

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER



Number 7: Friday 4 April 2025

A word from Mrs Toner

It is hard to believe the Lent term has come to an end and we are now well over half-way through this academic year. We have certainly had a busy few weeks in school, with many big events taking place – Reconciliation, Mothers' Day, Musical Showcase – to name just a few.

I hope you all have wonderful Easter holiday with your families – hopefully the present good weather will continue!

I look forward to seeing you all when we return to school on Tuesday 22 April.

Yours sincerely, Celine Toner, Headteacher



Year 5 Easter Performance – 'Resurrection Rocks'

For those of you who attended the children's Easter Production of Resurrection Rocks yesterday, I know you will join me in saying what a wonderful performance it was. From the singing, the dancing, the acting and the stage crew – all of it fantastic! Well done children – you are such a talented bunch! Thank you so much to the Year 5 staff team who worked tirelessly to bring it all together in record time. Thanks also to Mr Walters who provided the music.

Our Lenten Fundraising for CAFOD

Many thanks to everyone who has already brought in their sponsor money for the Big Lent walk which took place today. As usual, the children were brilliant and full of energy as they completed many laps of the field on the Helicopter Park. As you know, all money raised goes to people around the world who are living in poverty – we hope to have raised a good amount for CAFOD when all the donations are counted up after the walk. It's not too late to send in sponsor money – either via Arbor or as cash into the school office. All donations by Friday 25 April please. Thank you.

Mother's Day Liturgy

How beautiful the Mother's Day Liturgies were last Friday! Our Reception children made all the mummies and grandmas feel so special as the children gave thanks for everything they do for them. Many thanks go to the staff who supported the children to bring their 'loud and proud' voices to their speaking and singing.

First Reconciliation & Holy Communion

Many congratulations to the children who received the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time a few weeks ago in church. The children are now well on their way in their preparations towards making their Holy Communion on Saturday 21 June. Please keep them in your prayers. The after school lessons to prepare the children for their First Communion will re-commence on Tuesday 13 May.

Spreading hope this Lent

We have received so many positive comments from people in our community about the children’s messages of hope this Lent. From sending Easter cards to the retired priests in our diocese, to baking cakes for the doctors and nurses working in our hospitals - each child across school has contributed something to bring a little joy to our community this Lent. They are true Pilgrims of Hope.

Finally, Year 4 would like to share their Easter video with you all. Please watch the video on YouTube of their recording of ‘Sing it in the Valleys’. We really hope you enjoy it -please do pass it on to your friends and neighbours as we continue our mission to spread hope and joy to others this Eastertime.

Parish Easter Events

Your child came home with a flyer last week outlining all the events taking place at Church over the Easter Holidays. Mrs Kitching will be leading the children’s Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, 18 April at 10.30am. Please arrive from 9.30am if your child would like to be involved in the singing and acting - drop off in the hall. The service will be followed by tea and hot cross buns. All welcome.

Dates for your diary

April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friday 4th - Last day of term• Tuesday 22nd - Return to school.• Friday 25th - PTA pre-loved uniform sale
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday 5th - Bank Holiday – school is closed• Wednesday 7th - Year 5 trip to The Briars• 12th-15th - Year 6 SATs Week• Thursday 15th - 'Wear it Green' day for Children’s Mental Health week• Thursday 15th - KS1 and Year 3 film night after school – more info to follow via the PTA• Friday 16th - Years 4-6 Big Sleep Out - more information to follow after Easter• 19th-23rd - Cultural Diversity Week in school• Friday 23rd -Last day of the half term

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

If you haven’t already done so, please complete the questionnaire regarding the extra-curricular offer here at GSA. Your views will help us to shape our offer of clubs and activities in the future. Many thanks.

Changes to the Reception area

Over Easter, our Estates team will be making changes to the main reception area of our school. This is to create a more flexible office space, including an extra meeting room. The reception area will be out-of-bounds during the Easter break so please use the hall side door for HA4K. And don’t be surprised that, when we return, the reception area will be smaller.

Finally, thank you to...

- The Year 3 ‘swim-watch’ parents and carers who have been helping out each Thursday
- The Year 4 sewing volunteers
- All parents who have helped with school trips and school football matches
- The PTA for their work this term – in particular for taking food to Arnold Foodbank, arranging the Mothers’ Day gifts, providing tea and coffee at all the events and supporting Arthur to raise £260 at last Friday’s cake sale
- Our school governors, who give up so much of their time - offering support and challenge to ensure the success of the school.