

## OCTOBER HALF TERM JOINT NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 1

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Email: [office@stmarysinfschool.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysinfschool.org.uk) or [office@stmarysjunior.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysjunior.org.uk)

**Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Hulme. Chair of Governors: Mr B Tomkins**

Safeguarding Statement: This school takes notice of and adheres to all the national and local policies and guidance in regard to Safeguarding Children and Young People.

Lead Safeguarding Person Junior School: Mrs M Kenny, Nursery & Infant School: Mrs. M Quinn.

Safeguarding Deputies: Mrs. S Hulme, Mrs F Black & Mr S Pratsis & Mrs E Heath, Safeguarding Governor: Mr. T Richmond

### *A message from Mrs Hulme*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here we are, ready to disable the alarm clocks for the coming week and plan some rest time.

It has been a tremendously busy term already with many dates in the diary now for the build up to Christmas too. The children have continued to be active, enjoying full curriculum opportunities and are now ready to enjoy times with friends and family next week.

Thank you for making appointments with teachers these past 2 weeks to discuss your child's progress and achievements. For those parents who were unable to attend, the school will be in contact to follow up. The most valuable outcomes for pupils are certainly when home and school work together.

To finish, I thank all staff for their commitment and hard work and the school community for working together, supporting each other.

Look out for further notifications, as we will be holding another Grandparent gathering towards Christmas.

Happy half term break.

School reopens on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

### Thought of the week....

Working together as a community team

"I Wonder....."

This promotes thoughts for our whole school curriculum in school. We ask parents to use this prompt in conversations at home . It can also be used to enquire about any emotional or behaviour outbursts ... I wonder what happened there ....?

"I wonder" how you are feeling now ....?

"I wonder" takes away threat but promotes a wider opportunity to examine ideas whilst reinforcing a common language.

Do please try it



On Monday, our Year 6 boy's football team went to Hackbridge to play a match. The boys have had a tough start to the season, but listened well to the advice given to them by Mr Parr and Coach Niall and played with confidence. They won the game 3-2! A huge thank you to all the parents and family members who supported the team and a massive well done to all the boys who played!



# News for the week



## Star of the Week!

Reception Star of the Week begins from Autumn 2 Term

1 Robin	Liam
1 Sparrow	Nolan
1 Wren	Will return after half term
2 Heron	Penny
2 Jay	Natalia
2 Woodpecker	Chigozirim



## St. Mary's Award

3 Willow	Shannon
3 Mulberry	Bella
3 Hawthorn	Vincenzo
4 Poplar	Callie
4 Ash	Jan
4 Rowan	Shannon
5 Elm	Aariel
5 Sycamore	Lily
5 Birch	Cian
6 Copper Beech	Olivier
6 Oak	Akushika
6 Chestnut	Rose

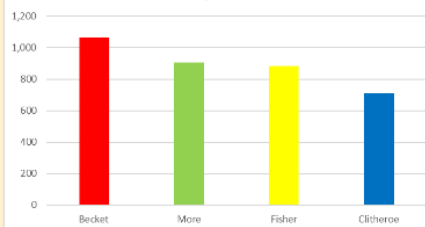


As a school, we aim for 97.4% attendance, which would bring us in line with the expectations. Unfortunately, many children had not achieved this percentage last term. We really need the help of our parents to raise our attendance this term by ensuring children are attending school each day.

	Infant Yearly attendance	Junior Yearly Attendance
	97.5%	97.4%
Registration Group	Weekly Attendance %	Weekly Punctuality (lates) %
Froglet AM Nursery	97.4	0.56
R Fox	97.6	0.10
R Hedgehog	97.6	0.10
R Squirrel	97.1	0.56
1 Robin	96.5	0.63
1 Sparrow	96.3	0.27
1 Wren	98.0	0.21
2 Heron	97.6	0.36
2 Jay	98.8	0.25
2 Woodpecker	97.5	0.10
3 Hawthorn	97.8	0.39
3 Mulberry	98.4	0.09
3 Willow	99.3	0
4 Ash	97.8	0.47
4 Poplar	98.0	0.39
4 Rowan	96.9	0.15
5 Birch	98.6	0.15
5 Elm	96.3	0.67
5 Sycamore	97.2	0.10
6 Chestnut	96.6	0.26
6 Copper Beech	96.3	0.10
6 Oak	95.5	0.15

## This weeks house points ...

Housepoint chart



- In 4th place with 708 house points is Clitheroe
- In 3rd place with 883 house points is Fisher
- In 2nd place with 906 house points is More
- And in 1st place with 1,064 house points is Becket

## BBC 500 Words story competition



The BBC are running a fantastic opportunity this autumn for children to express their imagination and creativity through storytelling. Children of all abilities are encouraged to use their creativity and imagination to write a story they would love to read without the pressure of having to worry about spelling, punctuation and grammar.

The brilliant 500 Word judges are back; award-winning and best-selling authors Frank Cottrell-Boyce, Francesca Simon, Charlie Higson, and former children's laureate, Malorie Blackman. Entries must be typed by an adult (parent/guardian or teacher) on behalf of the child.

Entry will be in two age categories:

- Category 1 - ages 5-7 years
- Category 2 - ages 8-11 years



There are very few rules on 500 Words but a few points to remember:

All the stories must:

- Be 500 words or less (title is not included in the number)
- Be written by an individual and not a group
- Be a child's own original idea
- Be prose, not rap or poem
- Entrants must write a fictional short story (no more than 500 words in length). Entry is via an online entry form [www.bbc.co.uk/500words](http://www.bbc.co.uk/500words).



Stories must not:

- Give any personal details of the child, including their name
- Recount an historical event (but they can use a real person or historical character as a source of inspiration)



The top 50 shortlisted entrants (25 in each age category) will be invited to attend the final at Buckingham Palace.

There are prizes for the finalist detailed on the BBC website.



More information can be found on this link here: [500 Words - BBC Teach](http://www.bbc.co.uk/500words).

Good luck!

## Wednesday Word

Please click on the link below to access the weekly Wednesday Word <https://www.papertum-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/holiday-special-booklet?pid=MTA101634&v=107.9>

# ST MARY'S PTA DONATIONS 2022/23

Year 2 Fun Day	£173.47
Year 6 Leavers Celebration	£429.42
Juniors £10 Pupil Trip Donation	£3,640
Reception Play Area	£10,000
Year 6 Production Licences	£500
Infants Animal Experience	£1,186
St Mary's Santa Book Handout	£809.80
Sutton Nightwatch (Infants Christmas Shop)	£615.40
July Questionnaire Winner Book Donation (Robin class)	£50



## Spirituality

October is a month of many celebrations, such as the October Devotion, where we honour our Mother Mary and are encouraged to pray the Rosary daily. Children have been praying the Rosary at school during liturgies and in class and in the Junior School Y6 members of the Chaplaincy Team have welcomed other pupils to the Chapel at lunchtimes to pray a decade of the Rosary for children in different continents of the world. Both schools celebrated our annual Harvest Mass with Father Anthony and Father Patrick Ryan. Thank you for all of your generous donations to the Food Bank at St Philomena's School. These contributions enable us to show our understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and the importance of recognising that each of us is made in the image of God, by God, who loves us all.



## News from Nursery

What a fantastic start to the year. The children have settled into Nursery life well and are learning their new routines. As part of our topic 'Magical Me' we have explored our emotions and thought about times when we have felt happy, sad, angry and calm. We are using the colour monster to talk about our emotions throughout the day. The children love music and singing. Our favourite song so far is 'Big, Red, Combine Harvester'. In RE we have learnt about the importance of our name. The children are saying the school prayers well and are trying really hard to make the 'Sign of the Cross'.



## News from Reception

Well done to all the Reception children for a great start to the year. The children have settled in well and are beginning to adjust to their new school routines. We began the term by reading our first two key texts; 'Brown Bear Brown Bear, What Do You See?' and 'Polar Bear Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?' The children enjoyed using their own listening ears and going on a listening walk, hearing sounds in the environment. We finished off the half term with 'Elmer's colours day' where the children dressed up in bright colours and enjoyed getting VERY messy! The children also created their own Elmer masks for our parade after reading another key text; 'Elmer'. The children have enjoyed our RE topic of 'Myself.' Throughout the topic, we learnt that prayer is a way of talking to God and that he knows us all by our name. We have now begun our 'Welcome' RE topic where the children have been learning about how they are welcomed and that we are welcomed into God's family when we are Baptised. We hope that you all enjoy a well-deserved rest over half term, and we look forward to starting our next topic 'My Adventures'.



## News from Year 1

Well done to the Year 1 children for a fantastic first half term. We are very proud of how hard they have been working and how well they have settled into their new classrooms. The children have enjoyed their topic 'Enchanted Woodlands', where we have been writing stories based on our texts 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. In R.E, we have been exploring our families. Our science topic had us investigating the different types of trees that we have here on our school field. We became artists creating our own Koru inspired designs. We hope you all have a well-deserved break and look forward to seeing you next half term as we begin our topic 'Superheroes'.



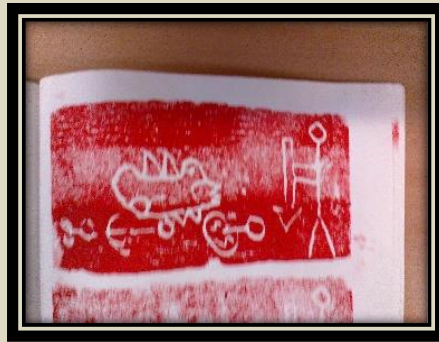
## News from Year 2

Year 2 have loved their Muck, Mess and Mixtures topic this term. We had a wonderful messy day in September and we loved reading and writing about *The Rascally Cake*. We have learnt about the benefits of exercise and healthy eating in science and this week we made delicious fruit kebabs, learning about being safe and hygienic when preparing food. In art, we explored the work of Carl Warner and created our own works using fruit and vegetables.



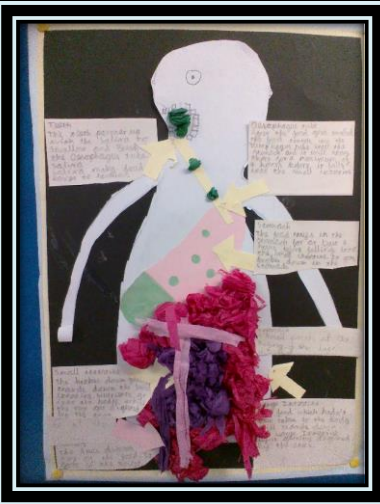
## News from Year 3

A huge well done to Year 3 this half term. They have all settled wonderfully into life at the Junior school and have participated very well in all activities. We have been artists, historians and writers while researching The Stone Age across a multitude of subjects, and welcoming a special guest into school to give us more of a background to Stone Age life. In Science, we have thoroughly enjoyed a range of experiments into light and how it works! We wish you all a lovely half term break and cannot wait to see you after the holidays.



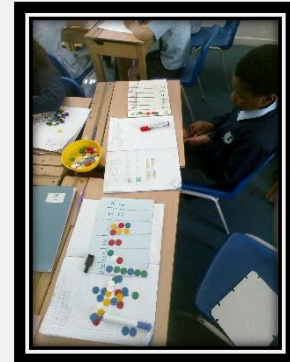
## News from Year 4

Congratulations to year 4 for completing a busy half term. The highlight of the term has to be the lovely Harvest Mass in which the children read and fulfilled their duties excellently. The term has also seen the children investigate the human digestive system. We conducted an experiment to look at the effects certain liquids would have on an egg, we used an egg as a stand-in for teeth. The observations the children were able to make, in particular with the egg, which had been in the vinegar, were excellent. We hope the children have a lovely week away from school and look forward to seeing them back for Autumn 2.



## News from Year 5

In Year 5, in RE, we have been celebrating that each of us is unique and can make choices. Through the story of the Frog and the Scorpion, we have been thinking about how much control we have over those choices and who can help us as we make them. In our Science lessons on forces, we have had to make many choices when experimenting with parachutes, boats and levers, but have worked well together when being scientists. As writers this half term, we have made choices about what Lila (our character from Philip Pullmans' Firework Maker's Daughter) might face in our stories, and also chosen which mechanisms to include in our pop-up books about Athens and Sparta. Perhaps your child could retell their story to you over half term?



## News from Year 6

It has been a busy and exciting start to Year 6. It was an honour for the students to receive their privilege ties and badges in the assembly and we were also fortunate enough for the Year 6 students to organise the school feast day Mass at the start of September. We've had fun learning to classify organisms in science and we also used clay to make hieroglyphs which linked to our learning about the Maya in history.



## Dates for the Diary

**TBC means To Be Confirmed (dates may be subject to change)**

	NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL	JUNIOR SCHOOL
<b>Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct – Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>OCTOBER HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>OCTOBER HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN 2 TERM</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN 2 TERM</b>
<b>Tues 31<sup>st</sup> Oct</b>		3 Mulberry Class Assembly at 8.50am – Parents Welcome
<b>Weds 1<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>	All Saints Holy Day Obligation Mass – Children Only Nursery & Reception Open Day at the Infant School at 10.30am Prompt	Nursery & Reception Open Day at the Infant School at 10.30am Prompt 4 Rowan Class Assembly at 2.45pm – Parents Welcome Football St. Mary's A&B Teams vs Stanley Park Juniors at St. Philomena's field Netball Tournament at Seaton House
<b>Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov</b>	1 Sparrow Class Assembly at 2.45pm – Parents Welcome	
<b>Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov</b>	Sutton Wellbeing 'Small Children, Big Emotions' Session at 9am	Year 6 Swimming Lessons 1.30pm – 3pm 6Oak return at 3.30pm
<b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>		Year 6 Height & Weights
<b>Fri 10<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>		Year 6 Swimming Lessons 1.30pm – 3pm Y5 After School Treat Sales
<b>Tues 14<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	PTA Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School	PTA Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School
<b>Weds 15<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>		3 Willow Class Assembly at 2.45pm – Parents Welcome St. Mary's Netball St. Mary's A&B Teams vs Holy Trinity at St. Philomena's court
<b>Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	Nursery & Reception Open Day at the Infant School at 9.15am prompt School Governors Resources Committee Meeting School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting	Nursery & Reception Open Day at the Infant School at 9.15am prompt <a href="#">School Governors Resources Committee Meeting</a> <a href="#">School Governors Curriculum &amp; Standards Committee Meeting</a>
<b>Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>		Year 6 Swimming Lessons 1.30pm – 3pm 6Oak return at 3.30pm
<b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>		Yrs 5 & 6 Athletics at Wallington High School
<b>Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov</b>		5 Sycamore Class Assembly at 8.50am – Parents Welcome Red Wednesday
<b>Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>		Year 6 Swimming Lessons 1.30pm – 3pm 6Oak return at 3.30pm
<b>Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>		Yrs 3 & 4 Sports Hall Athletics 1.30-3.30pm at Wallington High School <a href="#">Year 3 Penitential Service 6.30 – 7.30pm - TBC</a>
<b>Weds 29<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	Year 3 Open Day at the Junior School Tour at 2pm, Talk from 2.30pm – 3pm	6 Oak Class Assembly at 9am – Parents Welcome Year 3 Open Day at the Junior School Tour at 2pm, Talk from 2.30pm – 3pm

<b>Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>		Year 3 to St. Philomena's to watch the GCSE Performance at 9.15am Yrs 5 & 6 RFL A, B Festival 10-12.30pm at John Fisher Playing Field
<b>Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>		Year 6 Swimming Lessons 1.30pm – 3pm 6Oak return at 3.30pm
<b>Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting
<b>Weds 6<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Year 2 Christmas Preparation Service in Church - TBC	4 Ash Class Assembly at 2.45pm – Parents Welcome
<b>Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Nursery Nativity at 10am - TBC	
<b>Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	PTA Bottle Mufti Day – More details to follow!	PTA Bottle Mufti Day – More details to follow!
<b>Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	PTA Christmas Fayre – More details to follow!	PTA Christmas Fayre – More details to follow!
<b>Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	No Clubs running from this week Year 1 Carols around the crib at 3.30pm - TBC	No Clubs running from this week
<b>Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Reception Nativity at 10am - TBC	
<b>Weds 13<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Christmas Lunch – Christmas Jumper/Accessory Day	5 Birch Class Assembly at 8.50am – Parents Welcome Christmas Lunch – Christmas jumper/accessory day
<b>Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Reception Nativity at 10am - TBC	Year 3 Christmas Nativity at 1.30pm – TBC Year 3 Christmas Nativity at 7pm - TBC
<b>Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Reception Nativity at 10am - TBC	St. Mary's Got Talent - TBC
<b>Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	PTA Christmas Shop	Music Night - TBC
<b>Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	PTA Christmas Shop	Whole School visit to the Pantomime at Epsom Playhouse
<b>Weds 20<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>		6 Copper Beech Class Assembly at 9am – Parents Welcome Junior School Fayre – More details to follow
<b>Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF AUTUMN 2 TERM SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF AUTUMN 2 TERM SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM</b>
<b>Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>INSET DAY 3 SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>INSET DAY 3 SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING 1 TERM</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING 1 TERM</b>
<b>Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Jan – Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	SEND Parent Academic Review Week	SEND Parent Academic Review Week
<b>Tues 30<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	PTA Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School	PTA Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School
<b>Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	PTA Coffee Morning at 9am in the Infant School	PTA Coffee Morning at 9am in the Infant School
<b>Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Parent Academic Review Week	Parent Academic Review Week
<b>Weds 7<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	School Governors Inclusion Committee Meeting	School Governors Inclusion Committee Meeting
<b>Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Y1 After School Treat Sales	
<b>Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>FEBRUARY HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>FEBRUARY HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM</b>
<b>Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	PTA International Fayre – More details to follow!	PTA International Fayre – More details to follow!
<b>Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Mar</b>	PTA Wine/Gin Tasting (Adult Event) – More details to follow!	PTA Wine/Gin Tasting (Adult Event) – More details to follow!
<b>Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	School Governors Resources Committee Meeting	School Governors Resources Committee Meeting



	School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting	School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Mar – Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	PTA Sponsored Read Event – More details to follow!	PTA Sponsored Read Event – More details to follow
<b>Weds 27<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting
<b>Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM</b>
<b>Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>INSET DAY 4 SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>INSET DAY 4 SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 1 TERM</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 1 TERM</b>
<b>Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>		PTA Junior School Disco – More details to follow!
<b>Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>		Y3 After School Treat Sales
<b>Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	PTA AGM Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School	PTA AGM Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School
<b>Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Fri 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	PTA Ladies Night (Adult Event) – More details to follow!	PTA Ladies Night (Adult Event) – More details to follow!
<b>Fri 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	YR After School treat Sales	
<b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup> May</b>	PTA Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School	PTA Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School
<b>Mon 27<sup>th</sup> May – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>MAY HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>MAY HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 2 TERM</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 2 TERM</b>
<b>Weds 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	School Governors Inclusion Committee Meeting	School Governors Inclusion Committee Meeting
<b>Mon 17<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>INSET DAY 5 – TBC SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>INSET DAY 5 – TBC SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>Fri 14<sup>th</sup> June</b>		Y4 After School Treat Sales
<b>Tues 25<sup>th</sup> June</b>	School Governors Resources Committee Meeting School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting	School Governors Resources Committee Meeting School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting
<b>Fri 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	PTA Bottle Mufti Day – More details to follow!	PTA Bottle Mufti Day – More details to follow!
<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	PTA Summer Fayre – More details to follow!	PTA Summer Fayre – More details to follow!
<b>Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting
<b>Weds 24<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF SUMMER 2 TERM SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF SUMMER 2 TERM SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM</b>

**General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR)**

The 'UK General Data Protection Regulation' (UK GDPR) brought about changes about how we can use your personal data and keep it safe, and strengthens your rights over your own data. Please refer to our privacy notices on the school's website for details of how sensitive or private information about yourselves and your children stays safe.