



Newsletter Number 16: 8.5.26



MAY

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

This week has flown past as a result of the Bank Holiday weekend. We decided to go ahead with our Sports afternoon even though the weather looked a bit iffy as we feel it is better to be done when the weather is cooler than in the heat of June or July – although this may well just be wishful thinking on my part that the weather will soon be warm!

Thank you to those who claimed lost property this week, a vast majority of items were returned to their owners. We will be placing unnamed lost property outside each Friday (weather dependant) in the hope that it makes it easier for you to claim lost items.

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 for this talk point!

'Would you rather have a day where everything goes exactly to plan, or a day full of surprises? Why?'

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

We hope you all had a lovely bank holiday.

Non uniform day for both schools is Thursday 21st May. Can we please ask for a Tombola prize (or a £1 donation) for the Summer Fair to be brought into school in return. The gifts should be new/unused and can be for an adult or a child, and any bottles will be added to the Bottle Tombola.

Also please save the date for the YR Disco, Friday 15th May at 17:00 at Old Basing Infants. We can't wait to see you!

Interim Progress Summary – you asked so we did!

In response to last year's parent questionnaire, it was raised that another check in regarding progress and attainment would be beneficial. Therefore, a progress summary will be sent home to you in your child's bookbag on Thursday May 21st. This will be a summary that will show you the progress that your child has made in Reading, Writing and Maths for Year 2, Reading, Writing, Maths and Phonics in Y1 and in the Early Learning Goals for YR. You will be able to see progress across the school year and it is an interim attainment summary in preparation for your child's annual report in July.

School Communication

Attached to this newsletter is our Communication Policy which is on the website. I wanted to draw your attention to the section of this policy which states:

*'Face-to-face conversations are generally the best way of communicating with the school at drop off or pick up for quick, short messages. **If this is not possible** or you require a longer conversation then use the guidance below. The first port of call should generally be with your child's class teacher, either by a phone call or by sending an email sent **via the route below**. If after this, if it is felt that further discussion is needed, then please feel free to call or email and request a conversation with the headteacher. Many classroom incidents can be answered more swiftly by speaking first with your child's teacher as they are the ones who have direct, daily contact with your children.*

*When a member of staff is unable to speak to you immediately face-to-face due to school commitments, or a longer conversation is deemed necessary or appropriate, then a request for an appointment can be made to discuss the matter either in person or by telephone, at a later date. **(The school will aim to arrange that meeting within 2 working days)**.*

Outside of teaching hours, all staff have additional duties which they perform either before school, during break/lunch or after school so availability of staff outside of teaching hours should not be assumed.

Email Parents are welcome to email the school, adminoffice@oldbasing.hants.sch.uk

The school will aim to respond within 5 working days. *If a response is unable to be provided within this timeline, which can be to ensure a full and considered response, then a revised timeline will be provided and communicated. We ask that parents await a response from the school and that further emails are not sent pending that response, unless the new deadline has passed.*

Phone calls - If a query or concern is time sensitive and urgent the parent should call the school office, who will liaise as necessary at the earliest opportunity. *In most circumstances, teaching and leadership staff are unlikely to be available to receive calls due to teaching and other commitments but if necessary, they will call back as soon as they are available to do so. If the query or concern is **not** time sensitive and urgent then parents should email or call the school office and the relevant member of staff will aim to contact them within 5 working days. If this is not possible (due to teaching or other commitments), someone will respond to schedule a phone call at a convenient time. For general enquiries, please call or email the school office.'*

As a school we have always made the decision not to use teacher's emails as a means of direct contact. My staff are advised not to have their school email on their phones, as I know that many of them would not switch off from their job and would feel the pressure to be looking at and responding to emails when their working day is done. To safeguard their mental health and wellbeing and to ensure that they are maintaining a healthy work-life balance, this policy is not going to change. If you are emailing our office, please make sure you use the email address above - there is no '.' in between admin and office!

Staff Profile – Mrs Nightingale

I started my teaching career at an Infant school in Farnborough before moving to Old Basing in 2014. Old Basing Infant school will always hold a special place in my heart, as I attended here as a young child back when there was still a swimming pool. My eldest child recently moved across to the junior school and my youngest child is currently enjoying her time in reception. With two young children, I spend most of my time on the sidelines at football matches or chasing them both around the park. When I get the chance, I enjoy catching up with friends over a glass of wine.

Safeguarding

Each Monday I receive a safeguarding newsletter and some of the information is not necessarily aimed at our youngest children, however some of the information provides information to adults and are an interesting read so I have attached the following link.

Child and Youth Radicalisation - ACT Counters Terrorism

The radicalisation of children and young people is not a new concern, but the speed and scale at which it can now occur has changed significantly. Social media has given extremist voices direct, unmediated access to young people, and the process that once took months can now happen far more quickly.

Schools sit on the front line of this and need a working understanding of how radicalisation develops, what triggers it, and where intervention is possible. ACT Early's guide to the stages of radicalisation is a useful, accessible starting point.

To read more, go to:

<https://actearly.uk/radicalisation/the-stages/>

Contact details

Can you please make sure that if you have updated or changed your contact details that this information is passed to the school office. It is essential that we have the correct addresses and telephone numbers so we can communicate with you in the right way and contact you in case of an emergency.

ST MARY'S FLOWER FESTIVAL & OPEN GARDENS

PARISH LIFE IN PETALS

Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th May, 11am - 4pm

St Mary's is looking forward to welcoming the school choirs who will be singing at the Festival at 11.30 am on Saturday 16th May.

There will be several children's activities, including the return of the popular Teddy Zip Wire from the top of St Mary's Church Tower! This is not exclusively for Teddies – other brave toys are welcome too!

Do come along over the weekend to see over 30 arrangements and displays in the church, view the various craft stalls and enjoy the refreshments, including BBQ on the Saturday. A reminder too to bring along your jam jar of flowers!

Open Gardens: A number of villagers in Old Basing will be opening up their gardens to visitors over the weekend. Entry to the gardens is by buying an Open Gardens Booklet (£10 per adult) which gives access to all gardens and a voucher for a cream tea. Booklets will be available from the church over the weekend.



Have a lovely weekend!

Sonia Denning

Attendance to 30th April 2026

Whole School – 96.98%

Mole Class: 96.8%

Hedgehog Class: 96.7%

Dormouse Class: 95.5%

Hare Class: 97.7%

Squirrel Class: 96.8%

Fox Class: 97.6%

Barn Owl Class: 97.3%

Badger Class: 96.5%

Otter Class: 97.6%