



9th July 2021

Dear parents / carers

Big Camp fun

Evie H and Luna – Year 6

Earlier this week, we had a wonderful experience with Big Camp. We had the chance to be independent and work together as a team to complete challenging tasks. First of all, we started by putting up our own tents in our groups. This was very challenging especially for none campers. We had to be resilient and patient if things didn't work out our way. This took a while but was worth the time and effort. Later that morning, we unpacked our bags and made it feel cosy! This was really fun. The activities were very exciting and learning new skills was really interesting. Our first activity was about working as a team and building a stretcher. It was quite funny as we didn't want to drop the patient! Next, we had shelter building, we really enjoyed this as we got to use different materials. We had to think carefully on how we would protect ourselves in the wild, together as a team we had to make our shelter weather proof which was quite difficult as it kept on falling down. Our instructor then poured water over our shelter to check if it was rain proof. It resulted in us getting very wet! We did other activities such as life skills and fire lighting. It was exciting seeing sparks, yet we had to be careful of our fingers aha! It was then time to eat our delicious dinner, which we all enjoyed around the fire pit. We had a warm, comforting hot chocolate which warmed us all up as we were a bit wet from the rain. Then the wind got very strong so we had to move inside. We were all excited although we didn't get a lot of sleep!! On the next day, we had a lovely breakfast which started off our day. We did some other activities then we went home. Thanks you so much for our wonderful of Big Camp, I will cherish these memories from Cottesmore St. Mary's.



Daniel and Adrian – Year 6

Big camp was a very naturalistic experience for us because the activities were very fun. First, we built our tents in our tent groups. It took a while, but it was at the same time funny! Then we had a break and enjoyed the brilliant school field to ourselves. One of the best activities was the fire steel. You were put into groups of 2 and take it in turns to set fire to a cotton wool. We made massive sparks. Lunch was incredibly tasty! We had burgers, hot dogs and mac and cheese. Yummy! Also, a good activity was shelter building. We were into groups of 4 or 5, and you had to build a shelter and after we had finished building our shelters, they were put to the test. We had to make it waterproof and windproof. So, first we had water poured over our shelters (some of us got very wet!). Then wind. Log race was also a great one. Your groups were halved and then you had to pass the logs along and no person from a team could put their feet on the ground. If one of your teammates falls, your team starts again. Stretcher was a gleeful task. Put into groups again, teams had to build a stretcher for one of the teammates (the lightest one preferably!) to go on. Once finished with the stretcher, the race begun! Then we had

dinner, yet again, delicious, then we went into the hall to sleep. We couldn't sleep outside because of the weather. We woke up, after a good night's sleep then we began the day. We had a brilliant breakfast. A full English! Then the first activity was egg flinging. Put into groups again, we had to look around the field and find things to put around your egg to protect it when you throw it and see if it would survive or not. We played loads of rounds until there was one egg standing. The last activity was first aid. We learnt lots about CPR and how to do it. Probably the most educational one! This was one of the most memorable times we had at Cottesmore St Mary. Examples of emails from parents

- Please can you pass on our heart-felt thanks to the teachers, helpers and organisers of the camp. xxx had a brilliant time. It's amazing that you were able to put on the camp in spite of COVID and the weather. Thank you for giving xxx this positive and fun experience before they leave Cottesmore. Xxx will hold onto the memories. xxx also wants me to add that he really enjoyed the food.
- Please pass on our huge thanks to everyone involved in making the Big Camp such a success. Despite challenging weather, you kept on going and were able to give the children a really memorable two days. xxx had a whale of a time and has been chatting about it lots. Thanks to all for going above and beyond to make our children happy

Staff had the best time and it was a pleasure to organise / see the children enjoying themselves despite the poor weather,



Meet the new teacher

This week, all children received a video from their new class teacher and teaching assistant. Adults have also popped by classrooms to say hello. New members of staff joined us on Wednesday for a full day of induction. During this time, they were also able to pop to classroom doors, saying hello to the children they will be teaching. **Mr Ring** who has taught Years 5 and 6, in a West Sussex Academy, for the last 4 years. He is the PE lead in his current school and a member of the maths team. Out of school, he is a volunteer linesman and referee for under 11s in football.

Mr Bearpark has also taught Years 5 and 6 for the last 4 years. He has taught in a Catholic Academy in Berkshire. He is the maths lead in his current school. He has studied French and enjoys drama.

Mrs Alemany has been training in our school for the last two years. Many of our current Year 2 parents have reported how pleased they were to hear that she was being employed by us, noting what an impact she had made on their child. Mrs Alemany speaks French and Spanish and also keeps bees!

Mrs Cox will be working as a teaching assistant but is a qualified teacher who has previously taught a range of year groups. **Miss Stagg** will also be working as a teaching assistant and is also a qualified teacher. She has been working in a local nursery, leading their pre school curriculum, but is looking to return to primary teaching. Both looking forward to supporting the children both within and outside of classroom.

Here's to a super weekend for all and ideally an England win on Sunday! Rachel Breen, Headteacher

Message from Father Alexander

We have heard that masks will soon not be mandatory in churches. Everything at Saint Peter's is back to normal, and the Church is well ventilated. However, with the Hall being refurbished, there is no Children's Liturgy. Some parents have said that they worry about their children making a noise in Mass or running around and touching things but please do not worry about this. Children are warmly invited to be themselves during Mass, and parents are warmly invited to bring them along. They are not distractions, far from it, but rather reminders of God's best gift to us all. You might like to know that while the 6pm, 8.30am and 11.15am Masses have a sermon, a children's version of the sermon is preached at 10am, which is designed to be more accessible to the young. After the 10am Mass we usually have coffee and things to eat on the pavement outside. Incidentally, the Mayor is coming to reopen our refurbished Hall on Saturday 21st August at 7pm to which all are invited; the International Dinner with dancing afterwards will be on Saturday 28th August at 7pm. On Saturday 21st the Hall will be open all day with tea, cake etc, to showcase the refurbishment - the ideal place for your children's parties and other events.

Portuguese Mass – St Peters Church

A Igreja Saint Peter na Portland Road em Hove agora oferece missas em português, as 17:00 todos os domingos. Todos aqueles que tem a língua portuguesa como primeira língua são bem vindos. As missas são celebradas pelo Padre Elio, de Woking. É uma excelente oportunidade para se encontrar com a comunidade e rezar no seu idioma. Quando a reforma do salão da igreja terminar o mesmo também está disponível para eventos e encontros após as missas.

HAF - Holiday Activities and Food.

Access free holiday activity places for children and young people this summer. Brighton and Hove are working with a wide range of community organisations and playschemes to provide an exciting variety of free holiday activity places this summer, as part of the Department for Education funded Holiday Activity and Food (HAF). Children with parents who receive benefits related free school meals can access free sessions throughout the summer that provide fun activities, time to socialise with friends, an opportunity to build confidence and they'll even enjoy a free nutritious meal each day. To find a provider and book your child into sessions please follow the link below:

<http://www.familyinfobrighton.org.uk/kb5/brighton/fsd/article.page?id=BYWyuqdJ2mY>

Starfish, based on our school site are also offering this so do get in contact with them directly if this is something you'd like to take advantage of.

Starfish Holiday Club at Cottesmore

Bookings are now open for Starfish's Summer Club which will be held here at Cottesmore and be based in the school hall and KS2 playground. The club will run from 8.30am - 5.30pm from Tuesday 3rd August – Friday 27th August. £30 per session. To make a booking, contact info@starfishkidsclub.co.uk

Food vouchers over the holidays

There has been additional grant funding to assist free school meal families with food vouchers over the summer holidays. At the moment we do not know what the voucher value will be. We do know that the expiry date is proposed to be 12th September 2021 and, whatever the value is, that it will be provided via a single voucher. As soon as we have more detail, we will let you know. If you need any additional support, please get in touch with the school directly.

RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education)

Every year group studies RSHE and we are planning to deliver the Relationship and Sex element of our curriculum, across the whole school, week commencing July 12th. We feel it is important that you know what your child(ren) will be learning so that you can engage in preparatory or follow-up discussions at home. Please find below an overview of the topics we aim to cover in class. If you would like to talk to your child's class teacher about this, please contact them directly and make an after school appointment. They will talk through the planned content of the lessons and show you the resources that are to be used.

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION TOPICS		
R	<u>The wonder of being special and unique</u> Recognise that we are all different and unique.	Key words: God, wonder, love, hands, fingers, nails, faces, noses, lips, ears, hair, features, colour shape, size unique, belonging, different, special, describe, friends, generous, worried, Baptism.
1	<u>We meet God's love in our family</u> Recognise how I am cared for and kept safe in my family.	Key words: God, care, commitment, stable, important, healthy, safe, boundaries, kindness, respect, friend.
2	<u>We meet God's love in our community</u> Describe ways of being safe in communities	Key words: God, local, global, impact, responsibility, harm, improve, God-given, community, belonging, family, father, mother, carer/guardian, feelings, emotions, respect, stereotypes.
3	<u>How we live in love</u> Describe and give reasons why friendships can break down and how they can be repaired and strengthened.	Key words: God, community, belonging, family, father, mother, carer/guardian, diverse, friends, generous, reasons, difficulties, respectful, feelings, difference.
4	<u>God loves us in our differences</u> Describe how we treat others making links with the diverse modern society we live in.	Key words: God, gifts, talents, difference, development, change, manners, respect, dignity, innate, beauty, uniqueness, sensitivity, bullying.
5	<u>God loves me in my changes and development (puberty)</u> Show knowledge and understanding of the physical changes in puberty	Key words: God, sensitivity, puberty, presence, celebrate, external, internal, change, develop, ovulation, biological, respect, reproduction, menstrual cycle, hormones, pituitary gland, uterus, fertilised ovum, fallopian tube, vagina, vulva, cervix, womb, period, penis, scrotum
6	<u>The wonder of God's love in creating new life (conception)</u> Explain how human life is conceived	Key words: God, Christian, appropriate, love, dignity, sexuality, intercourse, fallopian, conceive, relationship, uterus, cervix, fiancé, fiancée, sperm, egg

MONDAY 12th	• School Reports have not been sent home as this has been postponed. We will be in touch regarding when they will be sent. Once you have received your child's report, parent calls / zooms will take place if any families have any concerns / points to note – please email class teachers directly if needed • Reception Bikeability • Bubble Cottesmore School Games / Olympic Sports Day 8.50am – 9.50am Year 5, 10am – 11am Year 3, 11.10am – 12.10pm Year 6.
TUESDAY 13th	• Reception Bikeability
WEDNESDAY 14th	• Reception Bikeability
THURSDAY 15th	• Forest School - Year 6 St Martin • Reception Bikeability • Reserve Sports Day if wet on Friday 9th
FRIDAY 16th	• Reserve Sports Day if wet on Monday 12th
MONDAY 19th	• Year 5 BIG CAMP activity day at school
TUESDAY 20th	• Year 5 BIG CAMP activity day at school
WEDNESDAY 21ST	• Year 6 leavers play shared with whole school and parents via video production
THURSDAY 22ND	• Year 6 leaver's disco 5pm until 6.30pm (children only unless parent helpers)
FRIDAY 23RD	• 9.15am Year 6 Leavers Mass and picnic • Last day of term – school closed for summer INSET dates for next academic year Thursday 2nd September Friday 3rd September Monday 1st November Tuesday 4th January Monday 6th June