

NEWSLETTER

March 2016 – Number 6

Godstone Village School



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your continued support this busy spring term – a very short one at that! This newsletter, I have staffing news to share with you. Lydia Spence is retiring this month after nearly 20 years as caretaker of our school. I am sure you will join with me in thanking Lydia for all her dedicated work over the years and wish her a long and happy retirement. I am pleased to inform you of two new members of staff. Duncan Stewart has been appointed as caretaker and Beveley Walker who will be joining the office team from 23rd March 2016 – a very warm welcome to them both.

Abigail Cruwys, nursery teacher and Early Years Foundation Stage lead is also retiring. I wish to thank Miss Cruwys for her loyalty and professionalism over the many years here at Godstone Village School and wish her all the best for the future. For the summer term, Andrea Shepherd and Karla Stephens will be teaching the morning and afternoon sessions in nursery. We have been extremely fortunate to recruit two very experienced teachers for the summer term to teach in our nursery – so please make them feel welcomed and supported!

We are also saying thank you and goodbye to Jo Andrews, Robins teacher. I know we will miss your energy and enthusiasm Mrs Andrews! Jenny Johnson is returning from maternity leave to teach Robins class with Mr Stevens, next term. Mrs Johnson will also be covering Year 1 instead of Mrs Skingley, our Senco.

We also have some baby news! Mrs Evans and Ms Easey are both expecting their second child and will going on maternity leave at the end of the summer term. Congratulations to both!

Next Thursday 24th March, the last day of term, Rev Phil Hughes from Godstone Baptist Church will be leading an Easter service here at school. Hot cross buns (including gluten and wheat free) will be offered to the children at the end of the day.

Candida Jarrott-Chase
Head Teacher

FRIENDS OF GODSTONE VILLAGE SCHOOL (FOGVS)

With spring just around the corner and a whole host of FOGVS events coming up, we wanted to drop you a quick update with some changes to the committee. At the beginning of the year our Chairperson Kate Crofts stepped down and we would like to thank and acknowledge all of the great work she did in her time as Chair. We have also lost a number of other members which leaves some space for any parents wanting to step up and volunteer.

It isn't a huge commitment, we just need a bigger pool of volunteers to be able to call upon to help with the various school events that the children know and love. We are a small but brilliant school and the money we raise really helps support our children with their learning, development and extra-curricular activities. Without a team of people willing to help we won't be able to continue all the great work we do.

For those of you who do not know, the FOGVS run the fayres in the summer, at Xmas and at Easter as well as the school discos, the Donkey Derby and various other events. In 2015 we raised £10,000 towards the All Weather Pitch and our next campaign is to raise funds towards a new library and new books for the school. There will be more details on this in a FOGVS newsletter coming out at the beginning of the summer term, so watch this space.

To enable those who might be interested in helping we are inviting you to join us at our next meeting on Thurs 5th May 2016 at 8pm at The Beefeater. Come and join us for a drink and find out what the FOGVS is all about in a no pressure environment!

Alternatively, if you want to get involved before then please contact Helen Jarvis on 07885 941625 or helen.jarvis@outlook.com for a chat to find out what is involved.

Best wishes,

FOGVS

Messages from the

School Office

Dear Parent and Carers,

School Office Opening - please can we kindly remind you that the School Office does not open until 8:30am in the morning.

Reply Slips for Trips etc. - please can any reply slips e.g. for trips, tournaments etc. be handed via your child to the class teacher.

Collecting Children – please notify the teacher (via home link books or the school office) if your child is going home with someone else. If contacting us by telephone, please can you ensure, where possible, to contact us before afternoon registration commences at 1:10pm.

Lost Property – we have once again accumulated a large amount of unmarked lost property in the school office. All the items will be put out in the main playground before and after school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. All unclaimed items will be recycled or disposed of. ***Please can you all ensure that all uniform is clearly marked so we can return to their rightful owners?***

Packed Lunches – Allergies

As a reminder – no peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches please – many thanks.

Action Aid

We sponsor a little girl through Action Aid called Thidar Lwin and pay a £15.00 per month to support Thidar and her community. Over the Easter holidays please could you gather up any of your loose change so we can add to this wonderful cause? Let's see which class can raise the most money.

Staff Car Park

A member of staffs' car has been scratched during the School Day – please could you ensure your children do not run in-between or by parked cars – thank you for your understanding.

Many thanks,

School Office

Sports Update



RUGBY REPORT – YEARS 5 & 6

On the 23rd of February 14 formidable rugby players from Year 5 and 6 went to Oxted School to battle with other schools from Tandridge. The children played against St Stephens in the first game and played some lovely rugby scoring 3 great tries and showing some great team work in both attack and defence. Over the next two games the children played with some great attacking flair. Oscar Griffin with his majestic sidesteps managed to put an opponent in such a spin that he ended up falling on the floor, whilst watching Oscar scored yet another try.

The children finished a very competitive 6th position. The team played the games in the right way with great sportsmanship and respect for the other teams.

Mr Leonard

DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT – YEARS 3 & 4

On Monday 7th March 2016, children from Godstone Village School took part in a Dodgeball Tournament at Oxted School.

There were 3 teams, Godstone A, B and C and together we all put in brilliant performances. 'A' team were lucky enough to get to the Semi Finals, we narrowly lost to Nutfield. Nutfield then lost to St Mary's who won the tournament.

Dodgeball is a brilliant game because it keeps you fit, the children who took part in the challenge represented the school fantastically and should be very proud of that.

A big 'thank you' to Mr Kohlbeck who not only coached us, all but also ran the tournament.

Freddie M

News from the Early Years

CYGNETS AND ROBINS

A mud kitchen has been introduced to the Early Years outdoor environment. The children have had lots of fun creating mud recipes and have even introduced 'The Great Godstone Bake Off' into their play! This activity has really developed their language skills and physical development.



CHINESE NEW YEAR

Cygnets learnt about Chinese New Year and performed a Chinese Dragon Dance.

