

Friday 3rd July 2026

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.

Monday 6th July to Tuesday 7th July: Year 6 Bikeability level 2 (group 3)

Tuesday 7th July: Mortimer St. Mary's parent/carer coffee morning – 9.00am to 10.00am

Wednesday 8th July: Sports Day

Thursday 9th July: Reserve Sports Day

Tuesday 14th July: Year 5/Year 6 Production – 6.00pm

Wednesday 15th July: Year 5/Year 6 Production – 6.00pm

Thursday 16th July: Year 5/Year 6 Production – 9.30am

Thursday 16th July: Year 2 Leavers' Service – St. John's Church – 2.00pm

Thursday 16th July: Year 2 Leavers Party – 5.00pm to 7.00pm

Thursday 16th July – Parent/Carer drop in session for reports – 3.10pm to 4.10pm (Mortimer St. John's), 3.30pm to 4.30pm (Mortimer St. Mary's)

Friday 17th July - Year 5 'Fantastic Fairgrounds' Parent share 8.30am to 9.00am

Friday 17th July – Year 6 'This is Your Life' Parent Share – 9.15am to 10.15am

Monday 20th July: Year 6 Leavers' Service – St. Mary's Church – 2.00pm

Monday 20th July: Year 6 Leavers Party – 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Tuesday 21st July: End of term – Mortimer St. Mary's 1.30pm/Mortimer St. John's 2.00pm

Thursday 3rd September - Term begins

SCHOOL REPORTS/END OF YEAR TEST RESULTS

On Monday 13th July, your child/ren will be bringing home their school report. If your child/ren have completed Government Statutory Assessments this academic year details will be included with the report. If you would like to discuss your child's report you are invited to meet with your child's class teacher during the Parent/Carer Drop in Session on Thursday 16th July between 3.10pm and 4.10pm (Mortimer St. John's) or 3.30pm and 4.30pm (Mortimer St. Mary's).

YEAR 1 VISIT FORT NELSON

On Tuesday 23rd June, Year 1 visited Fort Nelson. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting Florence Nightingale and Gunner Scrub and learning about The Crimean War. All of the children impressed the staff at Fort Nelson with their prior knowledge and completed a variety of immersive activities pretending to be a nurse or soldier. Despite the extreme heat, everyone managed to keep cool in the fort's tunnels and imagining we are at a Battle camp.

"We went to the battlefield and figured out who lived in each tent and whether they were hygienic." – Dylan C

"We learnt how Florence Nightingale kept the hospitals hygienic and whether they had hot or cold taps." - Vinny

"We got to see what it was like during the olden days and enjoyed pretending to be a soldier." - Libby

LOCAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Please see the attached flyers for local events and activities.

LEAVERS' SERVICES

The Leavers' Service for the Year 2 children will take place in St. John's Church on Thursday 16th July at 2.00pm. The Leavers' Service for the Year 6 children will take place in St. Mary's Church on Monday 20th July at 2.00pm.

🏆 WE ARE THE CRICKET CHAMPIONS! 🏆

Huge congratulations to our phenomenal mixed cricket squad, who bowled everyone away at the Bradfield College Cricket Tournament on Wednesday 10th June! In a truly outstanding performance, our young superstars went completely unbeaten across all 5 of their matches to emerge as the undisputed Tournament Champions! The teamwork on display was absolutely magnificent, with the team showing incredible focus under pressure and smashing a massive 1,295 runs across the tournament. A special shout-out goes to our round 3 match against St. Finian's, where the team scored a mind-blowing 355 runs!

We are incredibly proud of how brilliantly they represented The Mortimer Federation. Let's give a massive cheer and a huge high-five to our champion squad: Toby S, Harry W, Dylan M, Charlie G, Finn B, Etta T, Nathaniel G-B, Stella I, Eva N-B, and Casper VH. You are all absolute superstars!

Our full tournament results are detailed below:

Match Round	Opposition School	Opposition Score	Mortimer Score	Result
1	Basildon	49	84	WIN
2	Goring	253	296	WIN
3	St. Finnians	240	355	WIN
4	Thatcham	256	293	WIN
5	Bradfield	215	267	WIN

TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR – MORTIMER ST. JOHN'S

We would like to say a huge thank you to all parents/carers who supported the Travelling Book Fair, that was held at Mortimer St. John's earlier this term. The amazing amount of £421.50 was raised which will be used to purchase additional books to help support the children's learning in school.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Please may we remind parents/carers that photographs/videos that are taken at school events are for personal use only. Under no circumstances should these be uploaded to social media.

FOUNDATION STAGE TRIP TO THE WINCHESTER SCIENCE CENTRE

On Thursday 11th June the Foundation Stage children thoroughly enjoyed their trip to The Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium. During the day, the children were able to explore multiple interactive space themed experiments, including a rocket workshop. The children were able to make their own rockets and test them to see how far they would fly! The children also experienced the planetarium and really enjoyed learning about the stars and planets following Little Ted on his journey around the Solar System.



"I liked building the rockets." – Laurie

"I loved it in the planetarium" – Joshua

"I liked looking at the stars in the Planetarium." – Aria

"Going in the Space suit was the best!" – Leo I

LEAVERS' PARTIES

The Mortimer PTFA have kindly arranged Leavers' Parties for the Year 2 and Year 6 children which will take place on the following days:

Year 2 – Thursday 16th July, 5.00pm until 7.00pm at Mortimer St. John's.

Year 6 – Monday 20th July, 6.00pm until 8.00pm at Mortimer St. Mary's.

DOODLE MATHS SUMMER CHALLENGE

Doodle Maths will be running a Summer Challenge between Wednesday 1st July and Monday 31st August 2026. Joining the Challenge is a great way to encourage a few minutes of daily Doodling, topping up your child/ren's knowledge and promoting healthy learning habits.

The children will earn a pin badge and certificate for completing the Challenge. These will be awarded at school during the autumn term.

Parents and carers will need to register their child for the challenge. Before registering, parents and carers will need to create and/or link a parent account to your child's Doodle account. Please see the attached information sheet about how to create an account and register your child for the challenge.

Once you have registered, encourage your child to earn 750 stars (or 600 if they were born after August 2018) and use Doodle Maths for 14 days between the Wednesday 1st July and Monday 31st August. The 14 days do not need to be in a row.

If you have any questions or difficulties registering, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Good luck and happy Doodling!

STAYING SAFE ONLINE DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Please see below a link to a video which provides a quick overview on posting photographs safely, balancing screentime and tackling cyberbullying.

<https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Summer-Online-Safety-July-2026.mp4>

FAMILY ADVICE – COMMUNICATION – EDUCATION (FACE)

Please see attached the latest timetable from FACE. FACE provides practical, accessible and affordable support to parents/carers and professionals who support children and teenagers.

YEAR 6 STALLS

In previous years, the Year 6 children have had the opportunity to run a stall at the Summer Fair, sadly this year, for various reasons, this was not possible. However, to ensure that the Year 6 children do not miss out on this opportunity they will be running their stalls on Friday 17th June. The children at Mortimer St. Mary's will be able to visit the stalls and take part in the activities during the afternoon. Parents and carers, along with the children from Mortimer St. John's, are able to visit Mortimer St. Mary's from 3.30pm until 4.15pm, giving everyone the opportunity to play the games designed by the Year 6 children. The games will be available at a small cost, however, please do not send your children into school with more than £5.00. The monies raised from this event will be donated to the PTFA funds which are supporting the relining of the school swimming pool.

NEWBURY LIBRARY SUMMER READING CHALLENGE LAUNCH EVENT

We are delighted to share with you the details of a special Summer Reading Challenge launch event with popular children's author and poet A.F. Harrold!

West Berkshire Libraries are inviting children to join them at Newbury Library on Saturday 11th July, from 2.00pm until 3.00pm, for a fun-filled event as A.F. Harrold shares his silly, surprising, and sometimes sensible poems! It will be a lively, interactive poetry experience for children aged 5+, followed by a chance to join the Read to the Beat Summer Reading Challenge.

Tickets are £3.00 per child (adults are not required to book a ticket) and tickets can be booked here: <https://tinyurl.com/wberkslibraries36>

FOUNDATION STAGE AND YEAR 1 SCHOOL DISCOS

We would like to extend our very grateful thanks to the organisers and volunteers for their efforts at the PTFA Foundation Stage and Year 1, that were held at Mortimer St. John's on Friday 19th June. Despite it being very warm, the discos were a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all!