



Newsletter 23

Friday 13th March 2020

March

Sunday 15th Grounds Day (St Mark's and Wyndham Park) - 10.00 am start
Friday 20th FOSM Mothers' day sale - £2
Friday 27th School photos (classes) - am

April

Wednesday 1st Easter Service – led by Y5 at St Francis Church at 10.00 am
Thursday 2nd MUFTI Day/Easter Egg Tombola
Friday 3rd T4 Ends; Reports Home
Monday 20th T5 Starts – Children back to school

May

Friday 8th School Closed – Bank Holiday
Monday 11th Y6 SATs Tests Start – more details to follow including breakfast club Monday-Thursday
Thursday 14th Y6 SATs Tests Finish
Friday 15th FOSM Family Bingo
Saturday 16th Mini-Marathon
Friday 22nd T5 Ends

June

Monday 1st T6 Starts – Children back to school
Thursday 11th Y5 Parents' Meeting 11+ 7.00 pm Hall
Friday 12th World Sports Day - am
Thursday 18th Y2 Parents' Evening 7.00 pm Hall
Friday 19th Father's Day Sale
Sports Day Y5/6 – parents invited for the afternoon
Friday 26th Sports Day Y3/4 – parents invited for the afternoon

July

Wednesday 1st Bump-up Day
Saturday 4th Summer Fair
Wednesday 8th Parents' Evening
Thursday 9th Parents' Evening
Friday 10th TD#5 – No children in school
Wednesday 15th Y6 Show 7.00 pm Hall
Thursday 16th Y6 Show 7.00 pm Hall
Wednesday 22nd T6 Ends
Y6 Leavers' Service at St Mark's Church 10.00 am – all Y6 parents invited

School dinner menu

As part of their sustainable goals HC3S will no longer be providing paper menus. Please use this link to view the menu on-line. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/hc3s/primaryschools/menu>

Sports Days

Please note that the dates of sports days have been reversed because there is an unintended clash with another school event, which would stop many children taking part. By sharing this now, we hope to give all families sufficient notice to make alternate arrangements.

Grounds Day

On **Sunday 15th March** we will be hosting a grounds day in conjunction with parents at Wyndham Park. It is an opportunity for families to help us make both our schools look fantastic as we head into spring time. Many families have previously helped at Wyndham to sweep, tidy, pick litter, trim bushes, garden – whatever is needed. If you would like to join us please feel free to bring the children and any tools – gardening, DIY, wheel barrows etc as we have many areas to make look their best. We will start at 10.00 am. Look forward to seeing you there.

Salisbury Area Young Musicians Open Mornings, Saturday 21st March and Saturday 28th March

SAYM welcomes young musicians from schools all over Salisbury. Music making can be a significant factor in the well-being of children and young people. Our bands, orchestras and choirs are a great way for them to make music together, make new friends and instil a love of music that can last a lifetime. See flyer

Pedestrians

I will be hosting another meeting about parking in due course. One of the items from the end of January was some signage to remind parents and children that when they cross with Mrs Robson (Crossing Patrol) they must not take the short cut across the car park. A small number of families are taking unnecessary risks by walking through traffic instead of turning right and entering the site through the pedestrian gate. Your help and cooperation in this matter is really appreciated. It may add 1 minute to walk around the turning circle but it will keep children safer and keep the space clearer for drivers.

Drivers

We really appreciate the parents who are resisting the urge to park in the drop-off zone between 0830 - 0900 but we still have some persistent parkers - please respect our rules and keep our school safer. If you need to park your car for normal school drop off please park off site legally and responsibly. One of the parents from the site recently damaged a local resident's car outside their property (photo/video evidence submitted) and proceeded to verbally abuse the resident, in front their own of children, when they were legitimately challenged. Today I have learnt of another incident against another resident. I have apologised on behalf of both schools and urged both the residents to contact the Police about the matters.

Children's Choir Opportunity

We are seeking young singers aged 8 -18 to perform Cecilia McDowall's Everyday Wonders: The Girl From Aleppo under the musical direction of Lynsey Docherty of Celebrate Voice. Young people will rehearsal throughout April and May and perform on Sunday 24 May at Salisbury Cathedral as part of this year's Salisbury International Arts Festival. Everyday Wonders is a haunting cantata that tells the story of Nujeen Mustafa, a remarkable Kurdish teenager with cerebral palsy. It charts her incredible journey, pushed in her wheelchair by her elder sister, and against all the odds, from war-torn Syria across Europe to Germany. Please sign up using the attached registration form.

Rebecca Birkett-Mills Creative Learning Officer Wiltshire Creative Direct Line: 01722 345174

General Administration: 01722 320117 www.wiltshirecreative.co.uk

Update for Highways re: Crossing Patrols

"I understand you have communicated to parents that Mrs Robson is away and would be grateful if you could enforce the message that parents remain responsible for ensuring their children's safe journey to and from school. While some children may walk to school unaccompanied when the patroller is operating, this may not be appropriate without a patroller." – Tazril Tamin

Reminders

- Some children appear on site unsupervised by their parents from just after 8.00 am. Whilst we have not introduced a hard and fast rule about what time to be on site please be mindful and vigilant about this. We are aware that some children move around the site or even off site to go and meet others. School supervision of children, when not in the breakfast club or sports clubs, does not begin until 8.40 am. The gates, opposite the shop are open from 8.20 am but this is not supervised by staff.

Computing parent-child session

Come and see what your child has been working on in Computing lessons, sit with them and even have a go together! Mr Williams will be there to help and answer questions. **Wednesday 26th March** 3.30 - 4.00 pm Computer Room

eSafety

A letter from Mr Williams is enclosed for your interest and information.

Mini Marathon – Saturday 16th May

Reminder that the Salisbury Schools Mini-Marathon is taking place on the morning of Saturday 16th May. Please note the deadline for entries is Friday, 20th March. Further information can be found by clicking on the following link

<https://forms.gle/oWRtm9jrdk12gEJ66>

Staffing Updates

At Easter we will be saying farewell to Mrs Lancaster. After thirty years of outstanding service to our school she is hanging up her spectacles and retiring from our school office. The number of lives she has touched in that period – children, families, staff, governors, visitors etc is impossible to calculate. She will be sorely missed from our school and we are all eternally grateful for the commitment, loyalty and hard work she has put into St Mark's. Although she will still frequent the site to ferry grandchildren to and from school it is the end of an era. A time of sadness for us and but happiness for Rachael and her family as she starts her well earned retirement. Thank you for everything.

OfSTED Update

The report of the latest inspection of St Mark's will be posted on the OfSTED website for public consumption on Friday 20th March 2020. I will send a copy to parents on Sunday 15th March and make paper copies available in the office from Monday.

Coronavirus

Please see attached flyer for the latest information from the DfE. We will continue to follow the advice from the government and public health agencies. We will keep you updated as soon as we can.