



# Forward March!

## UN CONVENTION ARTICLE 17:

You have the right to get information that is important to your well-being, from radio, newspapers, books, computers and other sources. Adults should make sure that the information you are getting is not harmful, and help you find and understand the information you need.

*With God's help  
we will  
live kindly,  
love each other,  
learn and  
laugh together!*

## Autumn Term 2022 Newsletter 1

Dear Families of the March CE Primary School,

Well we are the end of the first half term already and I cannot believe how fast this has approached us ! The children have all settled well and are enjoying their learning and new topics.

We have taken part in the Goodwood Revival, enjoyed authors in school for Book fest over the last two week and had a wonderful Harvest Festival with lots of generous donations for the Stone Pillow Foundation and Chichester Food bank. The children have enjoyed many after school clubs and we are looking forward to Dance House and Young Voices at the 02 in 2023.

It was lovely to see so many of you in person at Parents evening last week covid changes of online meetings. Parents' evenings are important because they give you an opportunity to discuss what your child is doing at school and how they are getting on. Going to parents' evenings can help you to become better involved in your child's learning. It helps you to give your child good, practical support and to make choices. When schools and parents work together, children do better, and it really makes a difference to partnership working in school.

Next half term is always one of our busiest with lots going on as we countdown for the Christmas break, this year is no exception. I hope you will be able to find time to join us in the many activities which are taking place between now and the end of term such as Nativities, the Christmas Fayre, Christmas jumper day and end of term carols.

**We would like to ask you for your support with parking at pick up time.** We are receiving multiple concerns from residents, the local community and people walking along the road to school about inconsiderate parking. We are very lucky to have the car park donated to the school for our use. However, parking across the two crossing points or in the entrance to the carpark is unacceptable. Children and adults **MUST** use the crossing points in the car park not walk down the centre of the car park behind reversing cars.

The safety of our children is paramount, and this is being put at risk by a minority of parents. Please go round the block again if you cannot park and please do drive slowly in the car park. We do not want one of our pupils to be hurt in an accident and become a statistic. Please be considerate.



I know the PTA are really busy arranging the **Christmas Fayre** and you will be receiving lots of information over the next few weeks about events in the lead up to this. Our Christmas Fayre takes place on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec from 4.00- 7.00 pm**, everyone is welcome to attend to enjoy the festivities. We have lots of exciting stalls and games planned, along with our visit from Santa, the choir entertaining us with carols and many lovely things to eat and drink.



### **Penny War starts 1<sup>st</sup> Nov !!!!**

Next term we will be having our Penny War competition again with each class. Each class, has a large see-through water dispensing bottle. These will be clearly labelled and placed in a central location in the school.

Classes will then compete to see who can fill their jar with the most pennies. The team with the most pennies wins. They will be rewarded with an ice cream and pop afternoon with a class film

We will speak to the children in assembly prior to the launch, we will discuss with them the important rules of this fundraising challenge:

- Always ask permission from a parent or guardian before bringing any pennies into school.
- If you are able to bring pennies in, the coins should be 'loose change', i.e. small denominations like 1p, 2p, 5p,

**Year R 1 &2** will be busily preparing for their nativity, a wonderful memory making event for all families, KS2 will be preparing for christingle which is a lovely event .

### **Supporting Wellbeing and it's Good to Talk**



At The March we have **Worry Monsters across the school**. The worry monster is a soft toy with a zip mouth which can be open and closed. Children can if they want to, write down their worries and place them into the worry monster's mouth to "eat their worries". These could be worries about spiders, stories, friendship issues etc.. As sometimes children often find it difficult to share their worries verbally, the worry monster has been a fantastic resource in not only gaining children's views, but also contributing to their emotional well-being, this does not replace their relationship with the adults in school but gives them another way of sharing.

### **Year R**

What a brilliant first term it's been in Reception! Well done to all the children for settling in so quickly and so well, you truly are all a part of the school family now. We've been working hard to make new friends, understand new routines and follow school rules. It's been an action packed term and the children have had so many experiences. We have been enjoying Forest School every Monday. It's been incredible to have the opportunity to help to light a fire, cook our own lunch and explore the woods in a safe and exciting way!

We have also been thinking about Harvest Celebrations and the ways we can say thanks for the wonderful food we have in our lives. We've enjoyed learning Harvest songs, reading Harvest stories and we even got to make our own bread!



**Year 3's** topic has been an exciting one. The children have been learning all about animals; predator vs prey and carnivore vs herbivore. We started the topic by looking at humans and why skeletons are important for everyday life. We then moved onto learning about different types of animals and their food chains. The children were most excited to film a short deadly 60 style video explaining some of the most dangerous aquatic predators. Switching to Music, the children have been learning how to play a tuned percussion instrument, the Glockenspiel. We have been learning how to play as a group in an ensemble setting and how we need to keep in time with one another.

In English, we started off with Fantastic Mr Fox and discovered how Boggis, Bunce and Bean are some of the worst farmers. We then were struck by a mysterious creature in the school, one that caused chaos in the classroom. The children discovered strange white footprints and an odd-looking egg in the Ark. The class then created a newspaper report on the incident, explaining the story and mystery! Our final English topic has been about 'The Hunter' by Paul Geraghty. We are currently finishing some of the secret pages with some amazing added detail. To help our writing, we used some of the tips and tricks from the trade given to us by the famous author Mo O'Hara who visited us to explain what it was like being an author. We have been a lucky class this year and are receiving French

lessons from Mrs Reynolds every Tuesday; the class will be fluent in no time! I would like to say a big thank you to the children and parents for your support and help at the start of another busy year. Enjoy the half term!



### Year 4

What a half term for Year 4 as part of our Unit 'I am Warrior'. The children have been writing their own mystery stories based on the text 'The Thieves of Ostia', reading 'Escape from Pompeii' as part of Destination Reader and in addition to this we have been consolidating our learning on place value in Maths. Across the curriculum we started by designing our own Roman shields which are now proudly on display in our classroom, we have also created our own string telephones as part of our learning in Science looking at Sound. We celebrated Poetry Day 2022 by performing poems based on the environment and we were fortunate enough to have a visit from the author Mo O'Hara as part of Book Fest. The children followed this up with their own graphic novels in class. In French we have been writing descriptions of people looking at their personalities or appearance, our PE unit was on Football and in RE we looked at Creation supported by the story of the Fall. It has been a busy half term for Year 4 with learning in abundance. We look forward to Autumn 2 where our Topic will be on Misty Sierra Mountain.





## Year 1

It's been a 'roartastic' start to our new year in Class 1. Our Dinosaur Planet topic has been great fun. We've learned about fossils and paleontologist Marny Anning and have enjoyed digging for fossils in our own excavation site. In science we have been learning about different types of animals, we have grouped animals into their sets and have learned about the characteristics of reptiles. As part of our DT unit we learned about the differences between fruit and vegetables, we did some taste testing and will be making our own smoothies. It's been wonderful to be back at forest school exploring our new site. Each week we have had fun in the mud kitchen creating potions, have made dens and searched for woodland bugs and insects. It has been a fantastic start to the year!



## Arundel Castle

As part of our topic on castles this term, **Year 2** were lucky enough to visit Arundel Castle. During our visit, we looked around the inside of the medieval castle, including the armoury and the main hall. The children were given an opportunity to dress up and re-enact The Battle of Hastings and also visited the 1,000-year-old Keep, the highest point in the castle. The children learnt that this would have been heavily guarded and would have been where most of the castles defending occurred. The day also included a picnic lunch in Arundel Castle's beautiful gardens. A lovely day was had by all and the children represented the school beautifully.



### **Year 6 Visit to Dell Quay and Pallant House** **Artwork Inspired by Andy Goldsworthy and Barbara Hepworth**

Year 6 were lucky enough to enjoy a visit on a sunny, warm October day to both Dell Quay and Pallant House gallery for a curriculum enrichment art day.

The children began collecting objects from the shoreline for some collage work. They found

a whole variety of items, from shells, to fishing hooks, to pieces of pottery as well as a rather startled slowworm! Back at the Education Centre, children learned to make natural dyes with charcoal, chalk and seaweed and also created some stunning collage work with the materials they had foraged. Some of these were abstract whilst others depicted the landscape of the harbour and Kingley Vale.

After lunch and a short coach ride to Pallant House, children continued their work.

Here they had a tour of the inspiring sculptures of both Andy Goldsworthy and Barbara Hepworth and had chance to thinking more deeply about both pieces. Children then continued to make sculptures from clay and were also given a Pallant House sketch book to continue to inspire them to draw as much as they can over the coming weeks. The children really enjoyed the chance to be immersed in their collage, drawing and sculpture for the whole day and should be proud of all they have achieved.





### **Key dates**

31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Children return to school
3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Open day for new parent starters 2023
11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Yellow school Photos
18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Non uniform day for Year group Luxury Hamper Gifts
1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Non Uniform day for Jolly Jars
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Xmas Fair 4-7pm
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Flu Nasal Vaccinations for whole school. Please ensure that you Have completed your form online.
6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Nativity in the afternoons more info to follow
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas jumper day and Chartwells Lunch more details to follow.
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christingle for School only
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Carols around the Tree at 2.30pm <b>END OF TERM</b>

### **Spring term**

3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 2023	INSET DAY
4 <sup>th</sup> January	Return to school
20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	INSET DAY
5 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET DAY
21 <sup>st</sup> July	INSET DAY

### **Please support us in achieving great attendance at The March**

We are asking for your support in helping your child get to school on time. every day this year. The gate opens at 8.30am and will close at 8.45am . Your child needs to be in school and engaged in learning to reach his or her full potential. Yet, we realize that every family faces challenges. **Please let me know if your family is struggling to maintain good attendance for your child.** We will do our best to help you and your family ensure that your child's school attendance stays on track. We do understand at times children may be ill and this will affect your child's attendance.

**You are strongly urged to avoid booking a family holiday during term time.** Following government guidelines, we can only grant leave for exceptional circumstances. Please note that unauthorised leave of absence could result in legal action and a Penalty Notice being issued. You will find our Locality agreed Attendance Policy on the school website.

Unauthorised absences for holidays in term time will be reported to the Local Authority and you may be issued a Fixed Penalty Notice by the Local Authority

**Why Regular Attendance is so important:**

It is widely known that the link between a student's attendance and attainment is irrefutable. Early poor attendance habits follow through into secondary school and employment. Any pupil's absence disrupts teaching routines so may affect the learning of others in the same class. Ensuring your child's regular good attendance at school is your legal responsibility and permitting absence from school without a good reason creates an offence in law and may result in prosecution.

Promoting Regular Attendance: Helping to create a pattern of regular attendance is everybody's responsibility - parents, pupils and all members of school staff.

Finally

If you would like to talk to me about anything, please do stop and chat or make an appointment if you would like more privacy or a longer length of time. I am here to help and support you all.

Thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter. If you would like to discuss any items from the newsletter in more detail, please do not hesitate to come and see me, my door is always 'Open'.

Mrs Nicky Metcalfe

Head Teacher