



# 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

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

## Autumn Term 2019 Newsletter 1

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome back to the start of the term although this already seems like a long way away. The children have been so busy already, settling in well and enjoying trips and visitors for their new topics.

We have been very busy in school and I would like to thank all the staff as they have been in school over the holidays preparing the classroom and displays in the corridors. Please do come to the Book Looks and fantastic start this term to have a look at your child's classroom and wonderful work they have created. We are all so excited about the new year and think it is good for all of us to think of it as a fresh start, so let's all work together to get this school even better than it is.

The new garden area has undergone a wonderful transformation. We have new pathways, cleared areas for planting and barked areas for walking. The children have made good use of this during prayer week already. We look forward to having new meadow turf laid and sensory plants for the children which will be phase two of the creation.

Our new Reception class have settled so well that it feels as if they have always been here. They have started forest school and have already made a great contribution to the school community with their exuberance and huge smiles each day.

### Values

This month we are focusing on understanding the importance of friendship. Friendship involves:

- caring for each other,
- sharing ideas,
- respecting each other,
- having fun.

Values underpin our Church school ethos. We teach children about values through assemblies, lessons, by being active role models and recognising children who show the values. **Look out for our 'Values In Practice awards on pupil's jumpers.**

'Treat others as you want them to treat you' (Matthew 7:12).

The children will be discussing in class how they could demonstrate the school values outside of school life. We would like you to share these ideas with the children so that they understand that our schools Christian values are not just demonstrated in school but the wider community and life that they are part of.





### Glorious Goodwood Revival

As the double decker appeared, 29 evacuees from the March CE School with their 1940s teachers boarded the bus to attend the annual 'Glorious Goodwood Revival'. What an amazing day they had! Escorted to VIP areas, they were feted and photographed and shown around the site.

'I've always wanted to go on a Douglas C41 Dakota plane,' exclaimed our aeroplane expert Ryan. Not only his, but the others too, all had a dream- come- true when they were invited to sit in it! We attended the pilots club for breakfast; had a talk from the Rations stall; visited the aeroplanes from the first and second war; walked around the pits to look at the cars- and invited to sit in one; watched car racing from the Grandstand; were taught the dance the 'Big Apple' and the 'Itchy Scratchy' in the 40s dance tent; taken to the VIP Recruitment Hall and visited the Officers' Mess. During all this time, the sun shone and the people applauded as the children sang beautifully to the crowds. 'They have amazing voices', 'What well behaved children', are just a very few examples of positive things people said about them. Even the Duke of Richmond and Gordon came and sat and chatted with them as they ate their picnic lunch.

A final visit to the funfair and they were ready to go back to school.

It was a fabulous day had by all, and made possible by all the team here, parent helpers and class rep, the Parents' Event Team, the Goodwood Education Officer and finally, the talented ambassadors to the school, the children! We had a super day!





### WW2 Comes to the March !

Children were able to handle artefacts such as gas masks, weapons and medals, from World War Two, thanks to a visit from a re-enactment group on Goodwood Revival Day.

They were able to ask questions and explore similarities and differences between the different artefacts, as Spitfires and Hurricanes from the Revival flew overhead.

Children discovered, for example, that German grenades were shaped differently to British ones and they looked at the reasons for this. They also then practised their grenade throwing and quickly discovered that it is not as easy as it looks!

Children were also surprised by the weight of equipment that soldiers were expected to carry- especially if you were a Paratrooper sent behind enemy lines.

Huge thanks to **Mr Bennett (one of our Year 3 parents)** and his team for providing the children with this great opportunity once again this year.

### Prayer Week

Prayer Week 2019 was a wonderful display of our school values of love, faith, forgiveness, peace and compassion. We were so lucky to enjoy lovely warm afternoons outside around the school grounds with lots of sunshine. The children worked so well with their buddies helping to explain each activity to the younger children. The older children once again showed what makes our school so special, the way years 4, 5 and 6 supported the younger children was truly outstanding. There were many prayer stations set up in the hall, on the playground, in the arc and on the school field. Each class was able to spend an afternoon taking part in the different activities; we had prayer labyrinths in the hall, paper chain prayers on the field, unwrapping forgiveness in the arc, prayers for the world in the decking and spinning prayers on the field. The faith council deserve a massive thank you for all their help during the week in setting up and running the activities, they did a brilliant job tidying away each afternoon as well.



**Year 5** have kicked off the new year with a super workshop from historian Paul Ullson . Activities ranged from a question and answer session exploring the historic MAYA and their lives, to writing using their symbols for syllables / sketching artefacts made from volcanic rock and learning a Mayan board game . We were very proud of the high standard of questioning the children used and they have produced some beautiful work from the morning.



### **Knights Workshop – Year 2**

Year 2 had a fantastic morning learning all about knights and the roles they played within a castle. The learnt all about who they worked for and how many people a knight had working for him. The children loved getting to try on the maille and holding the sword; they were shocked how heavy it was! They all design their own coat of arms making sure they used the correct colours.



**QUALITY START PLANTINUM AWARD!**



We are really thrilled to announce for the academic year 2018-19 we have been awarded the Quality Start Platinum Award for PE in Key stage 1. This is an acknowledgement of the PE provision within the school, opportunities that are given to the children and ensuring the children are active within the school day. The assessors were amazed at all the sport related activities the children take part in within school, including House Team events, such as winter sports and cross country, sporting clubs as well as the school's commitment to The March Mile and staff training. Our trophy will be arriving soon and we will be sure to share it with you.



### Year 1

The dinosaurs have arrived in Year One! We have been having a great time learning all about the sort of habitats dinosaurs lived in. We designed and made our own dinosaur habitats, using lots of materials we gathered from the school grounds. We have also been very busy making dinosaur fossils and learning all about Mary Anning, a famous fossil expert. We made our own dinosaur eggs and have been learning dinosaur songs.

We have all worked so hard and made a fantastic start in Year One.



### Year 3

Year 3 has been a very exciting place to be since the start of the new school year. As our stunning start to our Predator topic we were visited by Owls About Town and met a variety of predatory birds: a Harris Hawk, a barn owl, a tawny owl, a little owl and a European Eagle Owl. During the session we learned about the different characteristics of each bird, what they eat and how they eat it. We were left with owl pellets which we dissected that afternoon and found lots of bones and furs. A few days later Paul Ullson visited and we took part in a workshop all about skulls. We learned about the features of carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and how we could identify each by looking at their skulls. Then we created details sketches of a skull. In maths we have been learning about 3 digit numbers and their place value and in English we have been enjoying our learning through the story Sandwizards. It's been a very fun filled start to the year!



## Year R

What a wonderful start to school life for our new Reception class. All the children have settled remarkably well and they are eager to be involved in every aspect of the school.

We have had a very busy start to the term ; last week was Prayer week and the children were excited to work with their Year 6 buddies during a range of activities.



We have also been exploring the woods at Seeley Copse on Forest School days.

The children wanted to make a Dragon. They climbed on it's back so they could fly all through the Forest! Then we played the Woodlouse Game, which was a fantastic team game. We were all blindfolded and the leader had to lead the others through the forest without bumping in to anything!



Today Sir Knight visited us to explain how you scare away dragons. And then he taught us about life in a castle and then showed us some Knight's games. We tried our hand at Jousting, and had to pretend we had horses.



## 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 at 8:50 a.m. every day this year. The gate opens at 8.35am. 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.

### **To help us all to focus on this we will:**

- Award certificates to children with good attendance
- Inform you if your child's attendance or punctuality falls below the acceptable level for our school. Call you in to speak to Mrs Metcalfe
- All parents will be notified in end of year reports about their child's attendance and punctuality

### **Year Group Attendance**

Year R	96.27%
Year 1	98.33%
Year 2	97.94%
Year 3	98.57%
Year 4	99.68%
Year 5	97.17%
Year 6	96.22%

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 fortnight's 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