

23rd April 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the beginning of the summer term, a very happy Easter to you all and happy St George's day! I can see plenty of us have had a visit to the hairdressers and it has been lovely to see a few people in gardens over the last week or so. With the warmer weather, there is a sense of hope in the air for a less stressful term!

Thank you! Some of you may have sponsored Alex, one of Year 6 boys last term. He did the "Walk of Hope", walking 167km and raising £624! This was for the charity "In Sue's Name". Sue was a mum at the school several years ago and is remembered with great fondness after dying with brain cancer. A huge well done to Alex whose efforts raised a fantastic sum for this important charity!

Karen Borley – Many of you will know Karen who has worked at St Monica's for over 20 years. I'm very sad to say that she is relocating to Ireland at May half term and so her last day will be 28th May. We are planning how to say farewell to her in a covid-friendly way and I already have some lovely suggestions from children! Keep them coming.

Big Pedal Competition! – It has been great to see so many children cycling and scooting to school – a very healthy option! Sustrans are holding a competition - you just need to photograph your child coming into school to be in with a chance of winning a prize – click the link <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/our-blog/projects/uk-wide/schools/sustrans-big-pedal-family-competition/>

Bling your bike/scooter competition Mrs Weston, our School Travel Champion, is holding a competition for children to decorate your bike or scooter! Please see the attached flier. Entries need to be emailed to the office by Friday 30th April.

Bikes and scooters in the LTN – We have received a couple of messages from very concerned residents about the number of bikes and scooters that are coming down the middle of the road around Conway Road and the Fox Lane area. Please be aware that residents do drive down these roads – they are not vehicle free and there have been a few near misses with cars.

School shoes – Now that shops are open, we are expecting children to wear school shoes as part of our school uniform policy. Having said that, junior children who use the orchard at playtimes need to wear trainers on those days. So, if your Junior child's school shoes don't fit and you don't want to buy a new pair of shoes for just 2 days per week, that will be fine for this term and they can continue wearing trainers. However, if their school shoes fit, they must wear them.

Kitchen roll – Thanks very much to all the parents who have been sending in kitchen roll. We do go through a lot with drying of hands so frequently, so if you could send in some more, we'd be very grateful!

Ground floor flat 2-3 bedrooms needed urgently – If anyone knows of anyone with a ground floor flat near school that could be rented to one of our families, please can you call Aneta on 07904319096.

Parents' Evening – Next week will be an opportunity to speak to your child's class teacher. All the appointments will be online as we are still unable to permit large numbers of adults into the school. **Online appointments will be via Google Classroom. You can access this by clicking the "meet link" on the home page of your child's class. You need to click on this link at your allotted time and then "join now". The teacher will admit you when their current appointment has finished, so please be patient. Also, please do keep to the ten minutes.** As a parent of three children, ten minutes is usually long enough to find out how your child is getting on. If you have a bigger concern that takes more time, please make another time to speak.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine while it lasts!

Kind regards,

Kate Baptiste
Headteacher