



# 22nd March

## School news Update

*Our School Mission Statement: Together with God's help we: Grow in Faith, Learn for Life and Achieve our best.*

### Summer term staffing

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to inform parents that Mrs Blackhurst has made the very difficult decision to leave the school at the end of this term. Mrs Blackhurst has been an integral part of the leadership team of the school for the last six years but has a new and exciting venture outside of education which she hopes to focus on. Mrs Blackhurst will be missed by all and I am certain that you will all join me in wishing her all the very best as she begins her new adventure.

We are very fortunate to have the capacity in school to cover Kandinsky class for the remainder of the academic year with teachers who are well known to the children and our school. Mrs MacLeod has agreed to increase her time and she will be teaching on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays all day and on a Thursday morning. Mrs Hawthorne will then teach the class on a Thursday afternoon and a Friday. This will not affect Mrs Hawthorne's TA role in Monet as she is a qualified teacher so will maintain the two roles side-by-side within school. We are very grateful to Mrs MacLeod and Mrs Hawthorne for agreeing to this arrangement.

I am delighted that Mrs Wilcock and Miss Slater have agreed to share the role of Assistant Head for the Summer term. Mrs Wilcock will support me by taking a lead in the day to day management of the school whilst Miss Slater will lead teaching and learning. I am sure that you will support them in this role; one which they fulfilled so ably during Mrs Blackhurst's maternity leave.

Following our recent extremely positive Ofsted feedback letter, we are also very excited and pleased to be asked to temporarily support the leadership of nearby Holywell Church of England Primary School for the summer term. Holywell is currently within a federation of three schools, led by an Executive Headteacher. This federation is coming to an end at the end of this term and Holywell are in the process of recruiting a new headteacher for the Autumn term. In the interim period, with the agreement of governors, members of the school team will be supporting our colleagues at Holywell, and my time as Headteacher will be shared between the two schools. Offering support to other schools is a great opportunity for shared learning and professional growth, and all staff are looking forward to a busy summer term with lots of new opportunities.

### Comic Relief 2019

Thank you to everyone who donated money for this year's Comic Relief appeal. We raised £116.10. Well done!



## Lent Challenge

As part of our Lent Challenge we would like to raise money for Age UK by knitting the smoothie bottle hats. This is the wording on the Age UK website. *'Every year, we ask you to knit tiny woollen hats, and each one gets placed on an innocent smoothie bottle. For every smoothie sold, we receive 25p, and that money helps us to be there for older people who have no one else to turn to.'* As a school we would like to get involved in this challenge and ask anyone who has a moment, to knit hats for the cause. The closing date is in July, so if any hats can be donated by then that would be fantastic. Attached is the basic pattern! There are some more challenging ones! Please click on the link. <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/the-big-knit/> A prize to anyone who can make the unicorn!!!!



## Make Do And Mend Day – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Just a reminder about our Make Do and Mend day tomorrow from 9:30am – 3:30pm. There will be a free flowing supply of hot drinks, squash and biscuits as well as jacket potatoes over lunch time.

PLEASE, PLEASE do come along even if it's just for an hour with a shovel and a wheelbarrow – we have 5 tonnes of topsoil to fill the cracks on the field so all hands on deck are needed!!

A special thank you must go to Day Tree Services for the donation of the bark and tree stumps [www.daytreeservices.co.uk](http://www.daytreeservices.co.uk) as well as a thank you to Charlotte and Andy for the donations of the Bug box and Bee Hotel, which will be a welcome addition to the secret garden area. [www.etsy.com/uk/shop/ReclaimersHomeGarden](http://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/ReclaimersHomeGarden)

## Kandinsky Class Trip to Flag Fen

The Kandinsky Class went on a school trip to Flag Fen yesterday. They had a great time and will tell you all about it during the Kandinsky Class Assembly on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. For more photos of the day do have a look at the gallery page of the school website. [www.abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk)

## Playground markings

We are delighted that the weather changed so that the playground markings could finally be done! These markings were chosen by the school council and the children have had a lovely time using them for new games.

## Monet Class Assembly and Parent Consultations

Due to Miss Elliot's continued absence from school this week we will postpone the Monet Class assembly which was planned for Monday (25<sup>th</sup> March). This will now take place on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Parent consultations will also take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. All appointment times will remain the same but if you need to change this given the change of date please do let the school office know as soon as possible. Many thanks for your understanding with this.

**Attendance % for  
W/E 22/03/19**

Van Gogh ~ 98%

Monet ~ 98%

**Kandinsky ~ 99%**

Picasso ~ 94%

## Mother's Day Lunch – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March

Thank you to everyone who has booked to join us for our Mother's Day lunch next Friday. Please can you arrive at school by 11.50am so we can get everyone seated, unless Mrs Nixon has spoken to you directly about joining the second sitting at 12.30pm!



### Diary Dates

Please see below the diary dates for the Spring 2019 term  
***Any new dates added in the future will be in bold and italics***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b><i>25<sup>th</sup> March</i></b>	<b><i>Monet Class assembly at 2.45pm – POSTPONED – new date 2/4</i></b>
<b><i>27<sup>th</sup> March</i></b>	<b><i>Monet Class Parent Consultations (rescheduled from Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March) Times unchanged.</i></b>
<b><i>28<sup>th</sup> March</i></b>	<b><i>Monet Class Parent Consultations (rescheduled from Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March) Times unchanged.</i></b>
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Football Festival – All day St Ives
29 <sup>th</sup> March	STARS Mother's Day Shop in school – see attached flyer
29 <sup>th</sup> March	Mums, Grandmas, Aunties Invitation to join us for lunch
<b><i>2<sup>nd</sup> April</i></b>	<b><i>Monet class assembly at 2:45pm</i></b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Lent challenge – Invite for residents of Rose Cottage care home to join us for lunch
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Kandinsky Class assembly at 2.45pm - Everyone welcome
4 <sup>th</sup> April	STARS Easter Egg hunt and picnic – see attached flyer
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Church Service at 2.30pm - Everyone welcome
5 <sup>th</sup> April	End of Spring Term
8 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter Holidays
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Teacher Training Day – School Closed
24 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term starts