Spring 5 Newsletter – 17th March 2023

Otley All Saints CE Primary School

Lisker Drive, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 1DF Tel: 01943 464703

Email: office@otleyallsaints.co.uk Website: www.otleyallsaints.co.uk

Headteacher: Ian Thomson-Smith



A huge thank you to all our families who have been able to donate today to Comic Relief – we will know later today how much we have collected, but our 'Dress for Joy' theme has certainly fulfilled its purpose, with choices of outfits raising so many smiles and laughs. Our fun today has been

a great way to raise money for some crucial needs at home and abroad, just as the Comic Relief charity has always intended.

PTA Mothers' Day shop Thank you so much to our volunteers, led and organised by Bea Marshall-Ngan, who made our Mothers' Day Shop this week such a success. I do hope that it will help to make all our parents – especially mothers – feel appreciated this weekend.





Easter Hat Competition Also organised by the PTA – but with no cost attached – is an opportunity to enter our Easter Hat competition. Prizes will be awarded to the best

entries in our different key stages (Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2). We are happy to see snazzy modern designs or traditional Easter bonnets – whatever takes your fancy. Entries should be brought to the hall on the morning of **Thursday 30th March**, and will be judged before we set off to church for our Easter service. In church we will have a parade of children wearing their designs before we announce our winners. The Easter service is open to all families to attend, and will start at 10.00am in All Saints Church. Please do come and join us for a whole school retelling of the Easter story.

New School Website We are very pleased to announce that, thanks to a tremendous amount of work from parent governor Katja Kaine, supported by Hayley Miller, <u>our new school website</u> is live! Please do check it out, and we'd welcome any feedback both



about what you like, and also any areas for improvement or little issues you can see. We've taken on board feedback from parents and tried to make the things you want to see the most often easily accessible, such as term dates and upcoming events. You can also find



This half term our core Christian value is:



Diary Dates

Tuesday 21st March – Otley Poetry Slam, Prince Henry's Wednesday 22nd March – Year 2 visit to Bolton Abbey Reception – Easter Egg Hunt in local garden Parents' Evening 3.30-7.30pm Thursday 23rd March – Year 2

Handball Festival, Prince Henry's Parents' Evening 3.30-5.00pm **Wednesday 29**th **March** – Year 2 –

Easter Egg Hunt in local garden

Thursday 30th March – Easter Hat

Competition;

Easter Service, All Saints Church, 10am

Friday 31st **March** – Break up for Easter holidays

Monday 17th April – Summer term begins

















out more about what your child gets up to in class, and access useful information such as uniform requirements and after school care and activities. There are still a few areas which we are working on to bring fully up to date and we appreciate your patience as we continue this moving forward, but we hope you'll agree that the new website is a huge improvement, and we hope it can be an asset, offering you more of an insight into the our school and your child's time here, and offering useful information at your fingertips.

Goodbye Mr P! We are so sorry to have to share the news that after Easter Mr Pollhammer will no longer be working in school, as he moves to a new job working in the countryside. Over the last four years he has fulfilled a large number of roles for us, both teaching and supporting in almost every class in school. Although he will continue to run our Early Birds Breakfast Club, we will greatly miss the help that he has given to so many children, staff and families, and we wish him every success in his new venture. Staffing arrangements are now in place for next term, and will be shared as soon as we are able.



Governors' Annual Survey of Parents' Views This is the time of year when the governing body seek to collect your views of the school so that we understand what you feel is working well and can plan ways to improve. Once again we are offering a £20 Waitrose voucher via a prize draw, and to enter all you need to do is complete our school questionnaire, which can be accessed through Google Forms. It should take less than ten minutes to

complete. It really is important for us to know how you feel about what the school is doing well, and where we can improve. If you think the school is doing a great job – please tell us! This positive evidence is critical for us when it comes to external evaluations. If you think there's somewhere we could be doing better, this is your chance to let us know and give us the chance to improve. If you would prefer to complete a paper copy, please let us know. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Parents' Evenings, 22nd and 23rd March You will have received notification of our parents' evening appointments, which may be booked through the School Cash Office system (ScoPay) next week. If you are unsure how to do this, or cannot access the system, do get in touch with us, and we will be happy to guide you through the process. On these evenings there will be a chance to look through your child's work



and to meet with class teachers. Please note that, with our large class sizes, appointments will be quite brief; if you feel you would prefer a longer appointment please speak to your child's teacher.

Pre-loved Uniform Sale During our parents' evenings there will be an opportunity to see the range of pre-loved uniform items that are available for sale. These are articles of school clothing that parents have donated after their children have grown out of them; they are washed and sized and available for a small donation. Do pop into the Community Room (next to the school hall) to see what is on offer. Many thanks to Jane Grant and Victoria Gilder for making this possible.



New Sports Kits We are very grateful to West Riding Film Construction Services Ltd, who have kindly agreed to sponsor two new sets of football kits for our school teams, including goalkeeper kits and gloves. Each kit is provided with its own embroidered bag. We are delighted with the smart, sporty effect they provide, which was first seen at the recent football matches against The Whartons School. Please note, if your child is loaned one of the kits, kindly ensure that it is cleaned and returned as soon as possible.

Otley Carnival Stars We were very proud to hear that three of our pupils have been chosen to be Otley Carnival Stars, having impressed the panel with their commitment to the environment and people of Otley. Congratulations to Annie McGee, Kali Kaine and Hattie Doughty – what an achievement!

Medical Appointments in School Time We do know how difficult it can be to secure doctor's and dentist's appointments at any time, let alone outside the school day, but there do seem to have been a large number of families asking to collect pupils before the end of lessons recently, and sometimes on a frequent basis. We would ask that parents do their best to avoid this where possible – thank you!