

# Newsletter



Newsletter 14

28<sup>th</sup> March, 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of term always seems to come as a surprise – time definitely flies in a primary school – and this has certainly been the case this term. Over the past fortnight alone, Year 3 visited Hertford Museum, as part of their Egyptians Topic and Year 4 went to Hertfordshire Zoo as part of their Rainforest Topic. Yesterday, we all enjoyed a dazzling talent show – it was wonderful to see the children sharing such an array of skills! They can all feel proud of their many achievements over the past few months, and I am sure, are now ready for the Easter break.

I know that a lot of families like to think about holiday plans well in advance, so I have included the term dates for the remainder of this school year, and the next two years at the bottom of this newsletter.

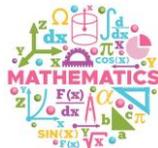
Thank you to you all for your support and encouragement throughout the term – it is hugely appreciated by us all. I hope you have an enjoyable holiday.



## Staff News

At the start of the holidays, I will be having a knee replacement and so will be working a reduced timetable for the first part of the summer term. During this period, Mr Browne, Miss Grainger and Mrs Martin will be pleased to help with any queries or concerns.

Much more exciting news is that Mrs Wood is expecting her second child, which is due in August. She will be continuing to teach Year 1 until the end of the school year. We are all excited to welcome another school baby!



## Maths Success

I am absolutely delighted to share the news with you that our Year 5 Maths team – George RO, Ayaad, Elise and Jophie have won the Herts for Learning Maths Challenge! Over 1,000 children from schools in Hertfordshire, England and International schools abroad took part, and our children finished in first place! We are very proud of them – they have worked very hard to achieve this result and are grateful to Mrs Broad for enabling them to participate in this exciting event. This morning, they were interviewed on Three Counties Radio – they sounded extremely professional and gave great answers. The interview started at 8.51am if anyone would like to listen to it on the BBC Soundsapp!



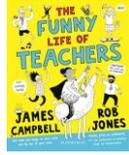
## Speed Stacking

The Year 4 Speed Stacking team made it through to the Stevenage Speed Stacking Finals, which took place this morning, and won! Huge congratulations to Phoebe, Amber, Lily, Caleb, Noah, Oscar and William R, who have been busy practising hard for this event – we are very impressed with their speed and dexterity! Mrs Broad also did extremely well, winning a bronze medal!



### **Rapid Fire Cricket and Tri-Golf**

Well done to our Rapid Fire Cricket and Tri-Golf team, who represented us beautifully at the recent tournament with Stevenage Sporting Futures. The day was very active - the children kept up with the pace and worked really well as a team throughout the day. We are delighted with William E, Kathleen, Matthew, Carter, Kaci, Jack, Fergus and Betty-Leigh for representing the school so well! Thank you to Mrs Brown and Mrs Tillson for taking the team.



### **James Campbell - Author**

We had a great day with our visiting author, James Campbell, who was truly inspirational! The children loved the humour and energy he showed in talking about being an author and thoroughly enjoyed the day. If you want to find out more about him, the link to his website is here: [James Campbell \(jamescampbellauthor.com\)](http://jamescampbellauthor.com) Thank you to Mrs Wood for organising this.



### **Easter Service**

We enjoyed a lovely Easter Service with Catherine today; as always, everyone at St. Giles made us very welcome and we were pleased to be joined by Frances Maddex and Sue Grant (also a governor) from St. Giles. The children's singing and presentations were beautiful, and we were very impressed with the children's care for the younger ones whilst they were walking to and from school.

During the service, the children introduced various artefacts from the Easter Story; these can be seen the front of the church. You are most welcome to drop into St. Giles, to see these, and also to admire the floral display, which will be in the church on Sunday.



### **PTFA Reps**

With school budgets becoming increasingly tight, we really value the fundraising efforts of the PTFA, who pay for the items that enhance the children's learning, such as the play equipment, provide funding for different school events and also purchased our school mini bus.

In order to continue to continue to run fundraising events, we really need your help. We are very fortunate to have the support of a number of staff, and a hardworking core of parents at meetings and events and would love to have a parent rep (or two) for each class. If this is something you could help with, please let the school office know, and we can pass your details onto Charlie – our Chair.

We did some very clever Maths a few years ago (lots of fingers and toes involved), and calculated that if every parent helped at just one event during their child's time at school, we would easily be able to run all of the current events in the PTFA calendar, and more.

The PTFA is a very friendly group – our next meeting will be on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, at 7.00 p.m. – all parents, carers and friends of the school are very welcome.

Please remember that I am always happy to discuss any issues with you. Thank you for reading this newsletter. Happy Holidays!

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard  
HEADTEACHER



## Community News

Cafe Church is church, but with a more contemporary, relaxed feel. The Cafe at PMH opens at 10am selling hot drinks and delicious pastries. There will be activities for the children to try, short videos, singing and a brief talk on the theme of the day: 'THE POWER OF FAITH'. All are welcome.

**ST GILES CODICOTE**

**Cafe Church 7th April**

**The Power of**

**faith**

**Cafe @ PMH opens 10am**

**Prayer of St Francis**

**Codicote History Day**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 11am-4pm**

**Come and join us for annual History Day to celebrate the rich past of our village and community.**

There will be demonstrations of historic crafts being kept alive by today's exponents, particularly those related to the production of woollen cloth (carding, spinning – by distaff and wheel – and weaving). There will be the chance to try your hand at some of these activities. In addition there will be extensive displays of photographs with accompanying text relating to the craftsmen and women of Codicote's past.

**Refreshments ✦ Tombola ✦ Raffle ✦ Local History Bookstall**

**Peace Memorial Hall**  
High Street, Codicote ✦ £2 entry, U16s free

**Codicote Local History Society**  
01438 821849 | [www.codicotehistory.org.uk](http://www.codicotehistory.org.uk)  
[CodicoteLHS@gmail.com](mailto:CodicoteLHS@gmail.com)

## Term Dates

2024

### **SUMMER TERM 2024**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024  
(Half term Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May)

May Bank Holiday 6<sup>th</sup> May

**Inset Day: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

*The new system for unauthorised absences comes into place from August 2024.*

2024 - 2025

### **AUTUMN TERM 2024**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
(Half term – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November)

**Inset Days: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

**Occasional Day: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

### **SPRING TERM 2025**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025  
(Half term Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February)

**Inset Days: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

### **SUMMER TERM 2025**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025  
(Half term Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May)  
May Bank Holiday 5<sup>th</sup> May

**Inset Days: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

The above dates equate to 190 school days

2025- 2026

### **AUTUMN TERM 2025**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2025 – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
(Half term – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October)

**Inset Days: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

**Occasional Day: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

### **SPRING TERM 2026**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
(Half term Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February)

**Inset Days: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January**

### **SUMMER TERM 2026**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2026  
(Half term Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May)  
May Bank Holiday 4<sup>th</sup> May

**Inset Days: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

The above dates equate to 190 school days