



Newsletter 6

14th October, 2016

Happy Friday!

One of the most exciting processes we go through every year is devising our School Development Plan. It's a long process, drawing on informal conversations and 'middle of the night' ideas as well as our school vision document and our formal self evaluation and assessment data analysis processes. And although the result is essentially a word document with a table on it (not the most exciting prospect, I'll grant you), what makes it exciting is the new injection of direction, energy and ideas it always brings.

One of the key differences between this year's plan and the last one is that there is less introduction of new 'systems' this year, and an increased focus on how we can better nourish the children as people and learners. The past two years have been about building a solid foundation and setting the direction of travel, and now it really is 'Time to Fly'!

One aspect of the SDP will see us deepening the 'Listen Carefully' element of the Golden 3, to help children hear and understand their 'inner' voice. As I have mentioned to the children a couple of times - we are human *beings*, not human *doings* and we want children to value just *being* - taking the time to think and reflect and in so doing gain a better understanding of themselves and the world around them. We will be taking elements of mindfulness, meditation and contemplative prayer to support us in this and Reverend Philip and I are working closely together to lead this through Collective Worship.

We are also going to be deepening the children's understanding of 'Try Your Best' - another one of our Golden 3. The very best learning happens when a person feels completely 'in the zone' - unable or unwilling to think about anything else. At such a point, every part of your being is focused upon completing that task, and at that point you really are trying your best. We want children to become familiar with this 'zone' and over time become more able to independently arrive at that state of mind. We will begin working on this in the Spring.

I have attached a brief summary of 'Time to Fly'. It is only a page long and a jargon-free read so I hope it is of interest. Your awareness of, and support for, what we are doing in school is so important in helping us to make the school even better.

Have a great weekend, Andy Bowman

Flu Vaccinations... Please see the attached letter giving information about the vaccinations which will be offered to Years 1,2 and 3.

Help Needed Urgently... At the end of October, 2,000 unaccompanied children will be arriving in Paris. A local horsebox is going out on the 20th October to deliver much-needed sleeping bags and roll mats for the children as well as rucksacks and suitcases to contain the few possessions they have with them. We are hosting a collection point here in school so if you are able to help by donating any old or unwanted items from this list please drop them into the foyer in school by Midday on Wednesday 19th. Many thanks for your support.

Clubs....Please note that the closing date for Choir and History club is Thursday 20th October. Applications received after this date will not be accepted. So please get them in by then.
Ms Flood

Parents' Evening Consultations...

You will be able to book appointments online from Monday 17th October through the Parentmail website. Unfortunately Classes 1 and 2 will still need to sign up on the sheets opposite the Reception classrooms as it has not been possible to issue new registrations yet.

Packed Lunches....

Just a gentle reminder...we are a healthy school and if your child is having a packed lunch it needs to be a healthy packed lunch. Please refrain from giving them chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks in their lunch boxes. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Half-term Fun.....22 - 29 Oct, Curiosity Challenge, Walcot Street, Bath. The shops in Walcot Street have an unusual item in their window. Can you spot them all? Help local children's charity Mentoring Plus by buying a £1 entry form in their pop-up charity shop at 146 Walcot Street. Hand back your completed form at the shop for chance of winning a fab family prize!



PTA News....

PTA Christmas card fundraiser

The fabulous cards designed by the children should have come home this week in their book bags. The free personalised sample card is yours to keep. If you want to order more cards follow the details included with the card. Ordering on-line www.thedandyarthouse.com/shop is easy and you can check out other items that your child's artwork can be turned into. Maybe stock up on some early Christmas gifts? Click on the sample icon of the product you wish to purchase and further details will be displayed, you will need your child's order code beginning 2026 followed by an alpha character and two more numbers.

Order 3 packs of cards and only pay for 2, sibling orders count towards the 3 for 2 offer! No access to the internet? No worries. Telephone The Dandy Arthouse [before Wednesday 2nd November 2016](http://www.thedandyarthouse.com/shop) on [0845-548-0032](tel:0845-548-0032) and they will be happy to help. The PTA will earn commission on all orders placed [before midnight Wednesday 2nd November 2016](http://www.thedandyarthouse.com/shop).

Thank you to Karen for organising this as I know it's a lot of work!

Also a Date for your diary Dec 3rd will be our Christmas Fair, there are lots of exciting things planned so please save the date.

Budding quiz masters or organisers, the PTA would love to put on a quiz just after Christmas and was wondering if there was a parent/group of parents who would be able to put together a quiz and quiz master Please get in touch with me at sarahlmeyers@hotmail.com

The DVDs remaining from our sales have gone to Dorothy House shops. They have so far made £150 and we are likely to raise much more once they are all sold.

Reception 2017.....As you will see on the date list below we have two open mornings for prospective parents during November. Therefore if you have a child due to start Reception next September, please do come along to one of the visits. And please also let any friends and family with Reception '17 children know too. Everyone is welcome, just ring and let us know which date you would like to visit and we will put your name down. There will also be a final visit on Monday 9th January, if you can't make it to either of the November dates.

October Diary Date reminders.....

20th – History Day

20th-Children finish school

21st - INSET

24th- 28th Holiday

31st- Beginning of Term 2

Coming up in November.....

2nd & 3rd Parent Consultations

2nd - 8th - Book Fair

3rd –Revolting Rhymes Performance s

10th –PERFORM Drama YR,1,2

14th -18th –Anti Bullying Week

15th – Reception 2017 prospective parents visit 9.15 – 11am

17th - Bedtime Story 6-7pm (Phase 1 children only)

25th - Reception 2017 prospective parent' visit 9.15 – 11am

(Please note bold entries are new additions to the list)

Well done to the magnificent, marvellous Mathletic winners this week!

Clara Greensmith

Nell Abbey

Lily Arndell

Sofia Baxter

Isaac Cooper

Nicholas Leberman

Vincent Lee

Ella Merchant (Silver)

Emily Willis

George Willis (Silver)

Philippe Wright

Jessie Amphlett

Ben Hutcheson

Izzy Manoli

Jasmine McKinstry

Veyha Perryman

Sam Wood (Silver)

Anna Zanelli

Eva Blanchard

Jack Bowra

Sinead Cox

Nicholas Greensmith (Silver)

George Warden

Charlotte Willis (silver)

Thomas Woodward

Rosa Couzins

Florence Rhodes

Kitty Tanner-Wardle

Leo Wakefield

Becky Baxter (Silver)

Sophia Castro-Harrington

Emmanuel Cox

Jasper Gittens

Connie Hopkins

Izabella Lee (Silver)

Oscar Taylor

Annabelle Yacoubian

Lynden Bradley-Cong

Ana Champion

India Cooper

Rufus Doherty

Callum Hogg

Babafemi Taiwo

