

# St Teresa's Catholic Academy

## SPRING TERM 2018

### NEWSLETTER 4

23 February 2018

www.st-teresas.wokingham.sch.uk



Lent is a penitential season, an opportunity to examine our lives, give our struggles to God, and invite him, through prayer, to help us become the-best-version-of-ourselves. "In the face of so many wounds that hurt us and could harden our hearts, we are called to dive into the sea of prayer, which is the sea of God's boundless love, to taste his tenderness. Lent is a time of prayer, of more intense prayer, more prolonged, more assiduous, more able to take on the needs of the brethren; intercessory prayer, to intercede before God for the many situations of poverty and suffering." – Pope Francis - Homily, March 5, 2014

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

27th February	Year 5 Swimming
28th February	Lewis Class Assembly, 9.05am
1st March	World Book Day
5th March	Reading Week
6th March	Happy Bag Collection
6th March	Year 5 Swimming
6th March	WASMA Rehearsal, All Saints, 4pm to 5.30pm
7th March	Butterworth Class Assembly, 9.05am

#### Open Day

Thank you so much to all the parents who attended our Open Day before half term. It really was lovely to see so many of you and, as I toured around the school, I could see everyone was very hands on! I hope you enjoyed the opportunity of seeing our school in action; thank you for your lovely emails regarding the day, they were very much appreciated by the staff.



#### Staff News

On Monday Mrs Heather Carter returns from maternity leave. She will be working Monday to Wednesday, covering classes across the school. We look forward to having her back with us!

#### After School Club—IMPORTANT

Please can you always inform the school if your child will not be attending After School Club on a day they are booked in. It is imperative that all children who are on the register are accounted for and a lot of time can be wasted making phone calls at the end of the day by the After School Club staff.

#### Key Stage 1 Play Area

We asked some children in KS1 about their new outdoor area.

Alex D: I like the climbing wall because you can go from side to side.

Catherine B: My favourite part is the playhouse because it is colourful and cute. It has a table and chairs inside.

Eliza S: I love the bright green floor and had fun drawing on the chalkboard.



Please turn over

### **Curling by Lily and Sasha**

In the Winter Olympics one of the sports is Curling. In school we have purchased some curling equipment, every class gets a session with the equipment.

Curling is a sport on ice, where you have a stone and one person pushes it towards the house whilst the other person cleans the ice whilst it is travelling. The aim is to stop the stone in the house (target). You can knock people's stones off target.

The reason why the stone has this name is because it is made out of a special stone called granite.

You have to wear special shoes so that you don't melt the ice. The material used is called Teflon. If you're a child, you have to wear sliders which are trainers with a rubber soul. The brooms are like normal cleaning brooms but with horse/hog hair.



It is hard to believe this time two weeks ago I was in the Gambia. It was a truly humbling experience and during the four days I spent there I went through a rollercoaster of emotions.

The community of Kunkujang village are incredible; I don't think I have ever met such welcoming, hospitable people. The Opening Ceremony is something I will never forget; it was very emotional to witness first hand how much the water tower will change the daily lives of the villagers. As I got up to make my speech, for once I was lost for words – to think that from cake sales and Muffi days we have made a real difference to people's lives overwhelmed me and I felt proud that our school had helped a dream to become a reality. There were many moments, especially during my visits to the school, that I felt really desperate because of the lack of resources and the primitive learning environment however I only had to spend time with the children and the staff to feel joy again; they are so very grateful for the little that they do have and ensure that nothing is wasted – a lesson I have brought home with me.

There were many high and lows during my visit but one of my absolute highlights was when I discovered a block of the school had been named after me! In a small village in Gambia there is a 'Nikki Peters Block' which I found both truly touching and overwhelming. Moving forwards, I am now more clear as to how best we can support the school in the future and I will be meeting with the School Council to discuss exciting fundraising ideas. I would just like to thank every member of our St Teresa's community who have helped to support and contribute to our Kunkujang project – you really have helped to improve lives.

Best wishes,

*Mrs Nikki Peters*

Headteacher



**SA News follows**

## School Association Update



### **St Paddy's Family Fun Night- 16<sup>th</sup> March, 6.45pm-9pm**

Tickets are on sale now!! £3.50 per person or £12.00 for a family ticket.

St Paddy's Night.....is always an excuse to celebrate! So what better way to continue raising funds for the new trim trail than to have a FAMILY night full of food, drink, a disco and lots more Irish themed activities to keep the children entertained!

These family events really do sell out quickly, so please....if you would like to join the fun, book now! Booking forms are attached to this parentmail and spare forms will be in reception.

We will, as always, need your support to make the evening a success. Please could you let us know if:

- You can help on a stall in the evening

- Help set up or clear up after the evening

- Bake some Irish themed cakes!

- Any spare chocolate kicking around.....we would love to have it for a chocolate tombola!

- There will be a box in reception for you to pop any contributions into from Monday!

**Thank you! We are looking forward to putting on a fab night for you all!**

### **Happy Bags- 6<sup>th</sup> March**

You should have all received your happy bags in your children's book bags. Don't worry, they do take items in all plastic bags or bin liners too!

Bag Drop Off areas:

**Main FRONT Gate**

**Back Gate (by the church)**

**Easthampstead Road Car Park (opposite fire station)**

Please let me know if you need anymore details: [laurahorncastle@hotmail.com](mailto:laurahorncastle@hotmail.com)

### **Mother's Day- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March**

Thinking of what to get the important ladies in your lives? We still have the brilliant personalised class tea towels and tote bags that are a perfect gift and great quality.

If you would like some then please drop me a line so that I can arrange your order.