



## Tonwell St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School

Ware Road, Tonwell, Herts, SG12 0HN

Tel: 01920 462894

E-mail: [admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Bridgman



*'Knowing each child, growing each child, in God's love'*

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Christian value: HONESTY

Dear all,

As always, it has been a busy fortnight in school with children working hard in their lessons. You will be aware that we had a further Ofsted monitoring visit earlier this week. The visit focussed on the school's progress since the last full inspection in January 2019, which was different from the remote learning focus of the recent March inspection. It was a positive and helpful visit and the report will be published in the next few weeks. We are very proud of our children who showed their fantastic learning and carting behaviour throughout.

### **Feeling Good Week**

Next week we will be celebrating our Feeling Good Week.

School council have planned for all classes to take part in extra forest school activities and will be providing healthy snacks for all children in Y1-6 each day.

**PLEASE COULD ALL CHILDREN WEAR LONG SLEEVED TOPS AND LEGGINGS/JOGGERS NEXT MONDAY AND FRIDAY. THIS COULD BE PE KIT OR NON-UNIFORM THAT YOU DON'T MIND GETTING MUDDY. THEY WILL NEED WELLIES AND WATERPOOFS IF IT IS WET.**

We have two forest school experts visiting the school who will be running sessions outside, including a camp fire. We hope that these experiences will support our children's personal development and fit in with our school vision to encourage children to 'choose a lifestyle with healthy bodies and minds'.

### **Safeguarding**

A reminder that although some aspects of government guidelines are changing, the advice to follow if you or anyone in your household has symptoms remains the same. If your child has a temperature, a new continuous cough or has a loss of taste or smell, you must book a PCR test and your household must isolate until the result is received. We appreciate your continued support.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

### **Whole School Photo**

A reminder that you can order and pay for the whole school photo via Parentmail. The deadline for ordering is 28<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Parent Forum**

Please see notes from the recent parent forum meeting. Minutes can be found on the website under Parents/Parent Forum.

### **Recent Ofsted monitoring**

We discussed key points from the recent Ofsted monitoring, including many positives from the letter. Our next steps are to continue to work on implementing the curriculum and checking its impact on children's learning. Each teacher leads certain subject across the school. From this term,



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they will have increased 'subject leader time' to visit lessons, talk to children and monitor how the curriculum is being taught.

### **Reading**

We discussed the importance of reading regularly at home, including:

Reading at least 5 times per week.

Little and often if better than a long chunk.

Child should be able to read 85-90% of words in their reading book.

Read books with more challenging words/vocabulary to your child.

Research shows that reading achievement is best where parents engage in activities that involve putting words into broader contexts (telling stories/singing songs), read to their child (in early years of school) and listen to their child read regularly.

Hertfordshire Libraries are excited to launch their new initiative, 'Growing into Reading' to promote reading for pleasure and to encourage primary school aged children and families back into the habit of regularly visiting their local library. From Thursday 13th May, children visiting the library will be gifted a FREE giant bookmark and a wildflower seed bomb (while stocks last). Each time the child returns to the library they can have their bookmark stamped. With its environmental theme, 'Growing into Reading' is the perfect lead in to this year's Summer Reading Challenge 'Wild World Heroes'. For further information visit the Hertfordshire County Council website.

### **Support for more-able children**

We already use a variety of strategies to support our more-able pupils in school (e.g. differentiated tasks and activities, open-ended challenges, higher-order questioning, different resources).

We will be running workshops to extend and challenge our more-able pupils further (e.g. for this term - Maths Challenge with other schools, Shakespeare workshops).

Ideas for future terms – STEM workshops, more-able writers' day, links with other local schools state and private).

Kind regards,

*Mrs Bridgman*

### **Key Dates:**

WB 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Feeling Good Week (Forest School specialists running sessions on Monday and Friday – please wear long sleeved tops and leggings/joggers)
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Herts Air Ambulance Assembly
WB 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	First Aid workshop for Y3-6
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> – Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Scholastic Book Fair
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> /Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Y3-6 intensive swimming lessons
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Parent Forum
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	SEND Coffee Afternoon
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> /Tue 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Shakespeare workshops for more-able pupils in Y2-6
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Secondary Transfer
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	French Day in School (Bastille Day)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4-6 to Edge Outdoor Activity Centre



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Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day for children in school
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> /Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Bikeability
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	1.15pm End of Term

### **Term Dates for 2021/22**

#### **Autumn Term 2021**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December (pupils return to school on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September)

#### **Half Term**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October (pupils return on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November)

#### **Spring Term**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April (pupils return on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January)

#### **Half Term**

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February

#### **Summer Term**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July (pupils return on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April and finish on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July)

#### **Half Term**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

#### **INSET DAYS**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April

#### **Occasional Day**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July