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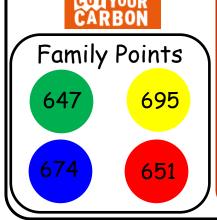
## TERM DATES School Year 2023-24

<u>Autumn Term</u> INSET Day: 4th and 5th Sept First day of Term: 6th Sept Half Term: 23rd Oct to 27th Oct Last day of Term: 20<sup>th</sup> Dec INSET Day: 21<sup>st</sup> Dec

<u>Spring Term</u> INSET Day: 8<sup>th</sup> Jan First day of Term: 9<sup>th</sup> Jan Half Term: 12<sup>th</sup> Feb to 16<sup>th</sup> Feb Last day of Term: 28<sup>th</sup> Mar

<u>Summer Term</u> INSET Day: 15<sup>th</sup> Apr First day of Term: 16<sup>th</sup> Apr Bank Holiday: 6th May Half Term: 27<sup>th</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> May Last Day of Term: 24<sup>th</sup> Jul

| School Attendance 23-24 |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| TARGET                  | 97.0% |
| Autumn 1                | 96.7  |
| Week Beginning          | %     |
| 30/11                   | 97.2  |
| 06/11                   |       |
| 13/11                   |       |
| 20/11                   |       |
| 27/11                   |       |
| 04/12                   |       |
| 11/12                   |       |
| Total:                  | 96.7  |
|                         |       |



## IN TOUCH

Friday 3rd November 2023

Issue 673

VISION: Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish MISSION: Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian Faith VALUES: COMPASSION - ENDURANCE - THANKFULNESS

I start this week with happy news in relation to Mrs Davidson and her family. She is, as some of you will have noticed, expecting her second child. Mrs Davidson hopes to be with us until the end of the Spring Term. The search for an excellent Nursery Teacher to partner with Miss Dunford has already begun. I will write to all parents when we are in a position to share further news. For now, we are delighted to wish Mrs Davidson and her family our congratulations and continue to enjoy her as a colleague and much valued member of our team.

November is 'Cut Your Carbon' month. No doubt you will have seen the information that Mrs Bishop has sent home and I hope you will all join us in the challenges that have been set. It is hoped that these will help to embed new routines which in turn will reduce our footprint in the long term. Speaking of which, you will notice that we are now flying our Eco Schools flag. Mrs Bishop and our Eco-councillors were successful in gaining the Eco Schools Mark at the end of last academic year and as a result we now have a flag that we can fly to celebrate that achievement. Huge thanks to our Deputy Head and her team of councillors. A new group of Eco-Councillors take on the responsibility of continuing to lead us in this important work and we look forward to see what they will achieve this year.

This week children in Reception have extended their learning outside of the classroom with a trip to Polka Theatre. Thanks to the parent volunteers who made this trip possible and to Miss McEvoy and the Reception team! Also out this week, Year Five braved the inclement weather and took a trip up to St. Mary's Church for Godly Play. Thank you to the staff team. As always, we are grateful for the opportunity to be able to use our Church in this way and the support we get from the Parish Team. Special thanks to Nikki Lyons for planning and leading sessions for the children and to former teacher of St. Mary's, Tina Thomas, for her fabulous support.

Also this week, our Year Six pupils have begun to sell poppies in the playground on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Sales will continue while stocks last! We will be holding a special remembrance celebration worship in the hall from 9.15am next Friday morning. All parent/carers are invited to join us and we ask that you enter the hall respectfully and silently, without food or drink if you wish you join this special and reflective time in our school day.

Half termly newsletters, which contain everything you need to know about what is happening in your child's class, have now been published and can be found on the school website.

Looking ahead to next week, we have our first work shares in Year Three and Four. Parent/carers are invited to come in and share their child's work. Reverend Helena will be in school leading Phase Two worship on Tuesday and individual child photos will be taken on Wednesday. On Thursday, Year Six are off to Godly Play at the Church and on Thursday evening is—the hottest ticket of the year—the FoSMS Quiz! Staff and governors are both fielding teams and we look forward to seeing parents and carers there...

Speaking of hot tickets, St. Mary's Church is holding its Burn's Supper on Saturday 20th January 2024! Tickets for this popular event will be released for sale on Sunday 3rd December at 8pm. Ticket booking can be completed at: <u>https://PutneyBurnsNight2024.eventbrite.com</u>. For more details, please refer to the St. Mary's Church and All Saints' Church Newsletters.

Attendance has been fantastic this week with us exceeding our target of 97%. Please try and ensure that all children are in school everyday they are healthy and lets see if we can exceed 97% by the end of this year. In this, as in all things, we thank you for your ongoing support of St. Mary's and hope that you are able to have a warm and cosy weekend full of rest before we look forward to seeing you on Monday at the usual time! Very best wishes,

Cheryl Payne—Head Teacher