

28th November 2025

The Mortimer Federation of St. John's and St. Mary's Schools

Newsletter

TERM DATES

Please see below a list of term dates which we trust you will find of use. Event details will be provided nearer the time.

Tuesday 2nd December - Mortimer St. Mary's Parent/Carer Coffee Morning – 9.00am until 10.00am

Wednesday 3rd December – Year 1 'Great Fire of London' Parent Share – 2.45pm until 3.15pm

Wednesday 3rd December – PTFA Christmas Wreath Making Event – St. John's Village Hall – 7.30pm

Friday 5th December – Year 3 Health and Wellbeing workshop

Friday 5th December – PTFA Christmas Fair – Mortimer St. John's – 3.00pm until 5.30pm

Tuesday 9th December – Foundation Stage Production – 9.30am

Tuesday 9th December and Thursday 11th December – Year 3/Year 4 Production – 6.00pm

Wednesday 10th December – Year 3/Year 4 Production – 9.30am

Thursday 11th December - Mortimer St. John's (Year 1 and Year 2) Christmas Service – St. John's Church – 2.00pm

Friday 12th December - Christmas Celebration Day including Christmas Lunch and Christmas Parties

Tuesday 16th December – Orthoptist to visit Foundation Stage children

Tuesday 16th December – Year 5 'Reach for the Stars' Parent Share – 9.15am until 10.15am

Tuesday 16th December – Mortimer St. Mary's Christmas Service – St. Mary's Church – 2.00pm

Thursday 18th December – End of term – Mortimer St. Mary's - 1.30pm, Mortimer St. John's - 2.00pm.

Monday 5th January – Spring Term Begins

BUTSER FARM

Year 3 had a fantastic time at Butser Ancient Farm this week, immersing themselves in life from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. The children became archaeologists for the day, uncovering clues about the past, building sections of wattle fencing, and learning first-hand how methods of making fire evolved over time. They also enjoyed crafting their own Bronze Age-style rings to take home. It was wonderful to see their classroom learning brought to life, and the children represented the school brilliantly throughout a day full of curiosity, discovery, and plenty of muddy fun!



CLUBS

This is a reminder that clubs at Mortimer St. John's and Mortimer St. Mary's have now finished for the Autumn term. We will be sending information regarding clubs for the spring term via ParentMail shortly.

VOLUNTEER HELPERS

If you have any spare time and would like to help in school, please speak to your child's Class Teacher. There are lots of things you can do from helping with

cooking, gardening, listening to readers or being an extra adult on a school trip. We would be delighted to see more dads and/or grandads within the school.

All volunteers are required to complete a DBS Disclosure Application and Volunteers Checklist. For a copy of these forms and the guidance notes please email either of the school offices.

All volunteers supporting PTFA events such as school discos are also required to complete a DBS application and Volunteers Checklist.

The Mortimer Federation DBS checks are required to be renewed every 3 years. Please contact the office if your DBS is due to expire or if you would like to check the validity of the DBS check.

PTFA FUNDRAISING EVENTS

A BIG THANK YOU!

THANKS TO THE PARENTS, TEACHERS
AND FRIENDS OF THE MORTIMER
FEDERATION, YOUR PURCHASES ON
WEDNESDAY RAISED £1150!

A HUGE THANK YOU THE
HATCHGATE OWNER BUDDY, WHO
HAS GENEROUSLY MATCHED THIS TO
TOTAL THE FUNDRAISING TO

£2300!-



☎ 01189 834040 / 01189 832059 🌐 www.thehatchgateinn.co.uk

The Mortimer Federation PTFA quiz night also raised a fantastic **£1730!**

Thank you to our PTFA for arranging and organising these events to support our schools.

FIRST FOR SPORTS – FEBRUARY HALF TERM

The First For Sports team are back for this ever popular sports camp again offering an "Early Bird Discount" and new "Full Week Discount". The camp will commence on **Monday 16th February** and end on **Friday 20th February**. Please see the attached flyer with booking information.

MORTIMER ST. MARY'S CHOIR

Year 6 Choir 2025- Making Waves.

Look out Hexagon Theatre - the sharks are coming! The choir have, once again, blown us all away with their hard work, positive attitudes and musical abilities. Our work came together on 18th November with a wonderful performance of Making Waves at the Hexagon Theatre with the Berkshire Music Trust and the Junior Music Festival. It was a fantastic, if very tiring day. You sang beautifully, made us proud and fully represented our school in the best possible way. Well done!

YEAR 3/YEAR 4 CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

A link has been issued and sent home with how to request tickets to the production via ParentMail. Initial tickets have now been issued and any additional ticket requests will be issued next week. If you have not requested your initial tickets, please ensure that the form is completed by Monday, 1st December at 9am. Thank you

LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Please see the attached information regarding local activities and events

STAFFING NEWS

Mrs Hodson, our wonderful ELSA, will be retiring at the end of the Autumn term. Mrs Hodson has contributed so much to the school community at The Federation, and in particular at Mortimer St. Mary's. She will be greatly missed by children, staff and parents/carers. We wish her all the best for her retirement and the adventures to come. We will ensure that the end of term is a special and memorable time for Mrs Hodson.