



## St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

Head of School: Mrs Jane Robinson

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Term 6 Week 6

Friday 12th July 2024

### Headlines from our Head of School

#### Focus on 'Legacy'

This week, we have been celebrating our lovely Lilac class and especially our Year 6 leavers. The school and families of Lilac class enjoyed a wonderful end of term show, where the children brought to life the poignant tale of 'The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse' by Charlie Mackesy and Charlotte Freud.

It was a truly wonderful celebration of the year 6 children and their last few weeks with us at St Mary School. I was struck by the important life messages scattered throughout the play that align so closely to the Christian values at the heart of our school community.

When Owl opens the play saying:

*"we hope the play will encourage you to live with more kindness for yourself and others"*

and when Mole reflects:

*"being kind to yourself is one of the greatest kindnesses... nothing beats kindness. It sits quietly beyond all things"*



..it echoed our value of 'Love'. The children showed this love throughout by supporting each other through the understandable anxiety created by performing to an audience.

Less obvious aspects of our value of 'Strength' were explored soon after when Horse shared that:

*"asking for help isn't giving up, it's refusing to give up"*

and when asked when he had been at his strongest he answered:

*"when I have dared to show my weakness".*

And powerfully our value of Faith was mirrored in horse's advice to the boy about storms:

*"What's the best thing you've learned about storms?"*

*"That they end" he replies.*

*"When the big things feel out of control, focus on what you love right under your nose. This storm will pass".*

Thinking about the group of children leaving us this year to go on to their next exciting adventure, I am struck by the amazing, unique and truly fabulous individuals they have become and how ready they are for their next educational steps. They leave us having achieved great things as well as importantly developing as kind and thoughtful individuals who think beyond themselves. I know whatever they face in the future, this school community has set them up to respond in ways that would make us proud. As mole says:

*"One of our greatest freedoms is how we react to things... you know... most moles I know wish they listened less to their fears and more to their dreams. What do you dream about?"*

Go year 6 and dream big

Jane Robinson

Head of School

If you need the newsletter, or any other school letter, to be in a different format, please speak with Mrs Funnell in the school office.

If you need help or support with access to any information, please also contact Mrs Funnell.

### Dates for your Diary

Please check the dates as a couple have changed.

Thank you



### July

17th: Collective Worship - church 9:30am

17th: Report Queries - appointments from 3:15pm

18th: Community Café - 2pm - 4pm in church

18th: PTFA Disco (more details to follow)

19th: Leavers' Service

**9:15am in church**

22nd: Last Day Term 6



### September

2nd: INSET

3rd: INSET

4th: School begins for all

# EVERY DAY COUNTS!

### Attendance

The Pioneer Federation goal is an average attendance rate of 97%, recognizing that each school day provides opportunities for learning, as well as social and emotional development.

It is noticeable when students miss school as it impacts on their progress, so we ask that you **please support us and your child by ensuring their attendance is a priority.**

Attendance this year:

**96.5 to 99.9% - Green**

**Less than 94.9% - Red**

**95 to 96.4% - Amber**

**Whole school: 94.7%**

**Maple: 93.5%**

**Willow: 94.6%**

**Cherry: 94.8%**

**Lilac: 95.4%**

**Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind, both academically and socially which impacts on their emotional wellbeing and creates further barriers to learning. Please bear this in mind when deciding whether to keep your child from school.**

### Top Tips

Letters, emails, WhatsApp:

#### All

- Reports
- PINS Project
- Grapevine
- Partnership Letter

#### Lilac Class - selected

- Healthy Schools Survey

#### ParentPay

Please pop onto to ParentPay and check outstanding payments. Thank you.

#### Bags

Please remember to pop a bag into book bags/ruck sacks ready for school books to come home.

#### Remember

The last day of term is Monday 22nd July, not Friday 19th!

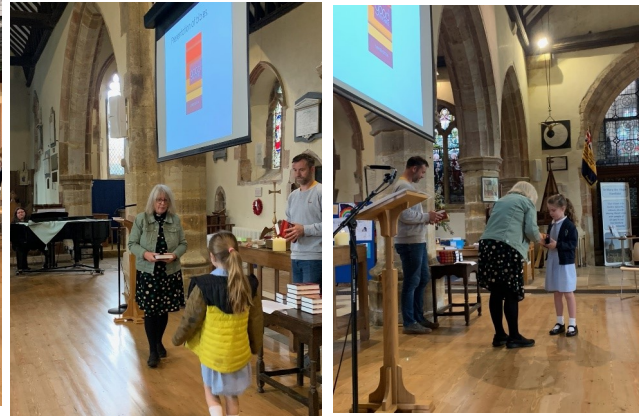


### **Collective Worship**

At the end of each year, the children leaving KS1 are presented with a children's bible from Rev Canon Julie.

This year was no exception and the children were proud to go up in church to receive their gifts.

We hope that the children spend time looking through the books and learning more about 'following the example of Jesus'.



### **Have you Found:**

Request from Chiddingly Primary School to families who attended the 5/6 football tournament.



One of their children has mislaid one of their football boots and would ask that we check in bags to see if ended up in one by mistake. Thank you.

### **Sports Day / Summer Social**

Thank you to all of our children, parents, volunteers, PTFA and staff for making Sports' Day and the Summer Social such a success this year.



Such a great example of an event being more than the sum of its parts as without any of the groups involved that day would not happen.

### **School Value and Weekly Reflection**

Each term, we focus on a Christian Value with weekly reflection in assembly and in class.

We like to develop this further by asking you, where possible, to discuss the reflection of the week with your child(ren) at home.

This term we are looking at:



## **Truthfulness**

This week, the children have continued to look at the story of Jonah and we were reminded that although it seemed like all had gone wrong, God had a plan and stayed true to His promise as we can always rely on him.

In classes they spent time thinking about who they can always rely on and who always keeps their promises.

Maybe spend time as a family looking at how you keep promises within the family group and who you can trust and rely on with everything because you know they are always truthful.

## Lewes Castle

On Tuesday 25th June, Cherry Class visited Lewes Castle to enhance their history learning and to help answer their topic question:

***“Do you need a castle to conquer?”***

They began the visit by watching a film to learn about Lewes through the ages, then visited the museum to see artefacts, some of which included Anglo Saxon spearheads that might have been similar to the ones used in the Battle of Hastings!



The children then had a tour of the 900 year old castle with a guide who showed them the different parts of the castle and shared lots of interesting facts about it.



They learned that Lewes Castle is a ‘motte and bailey’ castle. Motte is the French word for a big mound of mud and they were lucky enough to walk up the steps to the top of the motte. When the castle was built, there was likely a small rope ladder to climb up which would have been used to protect the motte because an enemy who tried to climb up it would surely have been knocked back down by the people above.



On the motte was the keep that would originally have been built out of wood and later in stone, in order for it to be as strong and as protective as possible. The keep was built to be a very safe place where you would be able to see enemies approaching for miles. Being so high also meant that you could attack the enemy from above. In the event of an attack, you would be protected and self-sufficient because animals were reared there, vegetables were grown and there was even a well reaching down to the sea. That meant the people would be able to live happily and safely.



Cherry Class went into the keep and saw the guard room. When the guards saw an enemy approaching they would shout ‘Enemy approaching!’ to alert others. The guard room had no windows, only arrow slits. The reason for this was that arrows could be shot out but arrows couldn’t easily get in.



Later they walked to the castle entrance near the Barbican. The Barbican was the outer defence that could cut off the enemy by using a portcullis. The portcullis was particularly useful to pull down for protection and to poke the enemies with spears! The children were so impressed to see sword and axe marks still visible on the surrounding walls!

To finish off a great day they got to try on medieval clothes inside the Barbican and act out different scenarios!



Cherry Class had a great time learning all about Lewes Castle and the children recalled lots of facts learned from school and made great links to their learning.



## Pirate Day

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July Maple Class had a pirate day where they made treasure maps and hid treasure for their friends to find!



They made sure to mark the spot with a golden X and used their best phonics to leave a written clue on paper they had much fun dishing with tea first!


Maple Class sang sea shanties, playing a variety of musical instruments to accompany the singing. We played some great party games and shared a special snack too!



## Wellbeing

Our wellbeing poster this week looks at how to keep safe around railway lines.

We recently received information suggesting that there has been an increase in difficulties arising from children being on or around railways and in recognition of the fact we have railway crossings close by, we wanted to share ways of keeping safe. Poster taken from the TrackSAFE Foundation



# The Top 10 TrackSAFE Actions


It's really important you do these TrackSAFE Actions when you are around trains, trams, platforms, tracks and level crossings.

**Why is it important?**  
It will help keep you safe!


- 

Mind the gap between the platform and the train, and hold an adult's hand.
- 


Stay behind the line on the platform until the train or tram has stopped.
- 

Always walk when moving on the platform or on stairs, and hold the hand rail.
- 


Doors closing? Stop, wait and catch the next train or tram.
- 

Keep your bag behind the line and hold your ball still.
- 

If you drop something onto the tracks, never try to get it yourself: always ask staff for help.
- 

Always cross train tracks using a footbridge, underpass or pedestrian level crossing.
- 

STOP behind the line  
LOOK both ways for trains  
LISTEN for trains coming  
THINK, "Is it safe to cross?"
- 

Remove your headphones near train and tram tracks so you can hear warning sounds.
- 

In the bush and in the city, always expect trains even when they aren't timetabled.

tracksafeeducation.com.au

## Summer Reading Challenge

The children had a visit from the Library Service today to learn about the Summer Reading Challenge which runs from Saturday 6th July to Saturday 7th September. To take part in the Challenge, children need to read six books of their choice that they borrow from the library or download from their e-book library over the summer holidays. They are given rewards for each book they read and a certificate and medal if they manage to complete the Challenge.

Brought to you by The Reading Agency. Delivered in partnership with Public Libraries. [Learn more](#)

**THE READING AGENCY Summer Reading Challenge**

**2,078,132** books read so far

**Marvellous Makers**

[Home](#) [Books](#) [Authors](#) [Activities](#) [News](#) [About](#) [Games](#) [Quizzes](#)

### How it works

The 2024 Challenge starts on 22 June online and in Scotland, and on 6 July in England and Wales

[Online](#) [At your library](#)

- 1. Sign up**  
Click 'Join now' to create your account
- 2. Read books**  
Set your reading goal and read anything you like! Each time you finish a book, add it to your profile and leave a review
- 3. Earn digital rewards**  
Unlock rewards for your reading including a new online badge and a certificate when you reach your Challenge goal!

### Join in NOW!

Take on the Summer Reading Challenge!

This year it is all about getting CREATIVE. Music, junk-modelling, photography, dancing, story-writing... the possibilities are endless.

Discover fantastic new books, unlock rewards along the way, and achieve something amazing this summer.

Create your profile or sign in on the home page.

[Meet the characters!](#)

### Summer Reading Challenge 2024

Delivered in partnership with libraries

## Marvellous Makers

**THE READING AGENCY** Celebrating creativity **CREATE!**

Illustrations by Natelle Quek and logo artwork by Lizzie Everard. All © The Reading Agency 2024.

For more information visit: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

**Opportunity**



Head Coach GTC: Jon Prenelle

07495 368571

[kentandsussextennis@outlook.com](mailto:kentandsussextennis@outlook.com)

Dear Parents/players

We will be offering Summer Tennis Camps for the upcoming school holidays for students 4-18 years old. Days and times are below, numbers will be very limited so please book as soon as possible. Groups can be separated by age and ability.

Morning Sessions are recommended for 4-10 years old

Afternoon Sessions are recommended for 11-18 years old

**COURSE DATES & COST**

**Camp 1** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July - Wednesday 31st July 2024

**Camp 2** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August-Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August

**Camp 3** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August-21st August 2024

**Morning Session 9.30am-12.30pm £90.00**

**Afternoon Session 1.00pm-4.00pm £90.00**

Please remember to bring a snack, a water bottle, sun cream and appropriate clothing.

**For more information**

Please email: [kentandsussextennis@outlook.com](mailto:kentandsussextennis@outlook.com)

**To book:**

You will need to send

- parent full name, mobile number, other contact numbers and email address
- Child's full name, date of birth, medical information and choice of camp

**Transfer information**

Account name: Jon Prenelle

Account number: 12363067

Sort code: 11-11-08

Please use child name as reference

Best wishes

Jon Prenelle





# Welcome to Holiday food and fun

## FREE for children on benefit-related free school meals ...

A range of activities and food is available during school holidays at our Holiday food and fun clubs. It's a great opportunity for children and young people to enjoy a range of fun things to do.

## Six weeks of food and fun!

For six weeks during school holidays throughout the year (Easter, summer and Christmas) local clubs will be serving up a menu of activities for children and young people of all ages, plus there's food to enjoy too.

Activities may include sports, games, arts, crafts, music, and nature although these will differ from club to club.

Many clubs can offer families advice and recipes for cooking healthy meals on a budget. Sometimes the young people get to try them out at the club.

## What's on offer

Check our [events list](#) to find a Holiday Food and Fun club near you.

Each club takes its own bookings.

## Need help booking?

Our events list and booking system has been tested for users of assistive technology. We know that some images on the system may not include alternative text. Read the [accessibility statement](#).

If you need help booking a place, please contact us.

Telephone: 07923 382464 or 07512 449389

Email: [HAF@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:HAF@eastsussex.gov.uk)

## Is it FREE?

It's free for school-aged children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals. A small number of places are available for other eligible groups.

Contact the [HAF team](#) to find out more. Additionally, some clubs also offer paid places alongside HAF-funded ones. The charges may differ from club to club.

There is also help and advice on benefits available to families:

# SUMMER SERVICES

## *St Mary's*

### Sunday 7th July

9.30am Holy Communion

### Sunday 14th July

9.30am Morning Woship

### Sunday 21st July

9.30am Holy Communion

**From 28th July we will be providing a breakfast from 8.30-9.15am, followed by our Sunday services from 9.30-10.15am**

### Sunday 28th July

8.30am Breakfast

9.30am Songs of Praise

### Sunday 4th August

8.30am Breakfast

9.30am Holy Communion

### Sunday 11th August

8.30am Breakfast

9.30am Morning Worship

### Sunday 18th August

8.30am Breakfast

9.30am Holy Communion

### Sunday 25th August

8.30am Breakfast

9.30am Morning Worship

### Sunday 1st September

9.30am Holy Communion



**Website**  
**Hartfieldchurch.org**



We would love to see you and your pets for a  
**Pet Service of Thanksgiving  
and Blessing**

taking place in the grounds of Holy Trinity  
Church, Colemans Hatch  
on  
**Sunday 1st September at 11am**

To ensure that no pets are harmed, we politely  
request that dogs are on leads and small pets are  
safely in baskets.

If your pet can't come, you are welcome to bring a  
photo or your cuddly pet toy with you instead.

Horses and sheep welcome too.

To find out more, please contact Donna Dewar:  
01342 326424

*Refreshments afterwards for both pets and  
humans.*

Invitation from St Mary the Virgin Church

# Let's have a Picnic

We are arranging a picnic on the croft in Hartfield on Tuesday evenings throughout the summer holidays with games organised for the Children

From 23rd July - 27th August  
5.30pm - 8pm

Please bring a picnic with you

We look forward to seeing you there!



**Opportunity**

Music in Country Churches, a charity which promotes concerts of beautiful music in our splendid country churches, will bring the award-winning choir Tenebrae to Holy Trinity Church, Colemans Hatch on Saturday, 20th July.

As part of the mission of MICC is education, in the afternoon between 2pm and 3pm they intend to provide an interactive workshop for children aged between 7 and 11 years. The children will need to be accompanied by their parents for the hour and should arrive at Holy Trinity Church at 1.50pm. Parking is available on the day in the field next to the church –



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