



Religious Life of our school

This week, the focus of our Friday Collective Worship in church was The Feast of Ascension. As always, Mrs Tisbury skillfully explained the meaning of this important time of the liturgical year, in a way in which our children clearly understood and I am sure, will remember.



STEM K'NEX Workshop

On Monday, children in KS2 tested their teamwork and problem solving skills as they took part in the 'Go Construct K'Nex Challenge.' After an introduction by a STEM Ambassador, Dr Woods, the children were challenged to build a working crane that could move a vertical load. Their determination and creativity was excellent. Congratulations to Isla, Keira, Samuel and James P, whose winning cranes will be entered for judging in an external competition.



Monastery visit

As part of their RE learning, Year 5 & 6 visited the Amaravati Buddhist Monastery, a short walk away from the school. They received a warm welcome from the monks and were invited to watch the lunch blessing chanting. They particularly enjoyed visiting the temple and learning more about the ways in which Buddhists practise mindfulness in their day-to-day lives. Mrs Ansell and Mr Raisbeck were exceptionally proud of the way in which the children listened so respectfully and attentively to their guide, Monk Ajahn.



Farm visit

This week, our Y1/2 children had their farm visit. We were given a very loud, enthusiastic welcome by Matilda, the donkey! The children learnt so much about all the different animals, including how alpacas are good deterrents for foxes. They were fascinated to hear how pigs are in fact, very clean creatures!



Marvellous Me App



This week, you should have received login details for our new communication app, 'Marvellous Me'. It has been great to see that many of you have already downloaded this and are receiving updates about your children's learning. If you haven't yet downloaded the app, please take a few minutes to do so, as it is an excellent platform of communication for the school to keep you updated with news from your children's classroom.



EYFS Olympics

This week, our Reception children participated in their first Dacorum sports event with other EYFS children from nearby schools. Each school chose a country to represent. Our children voted to represent Uganda, as one of our families is able to share their own experience of living there. All the children did exceptionally well, having a go at all the activities and the enthusiastic encouragement from staff ensured that they were all very well motivated! The space hopper and the large stacking cups were particular favourites of the children



SATS

This week, our Y2 children have been focusing well on their KS1 SATS. These assessments will be completed next week. This cohort of Year 2 children will be the last year to take KS1 SATS assessments, as the DfE has announced that they will be removed as of next year.

Un-named uniform

Please ensure that **all** school uniform is clearly named, including all PE kit items. We have a large collection of jumpers and cardigans that have no names on. As the weather becomes warmer and the children remove their jumpers/cardigans, the size of the pile seems to be increasing! These items will be displayed in the playground on Monday, after school. Please feel free to check the pile.

**Please see diary dates on following page.
Please note that new dates are shown in red.**

Diary dates:

All dates are displayed on the [School Calendar](#), on the website. Please note that occasionally, it may be necessary to change dates. When this occurs, these will be highlighted to parents.

w/beg. 22/05/23	KS1 SATS completed
26/05/23	FOGGS non-uniform day : donations for Summer fair
29/05/23 - 02/05/23	<i>HALF TERM WEEK</i>
08/06/23	Class photos
15/06/23	KS1 : Mini Olympics challenge
19/06/23 -23/06/23	Our Small Church School Week
22/06/23	Sports Day:- EYFS +Y1 / Community picnic p.m. Y2 - Y6
23/06/23	<i>Inset Day</i>
27/06/23	Y6 trip - Hazard Alley
29/06/23	Y3/4 trip - Saxon Day, at St Albans Cathedral
04/07/23	Djembe Family Workshop (part of Dacorun Music Festival)
05/07/23	Jazzy Socks for Jazzy Jars
08/07/23	Great Gaddesden School + Church Summer fete
14/07/23	Inter-village Sports Day : Y3- Y6 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Hosted by Little Gaddesden
17/07/23	Y6 Leavers' Service
20/07/23	FOGGS end of term party 3:30 Y6 Leavers' Party
21/07/23	Last day of summer term