



April 2023

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Dear Parents,

I hope that you have all had a very peaceful Easter break with your families. It was lovely to see so many of you over the Easter weekend at Masses and at the Act of Witness in the town square. I feel very fortunate to be part of such a special Catholic community where we are able to gather together to celebrate the great gift of Easter. It is timely that our new Prayer Garden is open for classes to use this term and we will be asking Father Rob to come and bless the Prayer Garden for us.



Thank you for ensuring that your children have returned to school smartly dressed and ready to do their best in everything they do. As you know, summer uniform can be worn from 2nd May if parents wish, but it is not compulsory and children can continue to wear their current uniform should parents wish them to do so; it can still be quite chilly in May. Mrs Hammond is kindly organising a pre-loved uniform sale for parents, so please do donate any school summer dresses that are too small now, as we are aware that there is a difficulty in purchasing these online at the moment.

As always during the holiday periods, there have been upgrades and repairs undertaken whilst the premises is empty. In particular, we are delighted with the new sound system that has been installed in the school hall, funded by our wonderful FoSD. This will have a significant impact on so many things that take place in the hall such as collective worship, concerts, productions, talks etc.. Grateful thanks to everyone who helped to raise these funds for the school.

Finally, I am delighted to share with you that Mrs Mary Smith has been appointed as our school chaplain with immediate effect. Mrs Smith will be supported in this role by Father Peter Andrews. We are absolutely delighted to welcome Mrs Smith to this role and we are grateful to Father Rob for his blessing on these appointments.

A very busy term lies ahead and we look forward to sharing all the school news with you.

Julianne Birch

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Activities and Events

EYFS – Mrs H. Robbins: Head of EYFS

We have been very busy in Reception! All of the children have loved sharing 'Rosie's Walk' by Pat Hutchins. This story tells the tale of Rosie the hen on her adventure across the farmyard avoiding the sly fox. We have been creating our own story maps, retelling Rosie's Walk through actions and writing our favourite part of the story. In our maths lessons, Farmer Pete and his ten sheep have been helping us to learn our number bonds to ten.

At the end of March, we were delighted to welcome Miller's Ark Farm to our school field. Farmer Helen taught us lots of interesting information about the animals including what kind of feet the animals have, why they need ear tags and what their hooves tell us. We were able to touch donkeys, sheep, goats and Kunekune piglets. "The donkey made a loud noise!" "The piglets fell asleep inside their bucket".



Year 1 – Miss G. Hearn: Head of Year 1

Our topic in the spring term was 'God's and My Wonderful World'. As part of this topic, the children have been learning all about animals and the different groups to which they belong. As a hook for this topic, we had an Animal Workshop at school. The children were able to hold a selection of animals such as an African land snail, a giant millipede and even a snake! They also saw a tarantula and watched it move across the studio floor.



We felt incredibly lucky to have this opportunity in school; many of the children described it as "the best day ever". It has been lovely to hear Year 1 use some of the facts and vocabulary they learnt that morning to deepen their understanding of animals.

Year 2 – Miss N. Maloney: Head of Year 2 & Senior Teacher

As part of our geography topic this half term, the whole of Year 2 had the chance to undertake some field work in their local area. As the three classes went on separate days, it gave us the chance to compare the results of our findings.

The purpose of our trip was to undertake a traffic survey on the grassed area outside the Lion Retail Park. They had to count all the vehicles that passed in a ten-minute period. The children learned about tally charts and pictograms and had the chance to predict what would be the most popular form of transport before the field trip.

On return to school, the children totalled up their tally marks and compared results with their predictions. We created a simple map of their journey and included a key to ensure a variety of different cross-curricular skills were involved.

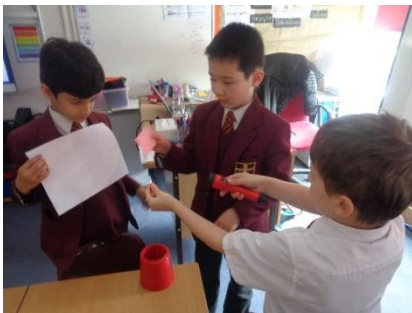
The children were so enthusiastic and well behaved. They were super ambassadors for our school.



Year 3 – Miss H. Fail: Head of Year 3 & Senior Teacher

In science last term, Year 3 enjoyed learning about 'Light.' They used torches to investigate which materials block light. The children showed excellent understanding of key terminology including translucent, opaque and transparent. Demonstrating their artistic talents when learning about Pablo Picasso, they sketched their own portrait in his abstract style.

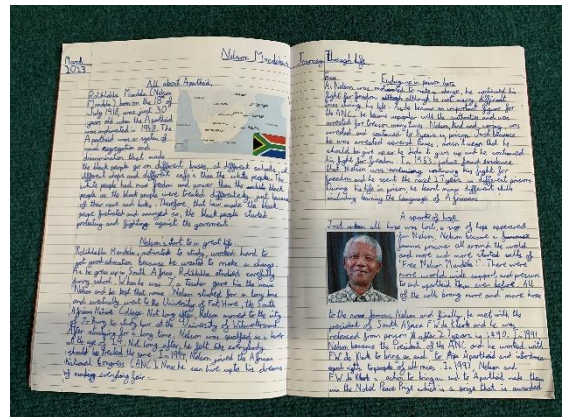
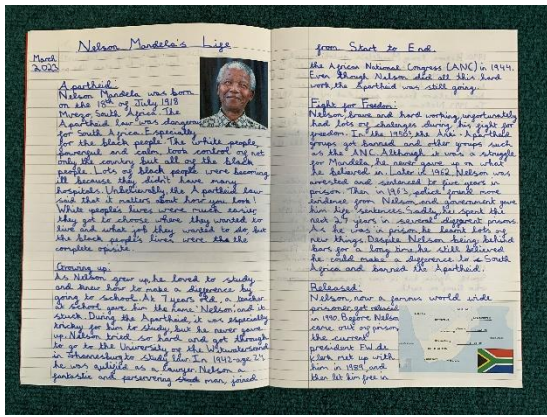
As part of our Lenten preparations, Mrs M. Smith came in to lead a reflective liturgy on the Stations of the Cross. The children conducted themselves in a reverent and reflective manner, taking part in prayers and songs. Additionally, Year 3 were delighted to lead the final Mass of the spring term. All children took part in the Lenten Song and they sang confidently and beautifully. This made for a memorable start to the Mass. We were very proud of the children's exemplary behaviour and maturity towards leading this Mass.



Year 4 – Mrs M. Cannon: Head of Year 4

In Year 4, the children really enjoyed learning about South Africa through the text 'Journey to Jo'Burg' by Beverley Naidoo. Once they had explored the characters and the storyline, the children went on to study Nelson Mandela. They worked so hard on this and presented their learning as a beautiful double page non-chronological report.

In geography, we have been developing our understanding of rivers and the features of rivers at different points. The children will go on to extend this learning to looking at rivers around the world with an in-depth case study on the Amazon River. They are excited to get started on this learning!



Year 5 – Miss E. Roe: Head of Year 5

At the end of last half term, 5M and 5P lead Key Stage 2 beautifully through a reflective Stations of The Cross Liturgy. Everyone made an excellent contribution, whether it was acting, dancing, singing or reading. We will continue to reflect on these events during our next RE topic.



Year 5 have enjoyed building on our science learning in Design and Technology by designing and making balloon buggies. We were able to use our knowledge of forces to help us with the design and make improvements once we had tested them. This half term we are looking forward to continuing our geography learning, thinking about what India is doing to save the tigers.

Year 6 – Mrs T. Steer: Head of Year 6 & Assistant Headteacher

It has been lovely to greet Year 6 returning after the Easter holidays for the final term of Primary school.

March was a fantastic month filled with some sensational work. On the final day of term, Mrs Birch joined us to celebrate our RE writing – a beautiful piece about the Stations of the Cross.

We had the school trip to Henley Fort. Children and teachers plunged themselves into role, getting dressed up as ARP and the home guard. The children came back and wrote with enthusiasm about the daily challenges and tasks these volunteers would undertake. We finished our World War 2 learning, with the VE day picnic. Thank you to everyone for the effort. It was a really, lovely morning, and the sunshine came out too.

This term, Year 6 pupils will take part in the National Curriculum tests (SATs) during the week commencing 8th May. Year 6 have worked extremely hard to prepare - and they are ready to go! We look forward to another brilliant month.



Coronation of King Charles III – Mr R. Wise

This year we have so much to celebrate, including the Coronation of King Charles III. On Monday 15th May, St. Dunstan's will be marking the King's Coronation with a themed day, celebrating our new King. The children will be immersed in a day of Coronation themed activities, including a themed lunch, music and decorations, as well as a purple themed dress code inspired by the official Coronation colour. The dress code will be particularly poignant, as some of you may well know that St. Dunstan wore a purple robe when he crowned the first King of all England at Bath Abbey in 973. We are all very much looking forward to what will be a memorable day for us all at St. Dunstan's.



Dunstan Bear – Mrs A. O'Donovan and Mrs Morganti



Our lovely school mascot, Dunstan Bear, has itchy feet! He hasn't been on an adventure since before COVID and he is really missing getting out and seeing the world. Dunstan Bear is a very well-travelled bear - he has been all around the world on his travels and has seen many sights within the UK too. If you would like to take Dunstan Bear on an adventure during May half term, please write a letter to Mrs Morganti or Mrs O'Donovan, stating where you are going on holiday and why you would like to take Dunstan Bear. In return, we will ask you to take some photos and write about your adventure for a display in school.

We look forward to receiving your letters and Dunstan is looking forward to his first holiday in a while!



World Book Day – Miss H. Fail, English Leader

World Book Day was a huge success this year with children from Reception to Year 6 embracing the opportunity to dress up as their favourite character. As part of the 'Human Library' theme, the children thoroughly enjoyed recommending their book to children from other year groups. The younger children were able to articulate why they enjoyed their book and the main plot, while the older children were able to discuss the genre and author at greater length. The children came away from World Book Day feeling inspired to read books that were recommended to them by their peers. Thank you to all parents for your support in organising costumes and making this a special day for our children.



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Charity and Justice

Charity and Justice – Miss Johnson and Miss King Lenten Fundraising

Throughout this term, children have been focusing on the Lenten act of giving. Mrs Thomas came in at the start of Lent to talk to the children about Mission Together. The children thoroughly enjoyed finding out about the impact we can have if we can raise money together as a school. Mrs Thomas also made it clear that prayers are just as important as fundraising. A gentle reminder that the red Missio boxes should now be returned to school.



Talent Show

As part of our Lenten fundraising, children enjoyed watching and taking part in our charity Talent Show. It was fantastic to see the wide variety of talent that our children have and it was excellent to see children supporting one another.

Thank you very much for your support with all of our fundraising over the last half term.

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Children's Learning

Mrs G. Morganti – Head of School

All information regarding your child/ren's learning for the half term ahead is available on the website on the children's learning page. <http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/Curriculum.html>

Please note the Year Group Overviews have had a few changes so please do check the updated versions for your information.

Partners in Learning

Thank you for attending the last Partners in Learning session, your feedback was very positive and the children were very pleased to be able to share their learning with parents, siblings and grandparents.

The next session is scheduled for **Friday 12th May** from 3.10pm (depending on the dismissal time of the year group) and finishes at 4pm.

For your information: Parent Talks:

During the summer term there are two parent talks:

RSE Talk for Year 5 and 6 Parents on Thursday 25th May 2.30pm

Moving into Year 1 transition talk for Year R parents on Thursday 13th July 9am

Any slide presentations used in previous talks can be found on the school website http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/Talks_for_parents.htm

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Governors

Mr B. McKendry – Chair of Governors






Easter Sunday’s celebrations, especially the chocolate side of things, are just a memory for many of our children. We now enter the summer term and from 2nd May the children will be wearing their summer uniform. This somehow triggers a change in atmosphere within the school, linked no doubt to a hope that the promise of better weather is delivered sooner rather than later. For Year 6 it’s their final term at St. Dunstan’s which carries a mixture of both regret and anticipation. Many will be going on to SJB in September and the process of familiarising them with what to expect is underway with visits to the school itself plus sessions with pupils who were in exactly the same position twelve months ago and able, therefore, to pass on tips and experiences in the way of preparation. Another example of how the needs of our children are catered for by the dedicated staff at St Dunstan’s.

May everybody at our school have a really great summer term, maximising their use of the outdoor environment, which has received so much care recently.

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Information from Subject Leaders

Safeguarding: Designated Safeguarding Leaders

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)				
 <p>Lead DSL: Mrs A. O'Donovan <i>Assistant Headteacher</i></p>	 <p>Deputy DSL: Mrs J. Birch <i>Executive Headteacher</i></p>	 <p>Deputy DSL: Mrs G. Morganti <i>Head of School</i></p>	 <p>Deputy DSL: Mrs S. Hughes <i>SENDCo</i></p>	 <p>Deputy DSL: Mr A. Coyle <i>Senior Teacher</i></p>

Eco – Mrs T. Martlew

This year's 'World Earth Day' is on 22nd April. We will be celebrating this in school on Friday 21st April. The theme is the same as last year: 'Invest in our planet' which is about everyone working together to preserve and protect our planet for future generations.

During the Collective Worship on Friday, the Eco Council will share their tips on the small steps we can take to have a positive impact on the planet. During the day, the whole school will reflect on how our choices affect the environment and consider ways in which we can protect and preserve the earth by the actions that we take every day.



How can you make every day Earth Day?



Houses – Miss A. Lay

The Year 6 House and Vice Captains have been working incredibly hard on delivering some great competitions for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. We've had competitions based on maths, art, reading, poetry and we still have more exciting competitions to come, with our highly anticipated 'St. Dunstan's Bake Off' due to be announced at the end of this half term. We have been overwhelmed with the amazing entries we have received for all the competitions so far – another big well done to all our winners and runners up!



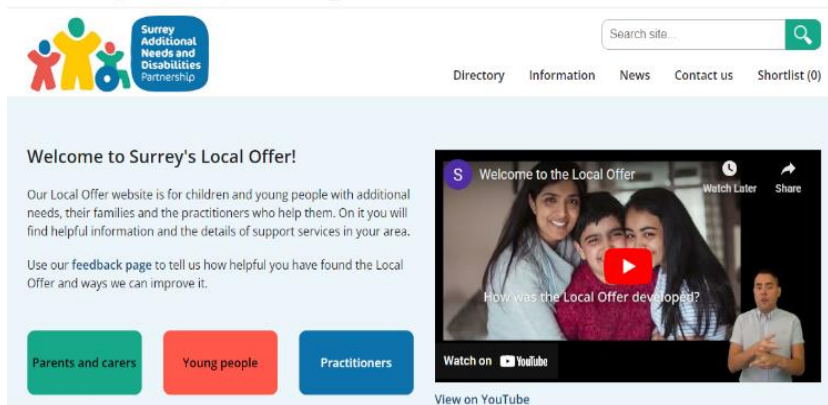
Library - Mr R. Wise

We are delighted to announce the imminent opening of the Rosary House library, aptly named 'St. Dunstones'! The access to rich and varied reading materials will both bolster those to whom reading is already a passion, as well as



inspire those who require some encouragement to read for pleasure. St. Dunstones will expose children to an assortment of texts, which will both challenge and engage children in upper Key Stage 2. With some remaining administrative objectives to complete prior to opening, the library will not yet be available to the children. In order to assist with the opening of the library, we would very much appreciate the support from any parent helpers. If you would like to assist, please get in contact with the office. Thank you in advance for all of your support.

SEND - Mrs S. Hughes, SENDCo and Senior Teacher



The Surrey SEND site is being continually updated and has a wealth of knowledge, please do check out what is being offered: <https://www.surreylocaloffer.org.uk/parents-and-carers>

RE topics this term: Come and See – Mrs S. Turner

"What I say is this: let the Spirit direct your lives, your selfish self is the opposite of what the Holy Spirit wants. The Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control."

(Based on Galatians 5: 16-17, 22-23)



As we return to school after Easter, the Church is still celebrating this great event. The focus of this term's work in Religious Education is the role the Holy Spirit plays in our lives. We will be studying the three themes of Pentecost (Serving), Reconciliation (Inter-relating) and Universal Church (World).

PENTECOST—SERVING

Early Years	GOOD NEWS - Passing on the Good News of Jesus
Year 1	HOLIDAYS AND HOLYDAYS - Pentecost: feast of the Holy Spirit
Year 2	SPREAD THE WORD - Pentecost: a time to spread Good News
Year 3	ENERGY - Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Year 4	NEW LIFE - To hear and live the Easter message
Year 5	TRANSFORMATION - Celebration of the Spirit's transforming power
Year 6	WITNESSES - The Holy Spirit enables people to

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk about good news in your family and how you shared it.
Ask your child to tell you the story of Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit.

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Liturgy and Worship – Pastoral Team

Beginning of summer term Mass



On Friday 28th April, we will celebrate our Mass for the beginning of the school summer term and we will be led by children from Year 4. The children (from Years 3 – 6) will be joining the Mass and parents and relatives are warmly invited to join us for this Mass, although there will of course be limited space due to the children attending. Alternatively, families might prefer to join us via the church live stream link <http://st-dunstans.org/streaming/> at 10am.

Pray the Rosary



You are invited to join us in praying the Rosary! We would like to celebrate the traditional month of Mary by sharing the Rosary together. On Tuesday mornings throughout May, at 8.30 am, we will gather to share one decade of the Rosary at the Marian Garden on the Lower School playground (weather permitting!). All parents and children are warmly welcome to join us. Last year, the children enjoyed bringing their own Rosaries along, and they were able to follow the prayers using cards and picture prompts. It's a lovely opportunity to start the day with a focus on peaceful prayer, or to dedicate some prayer time to a particular need or person. We look forward to welcoming you and we will have spare Rosaries for you to borrow if you don't have one.

Marian Liturgy



As part of our celebrations for the month of Mary, 4E and 4C will be leading the Marian Liturgy at the Church on Friday 5th May at 11.15am. On this day, we ask every child to bring in a flower that will be used to make class bouquets for Mary and laid at our Marian Grotto on the Lower School field.

This Liturgy is in place of these two classes' 'Class Collective Worship'. As we would invite the parents of a class to join us for a class Collective Worship, the parents of these two classes are very welcome to join us at the Church. The Year 4 children will have the opportunity to share this with the other classes in Key Stage 2, therefore, there will not be a live-stream from the Church as the children will be able to see participate in

person.

Reconciliation Service – Year 6

On Wednesday 1st March, children from Year 6 led us through a liturgy of Reconciliation. Through song, prayer, reflection and drama, the children led us to consider what it means to forgive and how the example of Jesus inspires us to love our neighbour in all circumstances. Beginning with a dramatisation of the Gospel reading about Zacchaeus, this was followed by a reflection about how we can all make mistakes and get things wrong, but God loves us as we are, and his mercy is endless.

Thank you Year 6, for leading us through this liturgy; they spoke with confidence and with reverence, and had clearly worked hard to make this a beautifully spiritual experience for everyone.

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Pastoral Team

On Friday 3rd March, there was the opportunity for children from Years 4, 5 and 6 to experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation with Canon Rob, Father Peter and Father Nick. Lots of children volunteered to attend and having already attended the liturgy, the children were well prepared and ready to share this important sacrament.

Lower School Holy Week Liturgy



All of the children in Lower School celebrated a Holy Week Liturgy together. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 led the Liturgy with prayers, reading the stories of Holy Week and acting them out so that we could really think about what happened for Jesus during that week. We reflected upon how we could welcome Jesus just like the crowds in Jerusalem did; how we can serve others – just like Jesus served his disciples by washing their feet; how we can forgive others – just like Jesus forgave those who crucified him and how we can share the good news of Jesus rising to new life on Easter Sunday.



Parish Links – Mrs. A. O'Donovan



Toddler Group: The team who run the Toddler Group are looking for new volunteers to help about once a month, on a rota, to make tea and coffee. Please contact Yana Linch yana.linch@gmail.com if you could help. Thank you.

Help needed: Would you be able to spare a couple of hours a month to help keep our lovely church clean? For further information please email: jackiecléments250@btinternet.com or on (01483) 764069 or 07799 054698.



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Mobile Phones on school grounds: safeguarding children and school site

A reminder please that, to safeguard children, mobile phones may not be used on school grounds, especially if adults are supervising children or waiting for children to come out of school. Please keep your phone in your bag or pocket; take calls off the school site.

Please ensure you tell anyone else who collects your child about this school policy. It is embarrassing for staff and the person concerned if we have to ask them to put their phone away.

Thank you.

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Online Safety – Mrs A. O'Donovan

Digital Wellbeing



Digital wellbeing relates to the use of technology (including games and apps) which can impact an individual's life, both positively and negatively. This can be a difficult area to target because everyone's experiences are different, but it can be useful to discuss with children the aspects that can support their digital wellbeing (e.g. positive influences) and what can affect digital wellbeing (e.g. exposure to abuse).

South West Grid for Learning have a really good article, as well as signposting to useful resources including wellbeing tools on apps (such as TikTok, Instagram and YouTube). There is also a Digital Resilience Toolkit from

Headstart Kernow towards the bottom right of the article.

<https://swgfl.org.uk/topics/digital-wellbeing/>

Parents - Conversation Starters



Parenting the digital world is difficult; no-one can deny that. For many of us we didn't grow up in a world of technology, therefore we don't have 'lived experience', we're just trying our best.

With the exploitation of children getting significantly worse each year, those conversations are so important. The Internet Watch Foundation have put together a brilliant guide for parents. It is about a year old now but is full of useful advice that can be accessed via the links below.

<https://talk.iwf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Parent-Resource.pdf>

<https://swgfl.org.uk/resources/checklists/>

What to Do About Fake Accounts



We talk frequently about the issues that the internet can pose to children and to internet security within educational establishments themselves. Increasingly a new threat has been emerging to this; the issue of fake accounts. These accounts can be on TikTok, Facebook, Twitter or any other social media medium. Often these accounts pose as staff from a particular educational establishment; these fake accounts can cause distress to members of staff and

may show offensive content. The SWGfL has published a page, which gives advice on what to do in these situations. To find out more follow the link below:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/schools-fake-accounts-and-ripas-what-you-can-do/>

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Parent to Parent

Childminding:

- Mrs W. Steer is currently full for before and after school places, but she may have availability from September 2023. She does however, have spaces for her holiday club which she runs during school holidays.
For further information, parents can contact Mrs Steer either by mobile: 07776289323 or by email: wendysteer27.08@hotmail.com.
- Mrs C. Whitmore is a registered childminder and is based in GU21 8UU
For further information, parents can contact Mrs Whitmore directly either by mobile: 07914730279 or by email: carolyn.whitmore@hotmail.co.uk

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Parking and being considerate to our neighbours

Onslow Crescent gets very busy at peak times. Not everyone can park here!

Can we suggest please that parents endeavour to park one minute further away and walk if they are able. This is also healthier for your children too to get this daily exercise.

Please always park considerately so that we keep disruption for our neighbours to a minimum. It is obviously never acceptable to park across a neighbour's drive or to park so close to it that residents can't see clearly to pull out onto the road to leave their house.

Please note **it is always illegal to park on yellow zig-zag lines anywhere at certain times.**

Rule 243 of the Highway Code indicates a range of places where motorists must not park, including on a bend, a dropped kerb or the brow of a hill. It also states that drivers must not park near a school entrance or anywhere that would prevent access for emergency.

Surrey County Council and Surrey Police are working in partnership to crack down on people who drive and park in a selfish manner. It is our children who are most at risk if people stop, drop or park selfishly.

You can also report incidents to Woking Borough Council 01483 755855 or on their website www.woking.gov.uk.

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School Office

Lunch money for summer term 2023 – Mrs M. O’Riordan, school office

School dinner costs for summer term are as follows: 1st half term £72.90, 2nd Half Term, £94.50, full term £167.40. Please remember that should you wish to change your child’s meal choice from hot to cold or vice versa, one week’s notice is required in writing.

We have had a number of occasions when parents have changed without notification to the school office. Not only does this cause an administrative difficulty when numbers do not tally but also means that the school is liable for the cost of the food order.

Therefore, if you change your child from school dinners to packed lunches without notification you will be liable for outstanding monies due to Surrey County Council.

Free School Meal Eligibility & Pupil Premium- Mrs C Turner- Bursar

We are aware, in the current climate, that some families are struggling financially. If your circumstances have changed or if you earn less than £16,190 your child/children may be entitled to free school meals. By completing a form we can check this for you and usually we receive a response within 48 hours. Once eligibility is confirmed your child /children are the entitled to free schools meals for the duration of their education at primary school. Currently Surrey County Council are also funding food vouchers for the holiday periods. If you would like to like to discuss this in confidence, please contact me via the school office or alternatively email me directly on admin@stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk

School Photographer



Fraser Portraits will be in school on **Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th May**, to take class photos. Year 6 ‘fun’ photos will also be taken on those days.

We would like boys to wear their shirt and tie for these photos please (shorts may be worn if the weather is hot, but not polo shirts) and girls in Reception – Year 5 should wear summer dresses *if possible*. (We appreciate that not all girls wear summer dresses and we do not want parents to buy one especially for this.) Both girls and boys should wear their blazers as always.

Thank you for your support to ensure the children are really smart for their end of year group photos.

Swimming Hats

Plain coloured swimming hats are available to purchase via your Scopay account at a cost of £3.00. Items ordered via Scopay will be ready for collection the following day. You can access your Scopay account here <https://www.scopay.com/login>

Please ensure swimming hats are clearly marked with your child’s name on the *outside in black/dark blue waterproof marker*. Thank you.

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Scooting and Cycling on School Grounds

Please do not allow your child to scoot or cycle on school grounds as this is dangerous for those who are walking or standing. Please teach your child to get off their scooter/cycle and walk. Thank you. The grounds are busy at drop off and pick up times. There may be an accident if this continues.

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Sports & PE

Sporting updates: Mr A. Coyle, PE Leader and Senior Teacher

Competition Update

Spring Festival

On 28th February, some of our Year 5 children travelled to the Royal Holloway University for a spring festival. Learning new skills in five different sports, they received expert tuition in lacrosse, handball, basketball, volleyball and touch rugby. The day was a huge success and the children were enthusiastic throughout, thanking everyone for teaching them and encouraging each other throughout. We look forward to attending more of these festivals over the next few terms.



Cross-country

Over three events, boys and girls from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 competed in the WASPS cross-country competition at Hoebridge. The course took the children through woodlands, across bridges and into meadow areas. A proper testing cross-country course many would say!

As always, everyone gave their all and performed amazingly well. The first week saw our Year 5/6 children compete. We had both individual and team successes.



Our girls in particular performed well and all five runners finished in the top 20 out of 84 runners. Week 2, saw our Year 3/4 children compete. Again, we had great success from both individuals and as a team. The boys this time showed their abilities with every runner finishing in the top 20 again out of 85.



The final week saw teams of five compete in

relays. One lap each against 15 other schools meant it was fast and frenetic.

St. Dunstan's finished 1st overall and were officially crowned WASPs cross-country champions for a second year running. Well done everyone who took part.



Sportshall Athletics county finals



An early start on Thursday 8th March saw us travel to the Guildford Spectrum to take part in the Surrey Sportshall athletics county finals. With a range of track and field events, 20 of our children from Year 6 took part. Competition was fierce, effort levels were extremely high and the talent on display exceptional. All our efforts resulted in another runner up place. What a great result for the school and children. Fantastic!

An early start on Thursday 8th March saw us travel to the Guildford Spectrum to take part in the Surrey Sportshall athletics county finals. With a range of track and field events, 20 of our children from Year 6 took part. Competition was



WASPs netball county finals qualifiers

It was a pleasure to host the Woking area's netball county qualifiers on Tuesday 14th March. With nine schools in attendance, the level of netball on display was high. The competition was incredibly close with Greenfield school winning the overall competition. Our boys and girls played admirably. A huge well done to the children and thanks to Miss Roe and Miss King for their support, coaching and guidance.



Girls' football national league trusts cup

Our Year 6 girls represented Woking Football Club at the National League South East football cup on Thursday 16th March. The girls performed amazingly well throughout the day against some very strong teams from across the whole south of England, being placed 4th at the end of the day. What a great result and the girls should be proud of their efforts.

Woking coaches were impressed with the level of ability and commitment.



Racket pack Badminton county finals



The county finals of the racket pack badminton competition took place on Monday 20th March at Three Rivers academy in Walton. Having won the Woking event, the children were familiar with the activity stations and it showed. Supporting each other throughout, the boys and girls all contributed to us being crowned county champions

Returning to school with shiny gold medals, the children beamed with pride. A glorious afternoon with 10 year 4 superstars. Great job!



Chobham rugby festivals



Chobham rugby ran two wonderful tough rugby festivals for Years 3 and 4 and then 5 and 6. Playing touch rugby, where the player with the ball has to pass after they are touched on the waistband starts to teach the children the basics of the game. We took two teams to each competition, with a total of 35 children in attendance over the events. Year 3 and 4, named the 'Suns and

Stars' played incredibly well.

The Year 5 and 6 teams did really well the following week too.

Well done to all the children involved and our thanks to Mr Wise for leading the two age groups across the events.



Year 5 boys' football league

One Monday 27th March, Mr Thompson led the Year 5 boys for their football league at New Haw where we finished runners up in the league - a great result.

Judo

Our final event of a busy month saw five Year 5 boys travel to Egham to take part in a Judo festival. Learning new skills, placing trust in others and communication were all key themes of the day. The children were a credit to the school throughout, making sure they listened carefully, responding to challenge and throwing (literally) themselves in to everything. It was a wonderful event and a fantastic to see the boys come out of themselves as the day progressed. Well done boys.



Swimming – Mr A. Coyle – Senior Teacher

Swimming lessons will commence on Tuesday 2nd May.

Please note that due to SATS, Year 6 will start their swimming the week commencing Monday 15th May.

As always, parents will be notified of any timetable changes in advance via Schoolcomms.

On the day of your child's lesson, they will need to remember to bring their swimming bag with named swimming costume or trunks (not bikinis or Bermuda shorts please) and a towel or towelling robe that is big enough to wrap around your child when they get out of the water. All children will require a swimming hat. Plain coloured swimming hats are available to purchase from the school via your Scopay account at a cost of £3.00. Items ordered via Scopay will be ready for collection the following day. You can access your Scopay account here <https://www.scopay.com/login> Please write your child's name in waterproof black pen on the outside of your child's swimming hat so our swimming teachers can identify children easily in the water.

If your child is well enough to be in school but is suffering from a cold/cough, we do encourage you to send in their swimming bag, as swimming is a statutory part of the National Curriculum. If you strongly feel they should not swim for health reasons, please ensure you send in a letter to the class teacher explaining the reason why. This should be a one off exceptional circumstance not a weekly occurrence. Please encourage your child to be resilient and independent. Independent children are independent learners who thrive and grow and can deal with the challenges that life brings. Our aim is to provide as many opportunities for each child as we can physically fit in, but please be aware that at times we do need to make changes to the timetable.

We are really looking forward to the start of swimming at school. It is always one of the highlights of the year for the children, with the sun shining and learning with friends. Our children are lucky to have these opportunities and we are blessed to have our own pool, which means we do not have to spend lots of money on hiring other pools and transport. Swimming, is an essential life skill that all children need to feel confident doing, it can save lives.

Please remind yourself when your child will be swimming from the timetable below:

Monday	4C	6B	2TM	
Tuesday	3C	2C	5F	2MM
Wednesday	3A	3P	1F	6J
Thursday	4A	4E	5M	1B
Friday	5P	6M	1JB	

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Staffing

Mrs G. Morganti – Head of School

At the end of last term, Mrs. Hutchinson left her Teaching Assistant role to pursue a very exciting career with Swim England. We are obviously sad to see Mrs. Hutchinson leave, but we are thrilled as the new role is such a wonderful opportunity for her and for the pupils she will be supporting. Mrs. Hutchinson will continue in her PE teaching role until the end of the summer term, when we will be saying farewell.

We are delighted to welcome, as a new Teaching Assistant, Mrs. Page who will be working in Year 5.



Huge congratulations to Miss. Jones who was married over the Easter break, and is now a very proud Mrs. Cannon!

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St Dunstan's Day Celebration: 19th May

St. Dunstan's Day – Mrs A. O'Donovan: Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral)



St. Dunstan's Day is a very special day for us as a school family. We will be celebrating with a Liturgy in the morning led by children in KS2 at the Church at 11.15am, followed by a picnic at lunchtime. Weather dependent, the children will sit outside as a class family to enjoy their picnics. Should the weather not be on our side, the children will enjoy their picnics in the classroom as a class family.

We also have plans for an exciting art project that we will share with you next month.

The children have previously requested that they are all allowed to bring in their own packed lunch to celebrate. Therefore, we would like to invite all children to bring their own healthy packed lunch to school on this day, as part of our celebration. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals (this is all children in

Lower School) and you wish for your child to have school lunch, the Twelve 15 catering team, will make and provide packed lunches for them. You will receive a Schoolcomms message about lunch preference for this day. Lunch monies for KS2 children will be adjusted accordingly. It is absolutely vital that everyone remembers that packed lunches must be **totally nut free** and contain a balanced, healthy meal.

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Uniform

Summer Uniform

As mentioned by Mrs Birch earlier in this newsletter, a reminder that summer uniform can be worn from **Tuesday 2nd May** for those who wish. Summer uniform is optional.

The school uniform list can be found on the school website:

<http://www.stdunstans.surrey.sch.uk/SCHOOL%20UNIFORM.pdf>

If you would like your child to wear summer uniform, please note:

- Grey shorts must be smart, like short school trousers. Not cargo shorts with pockets on the outsides as these are casual shorts.
- Shorts should be no longer than the knee. Three quarter trousers are not allowed.
- White polo shirts can only be worn with smart grey shorts, not with long trousers.
- Summer dresses are pink and white stripes (thin stripes) not checks.
- White, long or ankle length socks are worn with summer dresses. Trainer socks (foot only) are not allowed.
- Short grey socks (not black) are worn with shorts.

- Blazers must be worn to school every day. If the weather is exceptionally hot, we will send a Schoolcomms to inform parents that blazers are not required. Please teach your child to be resilient!

Summer PE uniform: Mr Coyle, PE Leader and Senior Teacher

As we move into the summer term and the warmer weather (hopefully!) arrives, it continues to be important that the children have the correct PE kit. On PE days it is even more advisable that children have a summer hat and water bottle. Although we endeavour to limit the time spent in direct sunlight it is inevitable that there will be exposure to the sun. Wearing the thicker maroon socks is not advisable in KS2 so if you could please supply a pair of white sports socks then the children will be far more comfortable.

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Dates for your Diary – noted changes to the Annual Calendar



For your information: - Please note there are no changes to the dates as published in the Annual Calendar for this newsletter:

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Friends of St. Dunstan's (FoSD) Section of the School Newsletter



The FoSD Committee

Carys, Helen, Kamila, Andrew and Elizabeth

Dear Parents, Carers, and Friends of St. Dunstan's

We hope you all had a lovely Easter Break; we are looking forward to the summer term, which is set to be full of exciting events. A few updates from FoSD:

Thank you

Just by way of reiteration, a VERY BIG thank you to **Helen O'Brien** and **Andrew Cranmer** for their years of dedication to FoSD and their invaluable contribution to the school fundraising efforts. You will both be sorely missed.

Welcome

Welcome to Kamila Jedrzcak, who joined the FoSD committee as Treasurer, as of the AGM.

Welcome too, to Dhinanjalee Ameratunga, who joined the FoSD committee as joint secretary, alongside our long-standing and wonderful remaining secretary; Elizabeth Lucek.

The FOSD AGM

The AGM was held on the 21st March 2023. Thank you to those that attended.

The AGM minutes, annual finance report and Chair's annual report will shortly be circulated separately.

We are still looking to fill a co-Treasurer role in the committee, and are looking for a new Chair to take over from Carys in September. Carys is unfortunately unable to continue in this role and in order for FoSD to continue, we really do need someone, or two people to take on this role come September. Please contact Carys, on 07976235857 or friendsofstunstanschairperson@gmail.com, with any questions, or to express your interest in either of these roles.

Swimming Donations

Swimming lessons for children from Year 1 upwards, starts the 2nd May, as part of their summer term curriculum. The school (*with additional funding from the Governor's Maintenance Fund*) finances the cost of running and maintaining the swimming pool. FoSD donates money to cover the cost of providing the swimming teachers, which last year cost over £5000.

We would please ask, where possible, that each family makes a voluntary contribution of £15 for the first sibling and £5 per additional sibling up to the suggested maximum donation of £25, to help fund the swimming lessons.

No child will be excluded from swimming lessons should a donation not be made.

Please visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fosd> to make donations online. Please ensure the *PTA Events User* is in the name of the Tax payer and that gift aid is clicked.

If would like to pay via PayPal, via bank transfer, or by cash, please email Kamila on treasurerfosd@gmail.com for further details.

Happy Bags

Happy Bags will be coming home with your children at the end of April.

For all parents, carers and friends of St. Dunstan's who are new to Happy Bags, please see the link to see details, and to find out what should be included, and what should be avoided.

<http://happyschoolbag.co.uk/>

Please return your bag **at drop off on Tuesday 23rd May**, and not before. There is unfortunately no room to store the bags at school.

Happy spring cleaning 😊

Summer term Cake Sales

This term FoSD will aim to host two cake sales; one on **Friday 19th May**, a week before half-term, and the second and final one, on **Friday 14th July**. FoSD will be asking Year 3 to please host the 19th of May cake sale, and Year 4 to please host the final cake sale on Friday the 14th of July

2023 Quiz Night

The 2023 Quiz Night will be held on **Saturday 20th May**. VIP and standard table and individual tickets are on sale on the FoSD website; <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fosd>; do hurry, they are selling fast. The quiz has in the past always been a great evening, and is set to be a fabulous event this year.

A separate Schoolcomms will also be circulated in advance of the quiz night with all the details.

The Summer Disco

A summer disco will be hosted on Friday 5th May. Tickets are also on sale on the PTA website; <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fosd>. Tickets need to be purchased in advance of the night so do book now. Tickets are £5, and there will be merchandise, drinks and snacks for sale on the evening.

At the disco, there will be a waiting area for parents outside the hall, at which there will be refreshments available for those who would prefer to wait.

A separate Schoolcomms will also be circulated in advance of the disco with all the details.

The Summer Fair

Plans are well under way for the summer fair, and separate communications have been circulated this week in relation to this. A couple of things, we would still like to invite sponsorship please; if anyone is interested in sponsoring an event or stall at the summer fair, please do get in contact with Carys on 07976235857 or friendsofstdunstanschairperson@gmail.com.

We would also like to invite any parents, carers or friends of St. Dunstan's who would like to either advertise services, or businesses within the summer fair programme, or to host their own stall at the summer fair, to please get in touch with Carys or Sarah Genco too, to discuss this. Sarah can be contacted on 07837189446 or sarah.genco@yahoo.co.uk.

The Parents Football Tournament

A separate Schoolcomms will be circulated in relation to this separately, but if in the meantime, if you would like to find out how you can get involved, and support this event, please contact Johnny Fox on 07766555087.

Dates for the Diary

Summer Disco: Friday 5th May

Year 3 cake sale: Friday 19th May

Quiz Night: Saturday 20th May

Happy Bag School Drop: Tuesday 23rd May (at drop-off please)

Summer Fair: Sunday 25th June

Year 4 cake sale: Friday 14th July

Parents Football Tournament: Saturday 15th July

We are unable to run these events on our own and we really appreciate all help offered!

Thank you.

Return to Practice opportunities for Allied Health Professionals



Surrey Heartlands is a commissioning body for health and social care within Surrey and they are launching a campaign to raise awareness about the opportunity to return to practice for those people who have left their role as Allied Health Professionals (AHPs). There are 14 professions that fall under this umbrella such as Dietitians, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Radiographers, to mention a few.

Please [click here](#) for further details.

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