



Newsletter 29

28th April, 2016

# Farewell Mrs Darch!

## *Special Souvenir Edition*

After 20 years of dedication, care and humour, it is time to say farewell to Mrs Darch.

Sarah is an irrepressible source of joy and energy and her care for the children flows relentlessly from deep within her. She has been here for so long and, although we will miss her greatly, she will always be a part of the St Stephen's family. She leaves us a wonderful legacy and many many happy memories so to celebrate this, today we are renaming the Yellow Room, where Sarah has worked with hundreds of children over the years... 'Sarah's Room'.



*I know you will join with me in thanking Sarah for her many years of dedication and care, and to wish her lots of love and luck as she leaves us for exciting new adventures.*

*Thank you Sarah!*

St Stephen's CEVA Primary School

**Love**

**Courage**

**Creativity**

**Joy**



**Happy Thursday!**...Snow in April? The newsletter on a Thursday? Whatever next?! As we have an Inset day tomorrow it seemed sensible for the newsletter to come to you a day earlier than usual this week. Tomorrow morning we will be learning about the Thrive approach - this is a way of thinking about supporting children's self-esteem and behaviour which is rooted in an understanding of emotional and social development and will really underpin our behaviour policy. Then in the afternoon our very own Mrs Jameson will be sharing her expertise on ensuring our classrooms and strategies are even more supportive of children with dyslexic tendencies.

Have a wonderful Bank Holiday weekend, Andy Bowman

**Forthcoming Trips.....**A reminder of the following trips which are coming up in May. If you haven't already done so, please log in to ParentPay as soon as possible to give your permission and make your payment.

Thank you.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 - Ashmolean Museum  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 - The Lifeskills Centre  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Year 2 - ss Great Britain

**F9 Parents Evening....**Don't forget Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May are F9 Parents Evenings.

If you made an appointment for the previous meetings (which were postponed due to illness) the same appointment times will apply to the new dates. Any queries please see Ms Fender.

**Term dates reminder.....**

**Coming up in April.....**

29<sup>th</sup> – Inset Day – School closed for pupils

30<sup>th</sup> – Waitrose Bag Pack (PTA)

**Coming up in May.....**

2<sup>nd</sup> – May Day Bank holiday

**3<sup>rd</sup> – PTA Meeting Staff Room**

**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> – F9 Parents Evening**

9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> SAT week

12<sup>th</sup> – Reception visit to Charlcombe Church

**13<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 trip to the Ashmolean Museum**

17<sup>th</sup> - Y6 to Life Skills Centre

20<sup>th</sup> – Discos (PTA)

**24<sup>th</sup> – Year 2 trip to ss Great Britain**

27<sup>th</sup> – Inset day – School closed for pupil

End of Term 5

**(Bold entries are new to the list)**

**PTA News.....**Attention all Bagpackers! - Waitrose this Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for signing up, that's brilliant! When you arrive at Waitrose please sign in and out at the Helpdesk, contacts are Kerry Long and Maree Cunningham. All belongings (mobiles, bags, food etc) can be left in the training room and are not allowed on the shop floor (them's the rules!). Look out for me (Angela Collins 07711 250792) or Phil Cooney, for any instructions on what to do (pack bags!) I know I don't need to say this but we have been asked by Waitrose to be polite and courteous at all times, go St Stephen's! Children to wear school uniform and parents can wear what they like! See you there, and thank you!

**PTA Meeting - Tuesday 3 May - Staff room 7pm** - all welcome!

Have a great long weekend and thank you for your support. Angela

**Year 6 Choir opportunity...**'The Minuendos' is a choir for 11 – 18 year olds. They rehearse every Monday from 7pm to 8.50pm at St Stephen's School. If any Year 6 pupils would be interested in finding out more about the choir, please contact Elizabeth on 07766 494766 or email: minuendos.choir@gmail.com

**Message from Mrs Darch...**Thank you and Goodbye.... I just wanted to express my thanks to so many of you who have spoken, written and showered me with gifts over the past week. I am truly humbled by your words and generosity and will miss this amazing community immensely. It has been a privilege to be involved with you and your delightful children over the past twenty years. Very best wishes, Sarah Darch.

