## The Head Teacher writes...

NEWSLETTER W/C 01.05.17

# **Testing Times!**

A statement that could mean any number of things at the moment. For our pupils in Year 2 and Year 6 it means SATs. They have all been working hard consolidating all their prior learning and have been gently prepared to do their very best over the next few weeks.

As a school, we have all been tested in the last few days. We had some visitors—two members of the Wishford Advisory Board, both very experienced ISI Inspectors, came to inspect us. No one escaped, pupils and staff were questioned, books scrutinised and the mountains of paper work and compliance documentation went under the microscope.

Sounds horrendous? Not at all. It was a very affirming experience. All the pupils and staff were brilliant and between us we managed to convey the true essence of St David's, even if a few members of staff need to brush up on their British Values!

So far we only have a draft report of their findings but suffice it to say we are quietly ecstatic!

# YES!!!

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

School Council met this week and were observed by one of our inspectors, a new experience for them all!

Having consulted with their class mates, they discussed a range of issues. House competitions appear popular and there were suggestions for some new ones, including a Lego building challenge and reading competition. Assemblies were discussed; should Year 6 sit on benches or chairs? Could more pupils get the chance to show-case their musical instrument playing? And could they be a little shorter!

All their suggestions are taken seriously and hopefully will serve to improve the experience for all pupils in the school.

#### MR LEACH

We are sorry to announce that Mr Leach will be leaving St David's at the end of the school year.

Although we are very grateful to live in such a wonderful location the rising costs of living, have meant that, Mr Leach is moving further out of London. We wish him the very best of luck in his new venture.

### YEAR 6 ENTERPRISE UP-DATE

The Year 6 children have been finalising their business plans and profit and loss accounts ready to be sent off to Jordan Daykin today. Final results will be announced soon!



# Prep Disco

Date: Friday 12th May

Where: Main Hall

When: 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm

Dress to impress!

Tickets:

£5.00 each, includes squash and biscuits

**NEXT PTA EVENT:** 

**SUMMER FAIR SATURDAY 10TH JUNE** 

### PARENT COUNCIL

Thank you to those who came along this morning and shared your views and ideas.

Following on from the request at a previous meeting, we are delighted to say that the PTA have very kindly purchased a range of small play equipment to be used by Pre-Prep children at lunchtimes.

We are trialling setting aside the 'middle' court as a dedicated space for Pre-Prep pupils. They can of course still enjoy the rest of the field if they wish.

We are looking into provision of clubs for September 2017 please keep giving us your suggestions.

#### YEAR 2 WENT BACK IN TIME ...

Last Friday, Year 2 arrived at school dressed as Victorian school children and spent the day experiencing school as it would have been in Victorian times. They wrote the alphabet in copy books, recited times tables and made wooden peg dolls. Their teachers, Mrs Strict and Mrs Stern, gave the children's hands and nails a thorough inspection for cleanliness and made notes in the Punishment book of any pupils who had

to wash their mouths out with soap or wear the backboard for not sitting up straight. They survived the experience and gained an

> appreciation of how different children's lives are today!



### **PLEASE NOTE:**

Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September will now be Inset Days. Term starts for all pupils on Wednesday 6th September 2017

### **Autumn Term 2017/2018**

Early Room and Clubs will commence at 7.45am School gates open at 8.35am Registration at 8.45am Lessons begin at 8.50am



Four members of Year 5 were invited to take part in an inter-school maths

challenge. They spent the afternoon being challenged in a variety of mathematical ways calling upon their powers of logical, creative and 'out-of-the-box' thinking. Well done Tom, Rahul, Neha and Megan and

thank you to Mrs Kinnes who accompanied them and enjoyed the lovely cakes provided!



### **DATES**

MAY Monday 8th-11th Year 6 SATS week

Tuesday 9th Reception & Year 4 visit from The Bug Man

Friday 12th **PTA Prep Disco** Monday 15th-19th Year 6 School Journey

Wednesday 17th 8.00am 11+ Meeting (Year 5 parents)

Monday 15th LAMDA exams

Tuesday 23rd Visiting author Luke Temple

Friday 26th 'Own Clothes Day': Bring-a-Bottle for

Summer Fair

Half Term

Monday 29th to Friday 2nd June

JUNE

Tuesday 6th ISA London South Athletics at Norman Park Thursday 8th

**Musical Showcase Concerts** 

**PTA Summer Fair** 

Saturday 10th Friday 16th-18th Year 6 Wishford Weekend Monday 19th ISA Nationals at Birmingham Wednesday 21st Year 6 production dress rehearsal

Thursday 22nd Year 6 Production Friday 23rd **Year 6 Production** 

Tuesday 27th 1.30pm Sports Day (NO LATE ROOM)

Wednesday 28th 2.00pm New Parents Afternoon

2.45pm New and Second Hand uniform sale Friday 12.30pm School finishes (NO LATE ROOM)

7.00pm Year 6 Prize Giving Evening

**JULY** 

**Tuesday 4th Last Pre-Prep swim** 

1.30pm reserve Sports Day

Thursday 6th R, Year 1, 2, 3 visit to Ladyland Farm Monday 10th

Year 2 last swimming lesson 7—9 pm Open Evening

**Tuesday 11th** 12.30pm SCHOOL YEAR ENDS

Wednesday 12th to

Friday 14th July 8am-6pm Holiday Club

**SEPTEMBER** 

Monday 4th **Inset Day** Tuesday 5th **Inset Day** 

Wednesday 6th **Autumn Term begins**