

St Anne's Gazette

Free Prae Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8ET

Headteacher: Leanne M Harris

Issue No 7

1st February 2018

Dear Parents,

Well what a busy half term we have had. You would think the shorter terms are, the less hectic but that isn't true. We all need to get the same amount of activities in, just in less time.

We have celebrated St John Bosco's feast this week and had a wonderful mass at St Anne's which Year 5 led and Year 2—6 joined in. The singing, the reading and the acting was wonderful.

The children have all been busy in their classrooms—starting new topics and working on improving their writing and maths skills. Next week the whole school will be taking part in Cultures Week, along with Year 2 having their 'Fire of London' day on Monday and our 'Sign2Sing' on Thursday. Busy, busy!

Half Term

School closes at normal time on

Thursday, 8th February

(Friday, 9th Inset Day—School Closed)

School then re-opens at **9 a.m. on Monday, 19th February.**

I hope you all have an enjoyable half term.

Tin-A-Week

Just a gentle reminder to all parents and staff that we are still endeavouring to support the Salvation Army by collecting tins of food which they then distribute to those less fortunate than ourselves. I am so grateful to everyone who sends items into school regularly—just one tin per family each week makes such a difference! Please send them in to your child's class teacher.

CULTURES FROM AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Don't forget that next week is Cultural Week at school. This was a great success last year and is a very exciting opportunity for our children to further develop their knowledge of cultures outside of their own, by exploring the ethos of as many different countries as we can. The children will take part in assemblies and a variety of activities in their classes, including **on Monday, 5th**, cultural displays in the hall put together by our parents, and giving the children the opportunity to look, learn and ask questions. Please email Mrs Murphy (fmurphy@stannes-chertsey.surrey.sch.uk) if you are able to donate some resources and/or knowledge from your country of origin, and/or offer a little of your time on Monday afternoon.

On Thursday, 8th the children (in Years 1-6 ONLY) can come to school dressed in clothing related to their culture—be it traditional costume or just colours from their country's flag.

Please note: the Reception children will come to school dressed in Chinese costume on Monday, 5th February. (They will come dressed for PE on Thursday as usual.)

ST. JOHN BOSCO DAY

Years 2-6 celebrated the feast day of St. John Bosco yesterday at church. Year 5 led the mass fantastically. The children spoke very clearly, they sang beautifully and Year 5 portrayed the St John Bosco's story fantastically. It was a real celebration and made us all remember what an inspiration St John Bosco was.

Sign2Sing

On February 8th, the entire school will join together to participate in the 'Sign2Sing' Initiative. It has always been an amazing experience to see all the children present in the hall singing and doing the sign language actions. We will also be joined by 30 teachers and learning support staff to whom the children will be teaching the actions. Class 4Rowling will be holding a cake sale for Years 3 & 4, the proceeds from which will be donated to the Sign2Sing charity who do amazing work for deaf children and adults. If you would like to contribute to these funds, please ensure you send any money in a clearly labelled envelope. Special thanks to Mrs Heath for organising the event and encouraging us to participate.

Healthy Eating

Just a gentle reminder that crisps and sweets are not allowed as part of a lunch box. We are trying really hard to encourage the children to eat a healthy lunch and having items such as these in the lunch box is not healthy. It is particularly hard with the younger children as it is not their fault. Please do not put us in the difficult position of having to speak to your child because of your actions. Please also remember not to send in any foods containing nuts. Again, can I remind you about the need for the children to have a water bottle in school. The water fountains are available for the children to fill their bottles, and beakers are available for sale from the office.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Don't forget to let us know of any triumphs your child has accomplished and would like to share with the rest of us. You can drop a note to the office (via your child's teacher) or email us on office@stannes-chertsey.surrey.sch.uk.

NAME YOUR PROPERTY!

AS YOU ARE PROBABLY AWARE, WE ENCOURAGE ANY ITEMS FOUND TO BE HANDED INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE, AND I AM VERY PROUD TO SAY THAT THE CHILDREN HAVE PROVED TO BE VERY HONEST AND RELIABLE IN DOING THIS. HOWEVER, IT IS OF COURSE VERY DISTRESSING FOR THE CHILD WHO MAY HAVE LOST AN ITEM WITH NO NAME TO IDENTIFY WHOSE PROPERTY IT IS. PLEASE MAY I ASK THAT YOU ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S NAME IS ON **EVERY** ITEM BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL, **AND THAT MONEY IS IN A NAMED PURSE OR ENVELOPE.**

SECONDLY, WHEN YOU ARE KINDLY DONATING UNWANTED ITEMS TO THE 'GOOD-AS-NEW' SALE, PLEASE WOULD YOU MAKE IT CLEAR YOU DON'T WANT THE ITEMS BACK—I.E. TAKE THE CHILD'S NAME **OUT** OF THE ITEM. MANY THANKS.

CAR PARKING

Please may I remind you of some of our rules concerning car parking. It is so important that all parents and visitors abide by these for the sake of the children's safety:

- **No Parking anywhere in the school grounds until after 3.45pm;**
- **Please be thoughtful and respectful towards the residents and each other when parking on the roads;**
- **No Parking on the pavements;**
- **No Parking on the Yellow Zig-Zag Lines, or the Double Yellow Lines;**
- **Please make sure you're not blocking any driveways before leaving your car.**

IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN OR A QUERY ...

It would be very much appreciated if most concerns and complaints could be sorted out by contacting your child's teacher in the first instance. As I'm sure you can understand, I have a huge day-to-day workload and am confident that my staff will make every effort to resolve your concern informally. However, the teacher will make me aware of pertinent issues which I will, of course, then act upon if necessary.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographer will be in the morning of **Wednesday, 28th February** to take class photos of **Year 6 and Reception ONLY**. These are lovely composite photographs and makes one realise how much each child has grown up between the beginning and the end of their time at St. Anne's.

Years 1-5 will have their normal class photos taken on **Monday, 11th May**, and then individual/sibling ones will be taken in the next academic year on 12th October.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

We continue to work with our Xavier Academy Trust and this term we have looked at best practice of teaching and learning across the schools. All the schools have nominated teachers to run open lessons which other teachers and learning support staff are able to go and watch. This has been really successful so far. Year group teams have also been set up across the Xavier schools and each team met after school this week. They have all picked a focus that would best support their year group. Lots of sharing of resources and ideas has been happening.

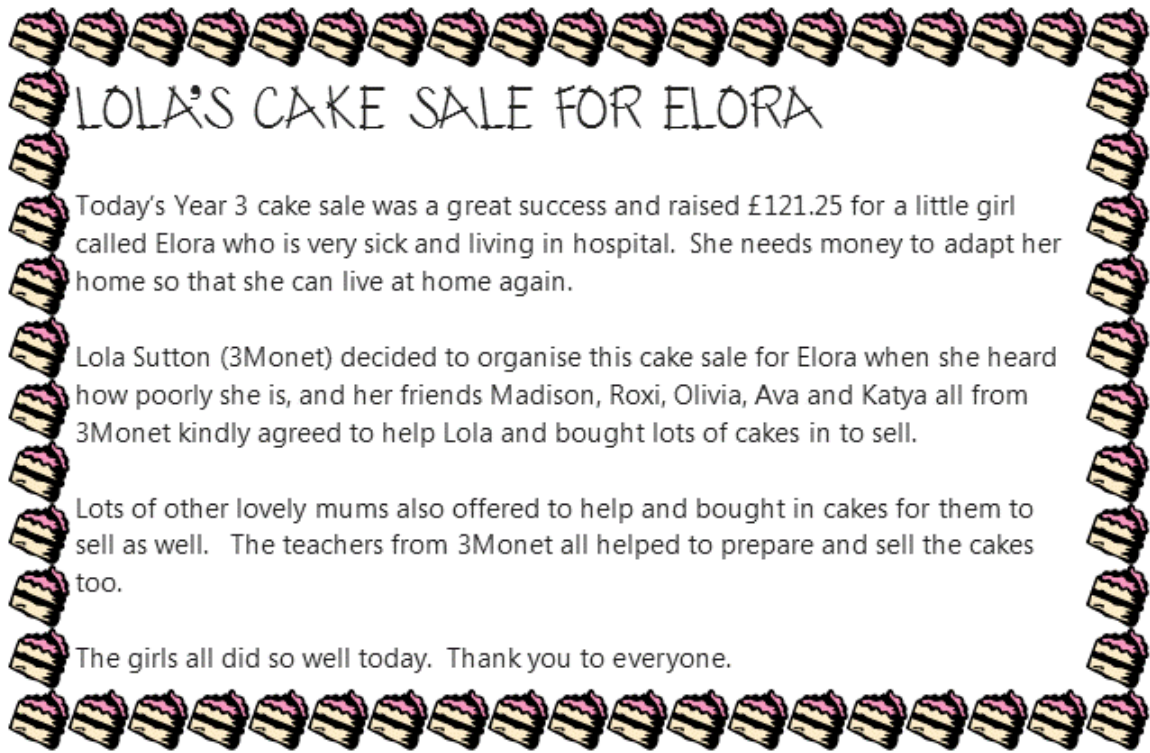
We are also at a point where we are starting to have similar assessment systems and compare data. This is helpful to ensure we all aim for the best standards and best practice of how to support each of our pupils.

The Heads and Chairs of Governors continue to meet every half term to look at the financial landscape; how else we can work together to benefit all and look at best practice across our schools.

In school, our staff meetings have been given up to teaching and learning and how best to support children with maths.

We have also been given some funding to install a Sensory Room near our Reception classrooms and make some changes to our offices.

Many really good things are happening, staff feel supported and are gaining planning and resources to assist them in their role. Children will obviously benefit from the Sensory Room and the fact that a teacher's focus is even more on them because ideas and planning is readily available. We continue to look at money saving and procurement ideas with the financial landscape the way it is.



LOLA'S CAKE SALE FOR ELORA

Today's Year 3 cake sale was a great success and raised £121.25 for a little girl called Elora who is very sick and living in hospital. She needs money to adapt her home so that she can live at home again.

Lola Sutton (3Monet) decided to organise this cake sale for Elora when she heard how poorly she is, and her friends Madison, Roxi, Olivia, Ava and Katya all from 3Monet kindly agreed to help Lola and bought lots of cakes in to sell.

Lots of other lovely mums also offered to help and bought in cakes for them to sell as well. The teachers from 3Monet all helped to prepare and sell the cakes too.

The girls all did so well today. Thank you to everyone.

Once again, many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Leanne Harris