches from home until debts were cleared. If there are any difficulties please let the Headteacher or Norma know as soon as possible.