

### **From Mr Gumbrell . . .**

'DittON Your Bike' was such a lovely community spirited event, wasn't it! Well done to Hans Stiles (and others) for planning the route to Windsor, The Friends committee for organising the event back here at LDSM and to Humphrey and Brand for sponsoring the event! Well done to the 40+ riders who participated, I hope that your legs were not too full of lactic acid on Monday morning.

The money raised, which is exceeding £4,000 as I write, will be split between 'The Rainbow Trust' and LDSM. 'The Rainbow Trust' is a charity who provides bespoke support to families who have children with a serious illness. They offer the whole family support, regardless of diagnosis and are there for as long as a family needs them. What a worthy cause for the money from this event to be shared with. For further information about their work, check out their website at [www.rainbowtrust.org.uk/about](http://www.rainbowtrust.org.uk/about).

Owain W, deserves a special mention from me too as he was the only child who entered and completed the Windsor ride. That is some achievement for one so young. His experiences are written, by the boy himself in the paragraph below!

### **Pavilion Too . . .**

We are now officially into the new building, 'Pavilion Too'. Brecon Class moved over on Monday and that is a relief to me, Mrs Barlow and the whole team behind this amazing project. We will be having a 'Grand Opening' very soon, and I am delighted to say that an ex-pupil (now 80 years of age) will be cutting the ribbon.

### **Ditton On Yer Bike . . .**

On Sunday there was a bike ride to raise money for the school and the Rainbow Trust. It was 100 kilometres (60miles). I got up at 6.30 in the morning and only had half an hour to get dressed and have breakfast. Then me and my dad went to meet the others at the Humphrey and Brand headquarters. At just past 7.45am my group started the bike ride, it was very hard work but I kept on going. The hills were very hard work but it was really beautiful going through the countryside and talking to other people I had never met. We overtook all the other groups but we got overtaken by the fastest group, run by Hans Stiles, they were very fast!

When we were 2/3's of the way there we stopped at a lovely café and I had a hot chocolate and a rocky road, yum yum, that was delicious . When we were 5 mins away someone had a puncture but it was OK because my dad sorted it out and we were on the road again . When we got to the school we had to shout to my mum to tell her we were there. Then she ran into the school and the bell rang. There was a huge amount of cheering I got loads of high fives and then it was all over. It was AMAZING.

Owain W, Montrose

## **I've Settled Now . . .**

We are enjoying LDSM because lunches are a lot bigger and tastier! At first the school seemed huge but now we know where we are going it seems much smaller. Even the teachers who haven't met us yet are really nice and helpful. In Topic, we are learning about the Celts, did you know they lived in roundhouses on hills? This was so the enemies got tired on the way up. We have been doing research on the tablets which is a lot of fun! We are looking forward to making Roman Shields.

Gregor D and Samuel S, Year 3

## **IOW Thoughts Before We Go . . .**

We are really exuberant and impatient to arrive on the island and start our adventure...

The thing I am looking forward to is the giant swing as previous years have given amazing reviews on it, although with my fear of heights, I may get scared. Along with that, I can't wait to see the looks on the teacher's faces as they abseil, crawl through mud and fly through the air on the Leap of Faith!

Rebecca E, Year 6

The thing I am most excited about is staying in our quaint cabins with our friends. Furthermore, I can't wait to get away from my brothers and family although I will have a part of me that misses them. I'm really looking forward to doing all the fun activities to enjoy with my best friends like: the giant swing because other year sixes have enjoyed it; and, crawling through mud because I love mud!

Anna NP, Year 6

## **Is your child in Year 6?**

All applications to secondary schools must be made via your home Local Authority. If a Surrey County Council resident, you will need to apply to Surrey County Council School Admissions [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions) You can start your on-line application at any time **from 1st September 2017**. If a Kingston Borough resident, you will need to apply to Kingston-upon-Thames School Admissions. Year 6 parents will have received, via email/pupil post, a copy of the leaflet 'Is your child in Year 6?', produced for Surrey residents. Kingston residents should either contact School Admissions on 020 8547 4610 for an application form, or apply online at [www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk) **You are advised to apply by Friday 20th October 2017, before the half term break.**

## Dates . . .

Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Comedy 4 Kids Evening (Friends)
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9am – 10am - Online Safety Workshops for parents
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 6 to the Isle of Wight
Weds 11th Oct	Harvest Festival with LDIS at St Mary's Church
Weds 11th Oct	Lower School Parents Maths Workshop
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	9.30am Open Morning: 7pm Open Evening
Fri 21st Oct	Half Term starts at 3.15pm
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 3 & 4 Flu Immunisation
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parent Consultations
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	INSET DAY

Please note that we are unable to provide crèche facilities for children and siblings at any events this term.

## Celebration Assembly

I have the privilege of leading the Celebration Assemblies each week and there has certainly been a lot to celebrate so far this term. The children have started the new school year with a positive attitude and energy which we admire and encourage in school.

Please do look at the Parents section of the website (under whole school/celebration assembly) to see the children who have been awarded a bookmark from their teacher. As well as celebrating the children's efforts and achievements in school we also enjoy hearing about their success outside of school. We enjoyed listening to Tom Wrigglesworth (year 4) telling us about how hours of practice in the gym has seen him compete to reach the regional finals, which will be held in Birmingham. Not only is Tom an excellent gymnast but he is also demonstrated his proficiency in public speaking as he held the attention of the whole school during assembly on Friday. Congratulations Tom on your success and thank you for sharing it with us.

Mrs Fearnside



'A friend loves at all times' – Proverbs 17: verse 17

## **Online Safety for Parents run by the NSPCC . . .**

Will you join us and help keep your children safe online?

O2 and the NSPCC have joined forces on a mission to help all children and their families in the UK stay safe online. Together, they're offering useful tools, support and guidance to help parents and carers have conversations with their children about their online lives.

### **Online safety workshops for parents**

As part of this, they're running **free** online safety workshops for parents and encourage you to come along if you are able to Long Ditton St Mary's Junior School at **9am on Friday 6th October**.

Don't miss this hour long workshop, a great opportunity all parents. If you haven't already, RSVP to [school@stmarys-surbiton.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:school@stmarys-surbiton.surrey.sch.uk)

## **Parking**

Unfortunately, despite numerous interventions, a minority of parents are still breaching safety rules for the benefit of their own children but to the detriment of others. Too many parents are double parking, stopping on the yellow zig-zag lines – blocking other traffic and also lines of sight for other children crossing the roads. Please consider the children of others as well as your own.

Secondly, there have been a number of 'near misses' in the car park. Some parents, especially those bringing children late, are speeding into the car park causing a danger to all other users. May I remind you all that the car park is for staff and visitors only.

## **School Dinners**

Please visit the school website for the School Dinner Menu, all meals are cooked on site daily.

If you wish to change from school dinners to packed lunches, or from packed lunches to school dinners, the school office requests at least one week's notice, in writing or by emailing [school@stmarys-surbiton.sch.uk](mailto:school@stmarys-surbiton.sch.uk), subject 'School Dinners'.

## **Harvest food donations request from Dr Kuhan...**

The collection of food from the Harvest assembly on Wednesday 11th October will be going to the local Foodbank (East Elmbridge) and that they have made a special request as follows. "No thank you to tea bags, baked beans or pasta. Yes please to tins or jars of meat, fish, fruit or pudding, jam, coffee and hot chocolate."

Thank you, Dr Kuhan

## **Nasal Flu for Year 3 and Year 4 ...**

Last Thursday all Year 3 and 4 received an NHS letter regarding the Nasal Flu immunisation. Please return these to us no later than **Friday 29th September**.

## **Friends of LDSM ...**

**Comedy 4 Kids** - Comedy 4 Kids is back again this year on Thursday 5 October 5:00pm-7:00pm. BBQ & Bar will be available. Tickets will go on sale shortly but save the date for this fun family evening.

**Christmas Shopping Event** - Following the success of last year's Christmas Shopping Event the event will be going ahead again this year on the evening of Thursday 23 November. The Shopping Event is held at LDSM for the parents of both the Infant and Junior school - a chance to get together for a festive drink and nibble while shopping for Christmas gifts from a wide range of stalls. Plus, the Beauty Room will be back with different stands offering relaxing treatments and Christmas glamour.

Do you have a business or know someone who would like a stall (or beauty stand) at the Shopping Event? The stalls are £25 each and we're offering bookings to the parents of both schools before spreading the net to other local businesses. Please contact Liz Guest on [lizguest73@gmail.com](mailto:lizguest73@gmail.com) for further details and booking form.

## **Friends Contacts**

Kate Back & Margaret Henriksson – Co-Chair  
Anthea Salisbury – Treasurer  
Gabriella Stiles – Secretary

<b>Year / Class</b>	<b>Parent Rep</b>
Y3 – Bodiam	Sam Pinner and Sara Wilson
Y3 – Hornby	Laura Sheftel and Emma Parnell
Y3 – Skipton	Ruth Pingree and Nikki Blake
Y4 – Durham	Gabriela Styles and Emma Rising
Y4 – Pendragon	Salima and Becky O'Shea
Y5 – Brecon	Sarah Spence
Y5 – Kendal	Hannah Siebert & Jackie Stevenson
Y6 – Scotney	Jackie Bourne
Y6 – Montrose	Darren Merry