



## Tonwell St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School

Ware Road, Tonwell, Herts, SG12 0HN

Tel: 01920 462894

E-mail: [admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Bridgman



'CURIOSITY, COURAGE, COMPASSION'

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear parents,

I hope you had a fun and restful half term.

Thank you for attending our parent consultation meetings and for your helpful feedback (please see further details below). I hope you enjoyed seeing your child's work from the year and hearing about the progress they are making.

Well done to our cross country teams for competing in the Hertford and Ware Sports Partnership event at Haileybury just before half term. The children joined up with friends from Thundridge to make a combined team. The boys' team came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and the girls' team came 8<sup>th</sup> overall (with 12 schools taking part). Our Y5/6 children have had the chance to attend after school clubs at Thundridge and two of our children are playing in our first league match today – I will update you with how they get on!



We have been fortunate to secure two grants. The first is for just over £2000 from Coop to support Forest School activities. Thank you to all of you who have signed up over the past year to support us. The second is an £11,000 donation from the Wooden Spoon Rugby Charity to enable us to purchase items for a sensory area in school. I will share more as these projects progress.

Thank you to police officer Paul Dearman and his colleague who have been working with Oak class for the past two months on the 'mini police' project. Children have learned about a range of topics from what police work can involve to online safety and road traffic control. Sessions have been interactive, fun and very informative.

Our Friends of Tonwell have been beginning to plan some exciting events for the year, including:

Friday 18th November: FOT meeting in the school hall - open to all 2.45-3.15pm

Friday 9th December: Christmas Fair in the school hall/dining room 2.30-4.15pm

We will be offering more extra-curricular activities through after school wraparound. Please see separate poster from Mrs Lazzari and Ms Gooden. We hope you can join them!

Kind regards,

Mrs Bridgman



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### Parent Questionnaire

Please see examples of your feedback below and our ideas for addressing your suggestions.

#### What is going well at Tonwell St Mary's School?

- Caring, nurturing environment. I love the energy the school brings.
- Communication with parents is good
- Lots of different learning experiences
- SEND support
- My child absolutely loves school
- The teaching, communication, learning, interaction
- The opportunities for extra-curricular activities since joining with Thundridge – very happy
- Staff are supportive and know children well
- Children are encouraged to be kind to one another
- Pretty much everything
- Caring, considerate staff
- The trips and joining the netball team
- After school club is great!
- Amazing staff
- Lovely school community and atmosphere and more personal attention

#### What could we do better at Tonwell St Mary's?

- More work in computing and coding to prepare children for the future  
*(We use a programme for teaching computing called 'Purple Mash' in school which has units on coding for every year. We Oak class work with SetPoint Stevenage each year on STEM workshops. Staff are looking into companies that can enrich our computing curriculum further with visits or a club).*
- More social events  
*(FOT have begun to plan events for the year and hope to add more in future).*
- More after school club activities  
*(currently, Y5/6 are able to join football and netball club with Thundridge. We are offering further extra-curricular opportunities through after school wraparound. We offer music tuition with our specialist teacher. We will continue to look at ways to increase this further).*

#### FOT News

Firstly, the new committee members would like to thank you all for voting us in to our new positions. Together our aims are to raise the profile of the school within the local community and raise the vital funds needed to give our child the best possible schooling experience we can.



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We plan on running fun, engaging and educational events and activities throughout the school year, which we hope the children will all enjoy being a part of.

There will be regular FOT meetings where all parents and carers are welcome to attend, with the first being on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 2:45-3:15**. Please, if you are available to do come along and get involved, share your ideas and to help us shape the future of FOT.

### Save the date

Christmas Fete – **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022 2:30-4:15pm**

### Key Dates

Please note that it is possible there may be some changes.

WB 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Socks Day – please wear odd socks to celebrate difference!
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need – school council non-uniform day (please donate £1/Pudsey ears on sale £2.50 each)
	FOT meeting in school hall 2.45-3.15pm
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	INSET DAY
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	FOT Christmas Fair 2.30pm-4pm
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm Christmas Service at Holy Trinity
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Panto Trip – Hoddesdon
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	1.15pm End of Term
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET DAY
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school