



Newsletter Number 14: 24.4.2026



APRIL

MAY

4.5.26 – BANK HOLIDAY

8.5.26 – Sports Afternoon – details to follow

11.5.26 – Sun Safety Week

15.5.26 – YR Disco

19.5.26 – 7pm Parent Meeting for those New to YR September 2026

20.5.26 – Joint coffee morning at St Mary's Junior School

22.5.26 – INSET DAY

25.5.26-29.5.26 – HALF TERM

JUNE

11.6.26 – Year 2 Sea City Trip

19.6.26 – Class Photographs

JULY

5.7.26 -Summer Fair

8.7.27 – Joint coffee morning at St Mary's Junior School

10.7.26 – Rock Steady End of Year Concert

13.7.26 – 2pm Y2 Leaver's Show

14.7.26 - 9:30 Y2 Leaver's Show

17.7.26 – Family Picnic with St Mary's Junior School – details to follow

21.7.26 – Y2 Leaver's Party

22.3.26 – Last Day of Term

With the warmer weather hopefully making an appearance, could we make a plea that sun cream is applied in the morning before school and that all children come with a NAMED sun hat. There is a sun safety week on May 11th where the children will be learning much more about how to enjoy being out in the sunshine but how to keep safe too.

Lost Property

We are really trying to keep on top of lost property at the moment, so please could you check that your child's uniform – especially coats, jumpers and cardigans are named or that the name hasn't faded or fallen off over time. This way we can return the right items to the right child. The children seem to be able to magically identify each other's jumpers according to their smell which always makes me laugh, we haven't developed this ability yet! We had a huge amount of unclaimed uniform at the end of last term which went to F.O.O.B.S or to charity but it would be great if it went back to you instead.

Book Bags and jewellery

Could you please make sure that book bags are emptied. There seems to be lots of anti-bac, lotions and lip balms making their way in to school. It is really important that these things are kept at home unless there is a medical need. We have children in school with allergies, so as I am sure you will appreciate, these things need to be kept out of temptations way! We have also had a lot of lost jewellery being handed in to the office –

again unless for a particular religious reason, jewellery (except stud earrings) should be saved for weekends and holidays and not worn to school.

Talk Point!

Regular conversations with adults and siblings, for example during meals, exposes children to varied vocabulary and discussions about current events or worldly issues at the table improve children's knowledge and self-esteem. What ideas will you come up with this week for this question!

'What's better: morning or evening? Why?'

Hello from F.O.O.B.S.

The Easter Fair was a great success this year, and we raised £1700 which is great! Thank you also to everyone who donated items for the HappySchoolBag collection last Friday. We collected a massive 574kg of donations which earned us a fantastic £258.

We are now in full Summer Fair planning mode, please save the following dates - Non-School Uniform day on Thursday 21st May at both the Infant & Junior schools in return for a prize for the General Tombola or the Bottle Tombola. Donation date Friday 5th June for the Toys, Books & Uniform stall and Pick a Jar donation week 8th-13th June. More details to follow.

Language of the Half Term

Did you know that in our school community, 25 different languages are spoken? We are so lucky to have such a diverse range of languages, and it is very important to us that we celebrate and raise awareness of this with the children and our school community. The children learn some key phrases which they use in school. This half term, the language we have chosen is **Mandarin**. To ensure our translation of the key phrases is accurate, we always check it with a family who speak the language. For a closer look at the image below, and if you would like to learn more about the language alongside your child, please see the separate attachment.

Our language of the half term is: Mandarin

In our school community we have 2 families who speak Mandarin

Our families come from China and Malaysia



Please use Google Translate to help with the correct pronunciation <https://translate.google.co.uk>
Chinese (simplified)



Staff Profile - Mandy Best

I have worked at Old Basing Infant School for 17 years. Both my children attended Old Basing and St Mary's Junior School and they are both grown up's now which is hard to believe! I really enjoy working with children as I love their honesty and the fun I have each day when I come to work. I have had a variety of jobs over the years, but I have enjoyed working with children most. Outside of work I enjoy listening to music, going for walks and spending time in my garden.

Safeguarding - Online Gaming

Online gaming is part of everyday childhood, Ofcom data puts regular online gaming among more than three quarters of teenagers, with some starting as young as three or four. For many children it's simply an extension of their social world, and that's worth acknowledging. But the risks are significant: stranger contact through in-game chat, loot box mechanics that mirror gambling, and content well beyond what parents assume their children are accessing. Roblox, popular with primary-age children, has been linked to exposure to extremist content.

The Educator Magazine has published a practical article making the case for a school-led approach to supporting parents on this. You can find out more here:

<https://the-educator.org/online-gaming-a-school-led-approach-to-supporting-parents/>

Have a lovely weekend!

Sonia Denning