

Term 3 5th January — 18th February 2022



Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

The last time we sent out a February newsletter was in 2019, before we knew what lay ahead of us... Here we are in 2022 and, despite the storms, there are many hopeful signs of Spring in and around the school and its grounds and we can look forward to many more of our usual activities and events in the months to come.

We are pleased with the implementation of our new Phonics Programme in EYFS and KS1. The Little Wandle Letters and Sounds programme seems to be having a positive impact on progress in phonics and we hope that any initial hitches with the online e-books have now been sorted out. Your children will have a new decodable reading book assigned for half-term so do please login each day and ask them to read this to you. In addition, of course, they have their 'sharing' book which they might read independently or you or an older sibling might read it to them. Please try to share as many books as possible over half-term as this is essential to your child's progress in reading and in writing.

The renovated bicycle shed – which many of you have admired - is one of a number of projects that we have in hand to give the grounds of the school a face-lift over the next few months, and we also hope to hold our (previously) annual Big Spring Clean day later in March. In particular, we need to do some gardening jobs in the school grounds and would be grateful for volunteers from amongst all those keen gardeners out there!

The beginning of March will mark the start of the season of Lent. We will stream Mass into school on Ash Wednesday (2nd March) and Monday masses in school will continue. Year 3 children are looking forward to making the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time later in March and we will be holding some fundraising activities to raise money for our Lenten charity; Father Hudson Care.

As you will be aware we have Parents' Evenings in the first week back after half-term, Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd of March and we look forward to these being face-to-face again with entry via the top playground gate.

An important date for your diaries is **Friday 25th March which will be an INSET Day** and therefore school will be closed to all children.

Thank you for all the support you have offered over the past months. We are pleased that we have had relatively few Covid infections in school, and are grateful to you all for playing your part in supporting the measures we have had in place.

We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 28th February at the usual time of 8.40 a.m. In the meantime, I hope that we can enjoy some warmer, calmer weather over the half-term break.

With my best wishes to you all,

Clare Smith





Year to date	93.44
Term 3	92.44
Reception	92.95
Year 1	90.16
Year 2	92.97
Year 3	92.66
Year 4	91.47
Year 5	94.42
Year 6	92.41

Dates for the diary



February 2022

Monday 28th — Start of term 4

March 2022

Tuesday 1st — Year 5 Sports Hall Athletics at BGN

Tuesday 1st — 3.30-5.30 Parents' evening

Wednesday 2nd — 5.00-7.00 Parents' evening

Thursday 3rd — World Book Day

Thursday 10th — Years 3 & 4 Football tournament

Thursday 24th — Years 5 & 6 Football tournament

Thursday 24th — No swimming for Year 5

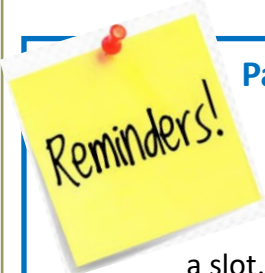
Friday 25th — INSET day

Monday 28th — First Reconciliation for Year 3

April 2022

Friday 8th — End of term 4

Monday 25th — Start of term 5



Parents' Evening Appointments

Parents' evenings are being held after half term on Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd March. There are still some appointments free if you have not already booked a slot.

Please logon to the SchoolCloud system at <https://stjosephsbanbury.schoolcloud.co.uk> to check availability.

Jewellery

Can we please remind you that hooped earrings are not to be worn in school. Only small studs are acceptable which can be covered when required.

Bike Shed

This is a reminder that as the bike shed is not locked and therefore any bikes or scooters left are at the owners risk.

Virtues are Intentional and Prophetic

We believe that, if we nurture a strong conscience in our pupils, they will have the confidence to lead by example, reflecting God's love to others and striving for harmony and equality in the communities around them.