

The Head Teacher writes...

NEWSLETTER

W/C 30.01.17

Lunchtimes have changed at St David's. After much deliberation and hesitation, the staff have deserted the staff-room and now enjoy sharing lunchtimes with the children. This leads to some interesting dialogue and we've surprised ourselves by rather enjoying the whole experience. It is fascinating to hear the views and opinions of the children and for us to learn about what is important to them and what is going on in their lives. As we continue to encourage all the children to become resilient and leaders of the future we recognize how important it is for them to be allowed to express themselves and have their voice heard and listened to. And of course, the marvellous catering helps. Today we thoroughly enjoyed a meal to celebrate Chinese New Year. **Xin Nian Kuai Le—That's Happy New Year in Mandarin!**

PRE-PREP

Last Friday, Reception held a Chinese New Year Party following their recent topic learning about how the Chinese celebrate their New Year.

They considered the following:

- * How we live in a diverse world
- * How to share their beliefs and value the views of others
- * The legend of how the Chinese came to name their years after animals
- * Explored some of the traditions associated with Chinese New Year

The children dressed in oriental or in costumes or China's lucky colour which is red. They made Chinese lanterns and dragons and discovered which animal of the Chinese zodiac they are. Based on the year they were born, this year's Reception are either dragons or rabbits. During the afternoon party they enjoyed a selection of Chinese food and had the opportunity to use chopsticks, most of them coped really well ... They ended the day by playing some traditional party games before home time.

Great fun was had by all.



YEAR 3 OUTING TO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

(Written by parent helper Mrs Innes)

When asked to accompany Year 3 to the NHM, naively I had thought we would be the only school there, I was completely wrong. There were thousands! After a biscuit break the children were shown to their workshop room where they debated and discovered how fossils were made and how to identify them. The children were split into groups and the team leaders were asked to stand up and talk about their fossil—it was like watching an episode of 'The Apprentice'.



The final task, before a quick and noisy lunch, was to gently uncover a dinosaur skull using brushes.

We then had time to walk around the dinosaur exhibition, the highlight being an animatronic T-Rex, before the journey home to West Wickham. It was a great day out. Year 3 are a good-natured, confident and hardworking bunch. It was a pleasure to watch them with their teachers in 'school-mode'.

Good luck to:

- Our 35 choir members when they sing at the O2 on Tuesday
- Our 7 runners heading off to Frewen College for the ISA London South Cross Country meet

MATHLETICS

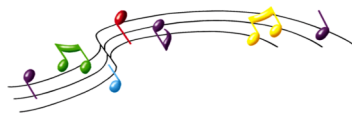
	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
JUSTIN	31	2	0
OAK	32	0	0
WAGSTAFF	24	2	0
SCHOVE	32	1	0

HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK:

JUSTIN 875 * OAK 800 * WAGSTAFF 700 * SCHOVE 850

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS

During our 'Space' themed Open Morning on Saturday 18th March at 9.30am I am planning a 'scratch' orchestral performance of themed music. If any parents or older siblings would like to play alongside our School orchestra please call the School Office or email office@stdavidscollge.com
Any standard welcome—dust off those instruments!

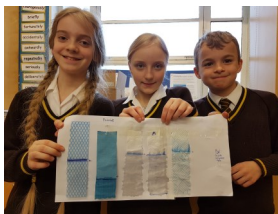


Mrs Sowter



As part of an initiative organised by the deaf health charity 'Sign Health' the whole school have been learning a specially commissioned song called 'Together'. As well as singing, they will be signing this song in assembly on Monday. It would be lovely if each child could bring in a small donation next week that we can forward to this cause. We are hoping to record what we feel will be a moving performance and then post it on Facebook for you all to experience.

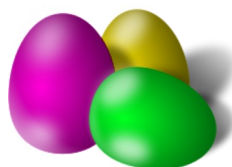
*Year 5 have been studying Properties and Materials in science. During their lesson today they had great fun finding out which towel was the best to use as a cleaning cloth.
Happy Cleaning Year 5!*



EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

BOOK YOUR PLACES—FORMS AVAILABLE FROM SCHOOL OFFICE OR FROM THE WEBSITE (www.stdavidscollge.com)

TUESDAY 18TH, WEDNESDAY 19TH,
THURSDAY 20TH, FRIDAY 21ST APRIL
8.00am—6.00pm



SPRING TERM 2017

February:

Monday 6th Years 5 & 6 ISA London South Cross Country at Frewen College
Tuesday 7th Young Voices at O2 Arena
Monday 13th—17th Half Term
Monday 20th INSET DAY
Tuesday 21st 7.30pm PTA Meeting
Thursday 23rd 3.45pm Years 5 & 6 Football (H)
V Virgo Fidelis
Year 4 West Wickham library
Friday 24th Netball ISA London South U11
Lingfield Notre Dame (A)
Monday 27th 7.45am Football Club begins
Parents Interview Week begins
Tuesday 28th Perform Drama Group Recp, Year 1 & 2
Yrs 3 & 4 Cross Country Relay at St Dunstan's College

MARCH

Thursday 2nd World Book Day
Saturday 4th ISA National Cross Country
PTA Quiz Night
Monday 6th Year 4 National Gallery trip
Tuesday 7th 2.00p Year 4 Football (A)
Virgo Fidelis
Wednesday 8th Girls Football ISA London South
Virgo Fidelis (A)
Thursday 9th Life Bus
Friday 10th Life Bus
Saturday 11th Bromley Schools Cross Country at Crystal Palace Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Monday 13th Reception to West Wickham library
Tuesday 14th Quiz Club Competition
Bishop Challoner
Thursday 16th 3.30—5.30pm Dance Show Rehearsal
All years
Saturday 18th 9.30am Open Morning
Monday 20th Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 21st Year 6 Bikeability
Thursday 23rd 3.30—5.30pm Dance Show Rehearsal
All years
Tuesday 28th PTA Easter Egg Hunt
Thursday 30th 9.30am Dress Rehearsal Dance Show
4.30pm Dance Show
Friday 31st 11.30am Term Ends
Tuesday 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st 8.00am—6.00pm Holiday Club