

Dear Parents

After a well-earned rest and the start to a new term, the children were reminded about how their brain works, which depends on over one hundred billion neurons that connect to each other. When we learn, messages travel between neurons over and over again so pathways are created, that make repeated tasks become easier. So, the more we use our brain to create these pathways the more we learn. Our brains are consistently creating new neuron pathways to enable learning. The more we use our brain the more efficient it becomes and, just like any muscle, it requires a work-out through challenges. Drinking water to keep hydrated, a balanced diet, regular exercise to increase the oxygen in our blood and rest and sleep are also very important. So please encourage your children to exercise their brains in the evening with regular number bonds and times tables practice, as well as their spellings and reading. It is also important all children bring in their water bottles to keep them hydrated and focused, and a healthy morning snack to feed their brains.

In assembly, as always, we had much to celebrate. Phoebe (Year Six) was awarded her Grade Three piano exam certificate; Lucia (Year Three) received her certificate for swimming 50 metres; Handwriting prizes were presented to pupils in each year group for neat cursive handwriting and correct punctuation – Liam (Reception), Wilf (Year One), Eli and Rowan (Year Two), Charlotte and Jonny (Year Three), Edward and Imy (Year Four), Jennifer and Conor (Year Five) and Hattie and Charlie (Year Six) are all to be congratulated. Hattie and Conor's pieces have also been entered into the ISA Handwriting competition. Congratulations to several of our pupils in Year Three and Year Four who took part in a recent tennis tournament - read on to hear the results.

## Diary

### **This Week**

- 13<sup>th</sup> May Reception Parent Meetings
- 14<sup>th</sup> May Reception Visit to Amersham Field Study Centre - [Details](#)
- 15<sup>th</sup> May EYFS Parent Meetings
- 16<sup>th</sup> May EYFS Parent Meetings

### **Looking Ahead**

- 18<sup>th</sup> May STPA Secret Garden Picnic Ball – See STPA Page for details
- 20<sup>th</sup> May Music Festival Rehearsals
- 21<sup>st</sup> May Open Morning  
St Teresa's Music Festival – 6.30pm - Reception to Year Six – [Details](#)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May **Year Four Visit – Thames Water Dicot Education Centre** – [Details](#)  
Year Six Parents Evening
- 23<sup>rd</sup> May Open Morning  
Year Six Parents Evening
- 24<sup>th</sup> May Key Stage One Celebration – Parents invited 9am - Details to follow separately

	Grandparents Afternoon – <a href="#">Details</a>
	Last Day Before Half Term – normal dismissal times
27 <sup>th</sup> –31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	School reopens for pupils 8.20am
	<b>Travelling Books – available after school for the week</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> June	International Day – Details to follow
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Parent Workshop 'Mathematical Development in the Early Years and beyond' 6.30-8pm
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Bucks Art Weeks Exhibition 9am – 11am
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Bucks Art Weeks Exhibition 9am – 11am
	EYFS Father's Day Celebration 8.45am
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Rotary Chess Competition – Details in newsletter
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Multi-faith Day
18 <sup>th</sup> –22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Year Six French Trip
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Bucks Art Weeks Exhibition 9am – 11am
21 <sup>st</sup> June	Bucks Art Weeks Exhibition 9am – 11am
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day – Details to be confirmed
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Moving Up Day
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Risborough Music Festival Lunch Time Concert 12.30pm – 1.30pm
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Mass – Time to be confirmed
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Prize Giving 6.30pm – All pupils from Year One to Year Six to attend
8 <sup>th</sup> –10 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>No Clubs this week</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day – Half Day – 12 noon <b>No wraparound</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> –19 <sup>th</sup> July	Activity Week

Items in red added to the diary since the last Weekly Letter to Parents was published

**Dates for this academic year are all available on the school website.**

**There you will also find copies of school policies (hard copies may be requested from the office) and details of the curriculum for each year group.**

## Notices

### **Reminder**

You may have noticed that our plants by the entrance to the car park are looking a little sad! Ideally, we would like to plant the pots with hardier perennial plants so if you have any in your garden that you are splitting up, we would be very grateful. Plants like alchemilla mollis, lavender, rosemary or hardy geraniums would be perfect and if you had time to plant the pots too, then even better!

For the summer term, we would like to provide some 'den building' materials in the playground. If you have any old sheets or pegs, they would be gratefully received.

### **Music Festival**

You will have received information last week about the Music Festival. Please note that refreshments will only be served at the 6.30pm performance. To reserve your tickets please use the EmailMeForm by [clicking here](#).

### **Grandparents Afternoon**

You will have received information last week about the Grandparents Afternoon. Please don't forget to RSVP using the EmailMeForm by [clicking here](#).

# NEWS

## Year Five trip to Sulgrave Manor

Year Five had fun last week during their visit to Sulgrave Manor, stepping into the shoes of members of a Tudor household. They dressed in Tudor attire, toured the rich manor and the poor blacksmith's workshop, toiled away in the kitchens, identified herbs in the herb garden, spun thread and swapped their usual fountain pen for the quill variety. It was interesting to analyse replica artefacts and discuss how and by whom they might have been used.



By the end of the day, the majority of the class felt that they could confidently go back in time to the Tudor period with enough knowledge of history to avoid being found out (although nobody was keen to experience the Tudor school punishments...). Thank you to Mrs Purser, who accompanied us, and to Mrs Stanley and team, who provided the delicious lunch!



### **Tennis Stars Shoot to County Finals**

Last Tuesday, St Teresa's took two teams to John Hampden School to compete in a mini tennis qualifying event for the Buckinghamshire School Games.

A total of seven teams representing five local schools took part in the event, with teams split into two groups.

All of our children played incredibly well and the tournament organisers were very impressed with our standard of play.

Our St Teresa's Aces team, Harry, Cara, Emily and Jonny finished in third place overall, just one point behind runners up Ash Hill, who were the only school to beat us.

Our St Teresa's Stars team, Ashley, Henry, Matilda and Lucia went through the entire competition unbeaten and won the event, ahead of Ash Hill by three points.

The School Games finals will be played at Stoke Mandeville on 4<sup>th</sup> July.



### **Year One and Year Three Trip to LEGOLAND**



Year One and Year Three had a fantastic, sunny day at LEGOLAND, Windsor on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

We went on an underwater adventure in a submarine, learnt how to drive and some of us even trained as fire-fighters at the Fire Academy; working as a team to drive a fire engine and pump water to put out a fire.

Year One enjoyed watching an action-packed Pirate show and Year Three enjoyed their Lego, Camera, Action! Workshop, where they collaborated to create their very own Lego movie.

The children were, as usual, a credit to the school and waited very patiently for their turn on the rides. We received comments from members of the public on how smart the children looked and how courteous they were when chatting to one another whilst waiting in the queues.

