

# **NEWSLETTER**

31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023



### **Easter Service at St. Nicholas Church**



This year we were delighted to be able to hold our Easter Services at St. Nicholas Church (for the first time since 2019). We were incredibly proud of our children as they made the journey to church on foot through the village, following our school rules impecably. At both the Key Stage 1 and Key



Stage 2 service, the children shared Easter poems, stories and songs. We were also able to join together to sing some hymns that we have been practising in school and the children certainly 'raised the roof'! Thank you to those parents

and carers who were able to join us and the volunteers who helped us walk the children to church, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

## Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Fair

Recently Year 6 visited the CEMAST STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Fair, with hundreds of other young people, to take part in a variety of activities laid on by local businesses and organisations. This gave the children the opportunity to see various jobs that they could do in the fields of Science and Technology. They were able to diagnose broken limbs using x-rays, helped organise a workshop for aeroplane maintenance (including going inside the light aircraft), explore artefacts from the Mary Rose and build bridges to certain specifications. The children had great fun and learned lots.







### **FOWPS Lottery**



FoWPS are excited to announce the launch of a school lottery through Your School Lottery. It's simple—choose 6 numbers between 0-9 and if they match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. One player will win a cash prize every week and maybe even the £25k jackpot! Tickets cost just £1 per week and the proceeds are donated to our school. Every

Saturday at 8pm the numbers are drawn and posted online. Winners are notified by email and

winnings paid into the account of your choice. The easiest way to join our lottery is online by direct debit or debit card. It's so easy to join and will make a real difference to our school. Please see the attached flyer with the link to buy tickets.



## **Support for Families**

We have recently been made aware of Portsmouth Water's Social Tariff which can assist you with your water bills if you have a low income or are in receipt of specified benefits. If your application is successful your water bill will be capped at their minimum charge for the year. To qualify for the Social Tariff you must have a household income of less than the Government's low income threshold, which currently is £16,105, excluding the following benefits:

- Child Tax Credit
- Personal Independence Payment
- Mortgage Interest Relief
- Attendance Allowance
- Housing / Council Tax Benefit
- Disability Living Allowance
  Use this link to access the <u>Application form</u> for the Social Tariff.

### **Lunch Menu**

There will be a new lunch menu next term, starting with week one on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April. Please see the attached menus for you to share with your child each day.

#### **Governor Recruitment**

Our school Governing Body currently have vacancies for new governors. Can you or someone you know in the local community help? Governors offer strategic guidance, rather than getting involved in the operational aspects of running the school. They do this by:

- · Working with other board members to plan the school's strategic direction.
- · Overseeing the school's financial performance, ensuring money is well-spent.
- · Holding the headteacher or school leadership to account.

A governor's relationship with the school's leadership team involves challenging existing processes to drive school improvement. Governors usually attend around six meetings per year. Although becoming a governor requires drive and commitment, you'll enjoy many professional and personal rewards, including career development opportunities and the chance to support young people's futures. Applications from all backgrounds and all ages are welcomed. As well as being a rewarding role, the experience can help develop a wide range of skills which are readily transferable into the workplace: team work; strategic thinking; finance and budgeting; conduct of meetings; constructive debate; and interviewing skills.

If you or someone you know are interested in becoming a Governor at our school, please contact the school office.

#### **Rock 2 the Beat**

The children learning instruments through Rock 2 the Beat enjoyed performing to family and friends in a 'mini-concert' this week. They did a fantastic job — we have a few rock stars in the making! We still have a few spaces for current Year 4, 5 and 6 to join the programme in the summer term, playing electric guitar, bass guitar, drums, keyboard or vocals. We are also building our waiting list for September 2023, which is open to current Year 3, 4 and 5, with spaces on all instruments (vocals, electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboard and drums). If you would like to sign up for a place, please visit <a href="www.rock2thebeat.org.uk/signup">www.rock2thebeat.org.uk/signup</a> to fill in the form, and we will be in touch to offer a place if there is one available. The lessons take place during the school day on a Thursday. To find out more about Rock 2 the Beat, please visit <a href="www.rock2thebeat.org.uk">www.rock2thebeat.org.uk</a>, or see the attached flyer.

## **Skiing Competition**

One of our Year 5 pupils is competing in a skiing competition at Southampton Alpine Snowsports Centre on the morning of Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May. In order for her to compete on behalf of the school, we require two other pupils to take part alongside her (as a team of three). The children can be of any age and do not have to be a highly-competent skier. All equipment can be hired from the centre. Please let our school office team know if you would like more information.

## **Dates for the Diary**

7<sup>th</sup> April Easter Messy Church

3<sup>rd</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> April Easter Holidays

17<sup>th</sup> April After school clubs start

1<sup>st</sup> May Bank holiday

8<sup>th</sup> May Bank Holiday for Coronation

22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> May Year 4 Residential to Stubbington

29<sup>th</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> June Half Term

17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> July Year 6 Residential to Avon Tyrell

21st July Last day of summer term