



7 February 2020

Dear Parents

It was thrilling to have the whole school involved in our Something Brilliant assembly last Friday. There was a wonderful sense of eager anticipation as a bumper number of parents joined us, filling the church space and spilling into the balcony. Thank you all for the tremendous reception you gave to the launch of our Something Brilliant campaign.

We had been delighted to give a “preview” of our Something Brilliant film at the POD Quiz Night last Thursday, whetting parents’ appetites for what was to come on Friday. The film is on our website and Instagram if you have not yet seen it, or want to see it again.



In our assembly, the dancing and capoeira, the shared thoughts of the children, the heartfelt prayers and the singing of classes, choir and staff, came together to demonstrate vividly why our school is so very special. What came across was the love and nurture for each individual, as well as the successful development of each child’s talents. The joyful celebration of school life and the relationships at the heart of what we do, culminated in a palpable sense of “Something Brilliant”.

Our campaign continues on social media, in our local community and with our pupils, so look out for more to come.





POD Quiz Night

Huge thanks go to our wonderful POD team who organised such a splendid Quiz Night last Thursday.

Everyone enjoyed the evening, whether or not the answers to some very tricky questions were known! Mr Schmidt was an enthusiastic quiz master who steered us through the various rounds. POD created an inviting ambience which set the tone for good-natured competition, with much fun and laughter.

Great effort had been expended to ensure such an enjoyable evening for all. Thank you, POD!

Year 6 Aquamarines - Charities

There was an air of excitement as the Year 6 Aquamarines took to the stage to present three possible charities to support this year during Lent. Each group had spent time researching their charity, writing to them for information and creating a dynamic presentation for the school. The three charities that were represented fantastically were: Foodbank, Kick and Tearfund. The school was left enthused, encouraged and inspired by the presentations and now have the hard task of choosing just one very worthy charity to vote for in class.



E-Safety Day



We had the great privilege of having Karl Hopwood with us for the day on Wednesday 5 February. As an expert in the field of online safety, he brought fresh insights, elicited thought provoking conversations and gave pupils, staff and parents alike new tools to successfully navigate life in a digital world. Many of our pupils remarked that they will now be much more careful about how they use information that they see online, and are much more aware of the potential pitfalls of social platforms. At the end of the day, Karl noted that many of our pupils were 'wonderfully articulate and highly perceptive' in their approach to the digital world.

The parent session was once again wholeheartedly embraced by those who attended, many of whom commented on its value in their role as a parent, in a quickly shifting digital landscape.

Presentation notes will follow when we receive them.



Sports Report

Friday 31 January - JAPS Cross Country

This was a very well attended event with around seventy runners in each race. We had four girls running in the Y4 and Y6 races. Everyone had a great afternoon and competed enthusiastically against some talented runners. Emily was our top placed runner, coming fifth, but just as impressive were Genevieve and Sofia, both Y3 girls, who finished very creditably in the Y4 race. Well done to the whole team.

Tuesday 4 February Y3/Y4 Girls' Hockey Tournament

This was the biggest Hockey Tournament we have run at Ferndale with twelve teams competing. The two Dolphin teams played very well all afternoon. For the A team Milla-Jane played amazingly and in the B team Lila was the player of the day.

Reception Diamonds – International Day

On Friday 14 February it is International Day in Reception Diamonds. We invite every child to come in dressed as someone from their special place. On this day the children will swap classes and tell friends in other classes why the places they have chosen are special to them. There is no need for Reception children to wear school uniform on International Day.

Tomorrow

It is the turn of parents in Reception and Year 2EM to pop into classrooms at 'drop off'.

Parent Prayers will be held as usual at 8:50. If you are joining us for this you are asked to sign in at the office first before making your way to the Music Room.

The Year 2 Sapphires Assembly will be at 11.15, and parents are warmly invited.

Reminder

Please note that next Friday 14 February is Upper School DT Day, which means that there will be **no** Parent Prayers or Assembly.

With best wishes

N. S. Baldwin

Mrs N S Baldwin
Principal

Forthcoming events

Date	Event	Times	Venue
Friday 7 February	Parents' Prayers	08:50	Music Room
Friday 7 February	Year 2 Sapphires Assembly	11:15	Church
Friday 7 February	ISA West London Cross Country (selected teams)	10.00 – 15.00	Sherfield School RG27 0HU
Tuesday 11 February	Y3/Y4 Boys' Hockey v White House	13.30 – 15.30	Ferndale
Tuesday 11 February	Y3/Y4 Girls' Hockey v Eaton House	14.00 – 15.30	Ferndale
Wednesday 12 February	Y1 Trip – Vauxhall City Farm	09.20 – 15.00	
Friday 14 February	No Parents' Prayers		
Friday 14 February	No Assembly		
Friday 14 February	International Day – Reception	All morning	School
Friday 14 February	DT Day – Upper School	All day	School
Half Term 17 February – 21 February			