



Friday 19th November

Dear Parents,

Mrs Hills writes... Eco-Coordinator and Year 1 teacher

I am writing to you to share some exciting news, this year our school has made the decision to work towards Eco-Schools Green Flag accreditation (<https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/>)!

Eco-Schools began in 1994 and is the largest educational programme on the planet (there are currently 70 countries delivering the Eco-Schools programme around the world), in England it is operated by the environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy. The Eco-Schools programme focuses on empowering young people to lead environmental education and action in their school, local community and beyond. It does this by providing a simple, seven-step framework that turns pupils into forward-thinking, decision-making, planet-protectors.

There are multiple reasons we have decided to embark on the journey to Eco-Schools Green Flag. Firstly, our planet (and all life on it) is already beginning to feel the catastrophic effects of climate change, plastic pollution, biodiversity loss and a myriad of other environmental challenges. We want our pupils to be aware of the challenges our planet faces, and will continue to face throughout their lifetimes. We don't want our pupils to avoid or shy-away from these challenges: we want to engage young people in conversations about them and we want to provide them with the skills needed to tackle these challenges directly. Our hope is by doing this we will empower our pupils with the passion and skills to protect our planet now and throughout their lifetimes, including as they grow to become leaders, decision-makers and educators themselves. Alongside benefitting our planet, we also hope it will benefit our pupils - independent research has found that pupil participation in the Eco-Schools programme leads to: increased confidence, development of leadership skills, improved behaviour and greater motivation at school. We also anticipate it will help our school, it is proven Eco-Schools consume less water, use less energy and produce less waste.

You may be reading this and wondering, 'How does this impact me?' Well, our young Eco-Warriors are yet to decide on the environmental actions we will embark upon, so a detailed answer is difficult. However, over the coming months you may notice: environmental hints and tips on our school newsletters; invites to litter-picks, community gardening days or other similar events; requests for donations of time, equipment or expertise; and, perhaps most noticeably, a young person in your home with a keen interest in all things environmental. This interest may manifest in various ways, which may include: increased awareness of correct recycling practices; a determination to switch lights off when not in use; a desire to create bug hotels and bird feeders; offers to help nurture nearby plants and maybe sometimes even requests to time their (and your) showers!

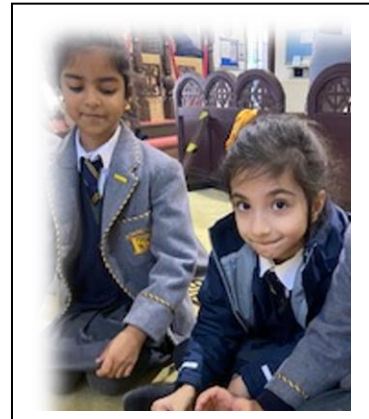
I hope you're as excited about our Eco-Schools journey as everyone at school is - if you would like to find out more, or get involved, please feel free to contact me directly.

YEAR 2 TRIP To AL-EMAAN MOSQUE



Last week, Year 2 had their first school trip in a long while!

We were so lucky to be able to visit the Al-Emaan Mosque in Keston and learn more about the traditions of the Muslim faith, a faith that many of our families follow and enjoy sharing with us.



The children had the opportunity to explore the Mosque, ask questions and handle artefacts that were new to them. They learnt how Muslims wash before praying and were very lucky to hear a call for prayer.

It is amazing and so important for the children to be able to understand and respect different religions and customs and to experience some of these themselves. We had an amazing morning and cannot wait to learn more about the religion as the term progresses.

Our thanks to everyone at the Mosque for making us so welcome.



Year 2 Scootsure Training

Yesterday, Year 2 were lucky to have some visitors in school to help teach them how to scoot to school safely. We learnt about being observant on pavements and how to look around us at all times. We had great fun and loved the variety of colourful scooters and helmets.



PRIMARY MATHS CHALLENGE



This week a number of our pupils challenged themselves!

We are very proud of them all and hope that several of our pupils will go forward to the second round of this national competition which will take place in the new year.

The following children have been awarded certificates:

GOLD	
Matthew T	Year 6
Ava C	Year 6
Louis B	Year 4
Florence I	Year 5

SILVER	
Harry C	Year 6
Orlando C	Year 6
Mya B	Year 6
Isabella H	Year 6
Jayveer M	Year 5
Srisakthi K	Year 5
Anoushka G	Year 6
Kieran M	Year 6
Sami T	Year 5
Thor M B	Year 5
Guhan K	Year 4

BRONZE	
Charlotte M	Year 6
Ellie W	Year 5
Henry T	Year 6
Kayla O	Year 6
Florence K	Year 6
Esha R	Year 5
Amelie T	Year 5
Leonardo P	Year 4
Jayshaan J	Year 4

Well done to all those who took part!

PTA EVENT

The **Christmas Fair** will be held in school on Saturday 27th November 1.00 - 4.00pm. I know plans are well underway and a lot of work has already gone into devising new ways of making this a fun and enjoyable afternoon for the whole school community. Please support the committee in any way you can; the money raised benefits all the pupils throughout the year in a number of ways. Thank you, PTA!



PROJECT WATERAID



Once again, you did not disappoint. The bottles came in, filled with all the coins and even notes that you could muster. Year 6 have been busy emptying, sorting and counting and we are delighted to announce that over £1,000.00 has been raised!

This money will be sent to WaterAid and we know the difference your generosity will make to other lives.

For us and our pupils, it demonstrates such a powerful and strong message that when we each give a little, albeit effort, time or money, we can together achieve something big.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

LEGO CLUB:

Having new staff means that the whole school gains from the interests and talents they bring with them. Mr Styles, one of our Reception teachers, is no exception! Alongside his sense of fun, appreciation of the school catering and love of the outside, he also loves Lego. When he offered to run a Lego club we knew there would be many keen participants. Each Wednesday afternoon the hall now echoes with fun-filled voices as the children create and construct under the watchful and encouraging eyes of Mr Styles and Mrs Tierney. Such fun!



COMING UP:

Saturday 20th November: Bromley Schools Cross-Country event @ Crystal Palace (Year 5 and 6)

Saturday 27th November: PTA Christmas Fair - 1.00 - 4.00pm

Friday 3rd December: Parent Voice Open Meeting - 8.45am

Tuesday 7th December @ 9.30am - Pre-Reception and Reception Nativity

Wednesday 8th December @ 2.00pm - Pre-Reception and Reception Nativity

Thursday 9th December: PTA Christmas Wreath Workshop @ 7.00pm

Friday 10th December: Prep Carol Service @ St John's Church - 6.30pm

Tuesday 14th December @ 2.00pm - Years 1 and 2 Nativity

Wednesday 15th December @ 9.30am - Years 1 and 2 Nativity

Thursday 16th December: Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

FRIDAY 17th DECEMBER: TERM ENDS at 12.00pm for all pupils

RAINBOW CLUB

Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st December

SPRING TERM begins Wednesday 5th January

FUTURE HOLIDAY DATES

The term and holiday dates for 2022/2023 have now been agreed and posted on the school website.

Please note that an extra Bank Holiday has been granted next May/June to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The official BH dates are Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June, both of which are during our half- term break. We are therefore adding Friday 27th May as an additional holiday day to recompense staff and give our families a chance to enjoy a longer break.

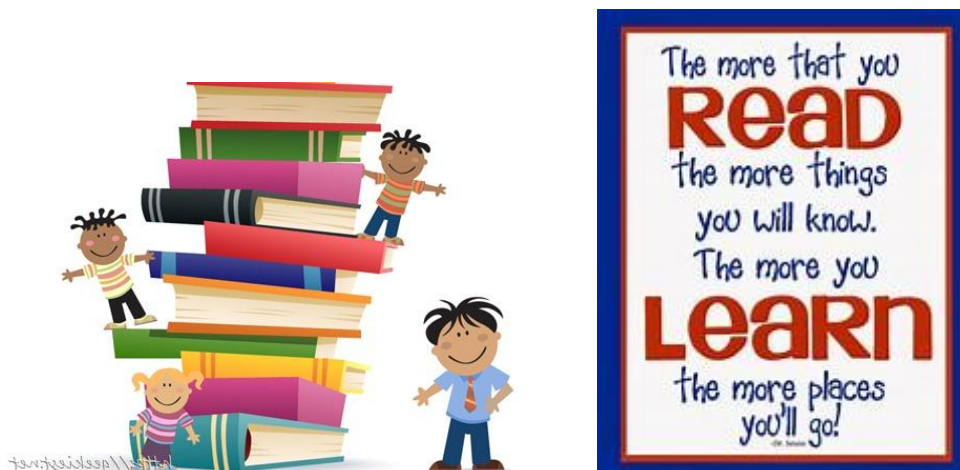
HEAD TEACHER AWARDS

Kush K	Year 1
Arthur A	Year 1
Mila S	Year 1
Esme J	Year 4
Holly H	Year 4
Leo A	Year 5
Megan McG	Year 5
Jayveer M	Year 5

FROM MRS BISHOP...

Dear Parents,

Travelling Books have once more returned to St David's!



The children were very excited to see the cases arrive, and they will be getting the chance to have a look at the books over the next few days. Their teacher will arrange a time to view them in the cases and they will be allowed to jot down the names of a couple of books they are interested in on a slip of paper, that they will then bring home to you.

If you would like to purchase any books for your child, or for presents, there are a number of different ways to pay. You can pay online using the link below, pay by phone by calling Travelling Books directly, or as a last resort send the money into school. Please note, we cannot accept cheques.

To access the link, please use the address listed below:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/travelling-books/pay>

I will also be available after school on Tuesday if you would like to come and look at the books yourself and will be happy to talk through the selection available with you.

I appreciate that this is a very busy time of year for everyone, but please do try and support our Book Fair. Not only is this an ideal time to get ahead on Christmas shopping and find your child some wonderful books to enjoy, but all of your purchases directly benefit the school. Any books you buy help us to earn rewards which we can then use to buy books for the children to use in school.

Thank you so much for your support.

Kind Regards

Holly Bishop

And Finally...

MRS FOULGER WRITES

It was lovely to welcome you all into school last night as you came to meet with the class teachers. Judging by the smiling faces that greeted me as you walked back up the stairs, I believe the experience was a generally positive one. The staff were certainly buzzing, with one of our new TAs actually saying she loved the evening – she hadn't known what to expect but thoroughly enjoyed meeting you parents and being able to celebrate and reflect on the class journey so far. One of our greatest St David's strengths is the way the staff know each of your children so well and treat them as the individuals they certainly are.

A parting quote from one dad to his son's class teacher, *'thank you for loving him like we do...'* sums up the passion, care and dedication shown by all our talented staff. I thank them all.

Best wishes,

Julia Foulger