



Tonwell St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School

Ware Road, Tonwell, Herts, SG12 0HN

Tel: 01920 462894

E-mail: admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Bridgman/Mrs Tracy Keddie



Newsletter 1st March 2019

Value of the half term: Friendship

Dear Parents/Carers,

OFSTED

As you are all aware the OFSTED report is now available to you and will be published on the OFSTED website today. The whole school community is bitterly disappointed at the outcome which we do not feel is an accurate reflection of everything that goes on in the school, and the improvements that have been made since 2016.

We have been heartened by your messages, kind words, biscuits and flowers. Your response has been overwhelmingly positive. Mrs Bridgman, myself and the whole school team have been heartened and encouraged by your words and everyone is determined to ensure your children do the best that they can.

We have been working on a short term action plan which will be presented to parents on Monday 4th March at 6.30pm. Paper copies will be available from the office from Tuesday 5th March.

On her return, Mrs Bridgman will work on a longer term plan which she will share with you in due course. As soon as the report is available we will let you know and organise a series of meetings to discuss the report with you.

Help Promoting the School

To counteract the bad publicity from the OFSTED report is there anyone out there who would like to get quotes from parents, collate them and post them on our website?

Tonwell's Got Talent

A huge congratulation to our Key Stage 2 children who danced at Hertford Theatre. They were amazing. A real credit to the school and their parents. Not only did they excel on stage, overcoming nerves to put on an inspiring show but they were the quietest and best behaved children behind the scenes. Thank you for supporting your children. Here's what the children said: We all really enjoyed ourselves – Leila. We all tried our best – Joseph. It was good fun – Lillie. It was lovely to watch all of the other schools during the rehearsal – Grace.

I was very proud of everyone. They all smiled and danced like professionals! - Mrs Barnes

Aspire, Inspire

We want to inspire our children by exposing them to the many jobs that people do. We want them to see why school is important and why working hard will help them to do well in the future. If you would be happy to talk to the Key Stage 2 children about your job for up to 30 minutes, including a question and answer session please contact me.



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World Book Day

Thursday 7th March. We would like the children to come to school on that day dressed as a book character. There will also be a book swap on the day. For every book your child brings in to swap, they will be given a token to exchange for an alternative book. It is hoped that every child will be able to bring in a book, in good condition, that they have already read and no longer wish to keep. Please also make sure that you have given your blessing for your child to bring the book(s) they have selected to swap!

Reading rewards

At Tonwell we are continually looking for ways in which to support the children in their reading, and encouraging them to read regularly for pleasure. Therefore, we are launching our 'Reading at Home' rewards to begin on Monday 11th March. Children must read 5 times a week to collect a reading sticker and 5 house points. Regular readers will be celebrated in a Friday assembly. Children who do not read 5 times a week will be asked to read to an adult at lunchtime. Reading to and with your child every evening for at least ten minutes can make a dramatic difference to a child's achievement within school. A report from the Oxford University Press highlighted the importance of parents reading with their children. 'Children who read outside of class are 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age'.

Red Nose Day

Friday 15th March. The children are invited to wear something red. The school office will be selling red noses from Monday 4th March. The cost of a red nose is £1.25. To raise money, we are also having a cake sale. The sale will take place in the hall after school. All proceeds will go to Comic Relief. If you would like to contribute either a homemade or a shop-bought cake (or biscuits), please give them to your teacher or bring them to the office in the morning. You will also be able to buy some items that have been made or decorated in class.

Art Exhibition and Mother's Day Tea



Thursday 28th March come for Mother's Day Tea whilst enjoying the art. The children have been very busy producing some fantastic pieces for Tonwell St Mary's first art exhibition. Children of all ages will be displaying their work in the hall from 2.30pm onwards, as well as inspirational local artists. If you would like to contribute some of your art to the exhibition we would love to hear from you!

On Friday the 29th March from 8.45am, we will be hosting a coffee morning alongside the art exhibition, so come along to enjoy homemade treats, tea, soft drinks and the wonderful artwork.

Penpals workshop

Friday 29th March. Come and join your KS1 or Early Years child for a Penpals handwriting workshop! It is an opportunity to see the children's work, discover ways to support their fine motor development and take part in exciting activities to practice letter formation. We look forward to seeing you from 2.45pm.





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Spring Term

Monday 4 th March	6.30pm Action plan presented to parents
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day – dress up as a book character
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day – dress in red and cake sale
Tuesday 19 th March	8.45am Parents Forum
Friday 22 nd March	2.45pm Celebration Assembly
Thursday 28 th March	2.30pm-3.30pm Art exhibition and Mother's day Afternoon tea
Friday 29 th March	8.45am- 12.00pm Coffee morning and art exhibition
Friday 29 th March	2.45pm-3.15pm Early Years and Key Stage 1 parents to visit classrooms to see new handwriting scheme
Monday 1 st April	Mrs Bridgman returns
Friday 5 th April	End of term school closes 1.15pm