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SUNDAY MAY 7TH

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THE COMMUNITY HALL

MONDAY MAY 8TH

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Market Lavington & Easterton
Church & Community News

Market Lavington Museum are delighted to
announce the return of the



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An evening's entertainment in
pictures, words, sounds, food and
drink with a local historical flavour

Mike Allen
From Jam
Factory to
Strawberry
Fields

Nick Beard
on Military
Matters

Sue Frost talking
about Hospital
Week, The Old
School and
Steamy Lavington

Friday 21st April

7.30pm

**Market Lavington
Community Hall**

Jackie Clark
illustrating a
basket case

**Tickets
£8.00**

Food is included, there will
be a paying bar and raffle.

Book your tickets through
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or St Arbucks or on the door.



April 2023



The Lavingtons

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Books and games



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April Services

2 nd April Palm Sunday		9 th April Easter Sunday	16 th April Easter 2	23 rd April Easter 3	30 th April Easter 4
Starts outside 10.30 am Benefice Palm Sunday West Lavington	7.00 am	Dawn Service The Vedette Market Lavington			10 30 am Benefice Celtic Holy Communion Easterton
	9.00am	West Lavington Breakfast Church			
	9.30am	Little Cheverell Holy Communion Common Prayer	W. Lavington Holy Communion Common Worship	West Lavington Praise and Worship	
	10.00am	10.30 Trinity, with Easterton and Market Lavington In Community Hall	Great Cheverell Welcome to Worship	Great Cheverell Café Church	
	11.00am	Great Cheverell Holy Communion	Easterton Holy Communion Common Worship	Easterton Holy Communion Common Worship	
4.30pm April 2 nd Palm Sunday Evensong Great Cheverell					
6.30 pm 6th April Benefice Agape Meal at Easterton					
2.00pm 7th April Good Friday All Saints' WL					

Regular worship in our sister churches:

9.00am Sunday and 11am Wednesday Mass
at St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church,
4.30pm Ebenezer Baptist Church West Lavington.
10.30 am Trinity Church in the Community Hall, Market Lavington

Market Lavington & Easterton Church and Community News

St Mary's & St. Barnabas Church (Anglican)

Rector: Rev. Marion Harrison 816963

Address: The Rectory, 25 White Street, West Lavington, SN10 4LW
lavingtonrector@gmail.com

Benefice Office as above churchlavington@gmail.com

Fridays and the last Thursday of the month are the Rector's days off.

The office is now open twice a week,
Mondays and Wednesdays, from 9.00am to 1.00pm.

Church Wardens

Market Lavington

Easterton

Sue Allen 813603

More information can be found on our website www.lavingtonchurch.org

Trinity United Church (Methodist/URC)

Minister: Rev. Gary Gotham, 69 Queens Road, Devizes,
SN10 5HR Tel: 01380 724264 / gary.gotham@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Les Charlton

c/o St. Arbucks Cafe, Church St., Market Lavington, SN10 4DT
Tel: 079 624 22 624 secretarytrinitychurchml@gmail.com

Market Lavington Parish Council

Chair Mr Colin Osborn, 01380 812450
Clerk to the Council Mrs Carol Hackett 01225 760372
23 Orchard Close West Ashton BA14 6AU
clerk@marketlavingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
<https://www.marketlavingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Easterton Parish Council

Chair: Mr Chris Saunders 812317
Clerk to the Council Sarah-Jane Bullock
clerk.easterton.pc@gmail.com
<https://www.eastertonpc.org.uk/>

This magazine

Edited by Colin Osborn 01380 812450 colinosborn@compuserve.com
Treasurer, Fran Armstrong churchandcommunitynews@gmail.com

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April Reflection

In obedience to their laws, Jews have spilled into the city from all over Israel and still more, entering by every gate. People packed into the narrow streets. Walking under rows of washing hanging high across the streets to dry in the heat of the day and breathing in the smells wafting out from the open doorways as they pass. Women trying to keep hold of excited children. The elderly looking to see if old friends or family have arrived yet. Men at all the city gates, conducting business. Herdsmen bring in the lambs for slaughter. The temple full of the comings and goings of Priests, Pharisees, Sadducees, temple guards and men, conducting business. Traders everywhere selling their wares, eager to cash in on so vast a crowd. And the roman soldiers looking on. Watching, waiting, ready to stop trouble before it can escalate into something more.

And in to this heady mix of excitement and tension underlined with the fear of an occupied country, come the cries of children’s voices calling Hosanna. The voices become louder and men and women join in, “Hosanna to the son of David” and “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord” and “Hosanna in the highest.”

Now you can see the crowd, some running ahead, some waving branches, some spreading their cloaks on the ground before.... before what? Then you see him, the rabbi, the one everyone has been talking about for the last year or so. This gentle and humble man, RIDING INTO JERUSALEM ON A DONKEY.

Palm Sunday marks the start of Holy Week. A week when Christians everywhere re-enact, read about and reflect on the events of the last week in the life of Jesus. It starts with a celebration and ends with another celebration on Easter Day. But in between is a roller coaster of emotions waiting to carry us all the way to the foot of the Cross and the heart wrenching death of Jesus. BUT on Easter Day, that very first Easter Day, the whole world was given the hope of a new life.


We have a range of services to celebrate this important event. Starting with our Benefice Palm Sunday services on 2nd in All Saints Church, followed by our Agape supper in Easterton recalling the events of Maundy Thursday on 6th. On Good Friday we have our service of Christ’s final hour in West Lavington. And on Easter Sunday we celebrate with all Christians the Hope of the World and the promise of eternal life.

We welcome you to join us thin Easter.

Revd. Marion Harrison

Benefice 200 Club March Draw

The March 200 Club draw was won by June Wright from Market Lavington. Thank you, June for your support. Bonnie Matters
bonnie_matters@hotmail.



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AND DISTRICT
GARDENING CLUB



Upcoming event:



'Easter Competition'



*At this month's meeting, as well as the usual inspiring and enlightening information for gardeners, we are running the **Easter Decoration Competition!!** So bring along a **wreath**, a **simple flower arrangement** or **nest** etc - any homemade decoration incorporating an Easter theme...**eggs, chicks, rabbits** – whatever takes your fancy!*

*Good luck! **Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3^d!***

Existing and new members all very welcome!!

Wednesday 19th April, 7:15pm

(for 7:30pm start)

West Lavington Village Hall, SN10 4HL



Find us online at
lavingtongc.co.uk

or

Facebook: **Lavington &
District Gardening Club**



From the Parish Registers

April 2023

Funerals

Julia OLIVER of Easterton died on 3rd February 2023, aged 79 years. A service was held at St Barnabas Church Easterton following cremation on 20th February 2023.

Lynda Joan DYSON of West Lavington died on 17th February 2023, aged 89 years. Her funeral and burial was at All Saints' Church, West Lavington on Friday 10th March.

Hazel MAYNARD of Market Lavington died recently. Her funeral and burial at St Mary's Churchyard, Market Lavington was on Wednesday 8th March 2023.

Lavington Pre-school

In Term 4 we have welcomed 2 new families and both children have settled superbly. This term the children dressed up as their favourite book character or in the pyjamas for World Book Day and we all wore red clothes for Comic Relief and baked cakes which we decorated red, our wonderful parents donated a pound each to go to Comic Relief.

We have baked some amazing dinosaur biscuits which the children iced and decorated and took home, our children also took home Smarties tubes and returned them full of coins and we raised a fantastic £268.20 which we have put into our Fundraising account to help buy resources.

The children made Mother's Day cards and a present which we handed out during the week commencing 13th March and we hope all our wonderful mums had a relaxing day on Sunday 19th March.

We are looking at forming a Fundraising Team, headed by Miss Mandy and Miss Katie, to help organise fun family events where we can raise money for the preschool. Following the minimum wage rise due in April of approximately 10% and the Early Years funding increase of 2-3%, our preschool along with settings all across the country are now facing a financial loss each year. If you would be interested in joining our Fundraising Team, please email me before Friday 31st March and then we will set a date for our first get together one evening.

Miss Julie's mother-in-law, Jan came into preschool to do some planting with the children. We planted a variety of vegetables and some flower seeds. The children thoroughly enjoyed this activity and Jan was able to answer many questions. We are now eagerly waiting for our plants to grow.

Following on from the success of having parents come into the setting to share their family celebrations and to read to the children, we would like to invite parents or family members to come in and read to the children at the end of the morning or at the end of the afternoon. If you would like to come in and read to the children, please contact Miss Julie on the email address listed below.
managerlavingtonpreschool@gmail.com

BEST DRESSED HOUSE in MARKET LAVINGTON

Are you going to decorate your house to mark the coronation of King Charles III.

Category 1
Best decorated house and/or garden

Category 2
Best decorated window
Open to homes and businesses

If you want to take part let Carol the Market Lavington Parish Clerk know
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There will be small prizes for the winners

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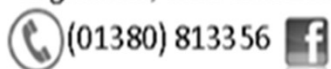
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4

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TRINITY CHURCH



APRIL SERVICES

2nd APRIL - TRINITY 'PALM SUNDAY' SERVICE
Led by Revd. Gary Gotham with Sunday School

9th APRIL - 'EASTER SUNDAY' COMMUNION SERVICE
Led by Revd. Gary Gotham

16th APRIL - TRINITY CHURCH SERVICE
Led by Revd. Tom MacMeekin

23rd APRIL - TRINITY 'ST. GEORGE'S DAY' SERVICE
Led by Jeannie MacMeekin with Sunday School

30th APRIL - TRINITY CHURCH (SECTOR SERVICE)
Led by Revd. Gary Gotham



(N.B. All Trinity Services start at 10.30am in the Community Hall unless otherwise stated. Thank you.)

Visitors are always welcome to call in and meet us. All services are accompanied by refreshments. We are following current regulations to help keep you safe.

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News from Dauntsey Academy Primary School

How lovely that Spring is finally here! Our grounds are coming alive with flowers and our Forest School is bursting into life. The children are itching to be outside as soon as the sun shines and we embrace outdoor learning at every opportunity!

Class trips and activities

Rowan class enjoyed a trip to the Ancient Technology Centre in Cranborne this week to enrich and compliment their History topic “How did the Vikings defeat the Anglo-Saxons and how did life change in Britain?” They had a fantastic time and enjoyed several activities as a part of their trip. The centre is definitely worth a visit.

Oak class started their WW1 topic dressed in war time costume with a mock emergency drill hearing that DAPS was going to have to evacuate so that the military could use our site for training – it certainly made them sit up in their seats in surprise! With the village of Imber being so close it is an important part of our local history and therefore an integral part of our history curriculum here at school.

After school activities

We have introduced lots of new clubs after school which are proving so popular we have waiting lists for them all! So far this year the children could choose between Judo, Football, Netball, Multi-Sports, Sewing, Forest School, Singing and Dance! Extra curriculum clubs are really important for the children to experience new sports and activities, as well as acting as an extension to the school day for the families that need it. Our wrap around care is open from 7.30am – 5.45pm offering essential additional care to the families that require it – it is always a busy hive of activity in there!

Alice in Wonderland

Our classes have also enjoyed a visiting theatre group this term too, a wonderful privilege to welcome in a travelling group to our school and the children were thoroughly enthralled for the whole performance of Alice in Wonderland. Everyone was so well behaved and watched transfixed.

Mothering Sunday

We held a wonderful assembly in school for all our fabulous Mummies and special someones! We were packed to the rafters and the children did an amazing job showing off their singing, their poems and their pictures. It is so wonderful to be able to invite our families into school and the children beam with pride having put on such a good show.

Know more, remember more

Our curriculum at DAPS is based on ‘know more, remember more’ and learning is carefully planned in a progressive way to revisit and build on prior learning alongside introducing new content. Our vision is to provide pupils with an exciting, enriched and aspirational curriculum that allows them to experience as many different opportunities as we can to open as many doors into the world of discovery. Being brave enough to try new things is a lifelong skill and one that we promote at DAPS in every way we can. If you think DAPS could be of interest to your child and you are considering an in-year transfer or you are new to the area and looking for a place for your September school starter, please do come and take a look around.

Philippa Winbolt, Headteacher.



Stert Country House Collectibles & Car Boot Sale

Manor Farm, Stert, Devizes, SN10 3JD
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Saturday 13th May 2023

Sellers – from 6:30

Buyers - from 7:30 (£10) or 8:30 (£5)

Pitches limited – so book early - **£25**
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Planning Applications

Market Lavington

PL/2023/01107 22 The Beeches, Park Road. Existing bungalow is built on a slope which drops away to the rear. Create new first floor in the rear half of the bungalow by adding a dormer which will sit on existing masonry wall. New split level ground floor at the rear to use existing rear basement space. Chimney to be removed and front door to be widened.

PL/2023/01749 Land Adj 29 Spin Hill. Change of use from agriculture to domestic use, retention of two shipping containers and construction of access.

PL/2023/01909 South Lawn, Kings Rd, Extension to dwelling, attic conversion with new dormer window and balcony to rear, new parking area

PL/2023/00774, The Barn, 24 Spin Hill, Construction of entrance walls & gates, garden walls / fences, change of dormer cladding material previously approved.

PL/2023/02016 5 Ladywood, Replacement of conservatory with single storey lean too extension to enlarge kitchen / dining area and conversion of part of garage to form utility room (2 parking spaces remain on driveway)

Easterton

PL/2023/01355 The Grange 27 High St. T1 Holme Oak - 4m reduction with crown lift to 7m and 10% thin.

Details of planning applications are available at
<https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/?tabset-167f1=3>
Or by visiting the council offices on the Devizes Library site

HM Land Registry

'Notice of an application for registration of a person in adverse possession' (B149). Property: Land at Davis Field, Market Lavington. Application lodged by: Wansbroughs Solicitors on behalf of the trustees of Worton and Cheverell Football Club

The next Youth Council meeting is on Thursday 20th April, 4:30pm at The Old School.

All young people aged 10 to 16 years are welcome.
Amongst other things we'll be discussing issues such as litter and road safety.

Lavington and District Swimming Club



Whether swimming for fun or lane swimming our club caters for all. Using the lovely Dauntsey School 25 metre Swimming Pool we swim in term time and have two separate offerings, that of Tuesdays and Sundays and that of Thursday mornings.

Summer Term starts Tuesday April 18th and includes 10 Tuesday swims and 8 Sunday swims. The last swim being Tuesday 27th June 2023.

The club swimming times are Sundays, 4pm to 5:30pm. Tuesdays, 7:15 to 8:15pm

Membership fees for the term:- £25 for individual and £50 for a family.

For further details about joining this offering please contact Jason Kent
Membership Secretary on email:- Lavingtonswim@gmail.com

Morning Swimming starts Thursday 20th April and is from 6:30 to 7:30.
Membership fee for the term is £30

For further information about the morning swimming please contact Phil Richardson Membership Secretary on email:- ladscmorningswim@gmail.com

Alternatively for any of the above contact Club Secretary Anita Holness via email:- anita@kholness.plus.com

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May 21st It's a Knockout Challenge

The idea of the challenge is to take on your friends, family or colleagues in this fun and exciting challenge designed to generate a lot of laughter and entertainment! Held at Melksham Rugby Club, there will be eight games on this course, all with a unique twist. You can get a better idea of the course and activities by checking out the video on their website here: Home – Knockout Challenge It's A Knockout games hire (scroll down). We're asking people to get together teams of 10, each team will then be asked to dress in fancy dress or team colours and will go head-to-head to win one of the prizes. Each of the games are different and will include running across, climbing through, sliding type inflatables with added water! We're expecting the day to last for about 4/5 hours, 11am-4pm (TBC).

We do have places available if you'd like to sign up a team. The deposit is £200 and then we ask you to fundraise £1000 within your team. If you'd rather think of it individually, its £20 per person plus a £100 fundraising target – which is very manageable! All the funds raised from the event help keep us flying and saving lives. Once you're signed up, we can help you with any fundraising questions you may have. The sign up can be done via our website, <https://www.wiltshireairambulance.co.uk/events>



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Has the winter taken its toll on you? Are you longing for spring?

Singing is a wonderfully uplifting experience and is guaranteed to make you feel good after all the coughs, colds and sore throats of the last few months.



Lavington Community Choir will be singing together enthusiastically from Thurs April 13th at the start of the summer term, new voices are always welcome.

Your first session is free, come along and give us a go, no commitment. There are no auditions and rehearsal tracks are provided on the choir website <https://lavingtoncommunitychoir.org/> so it isn't necessary to be able to read music

We meet at Market Lavington Community Hall on Thursday evenings at 8 for an 8.15 start, and there's a bar in the interval, which is very sociable.

The subscription is £4 per week or we have termly and half termly rates too.

For more information about the choir and the music that we're singing this term please contact pboyagis@gmail.com

LCC Summer Concert is on **July 7th 2023**

School Uniform Bank

The School Uniform Bank is free for all to use, no criteria necessary other than having a child attending a school that we serve.

We have lots of St Barnabas uniform for all ages, some hardly worn, just let us know what items you require.

DAPS and Lavington School items desperately needed, so if your child has outgrown their uniform, please donate it to the Uniform Bank and we can pass it on.

Please contact Tanya Freeman on the Uniform Bank Facebook page or WhatsApp 07824 631988



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Climate change – the effect on gender equality

The theme for International Women's Day (8 March) this year was "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow."

According to UN Women, advancing global gender equality in the context of climate change and disaster risk reduction is one of the 'greatest global challenges' of the 21st century.

The reason? Roles as primary caregivers and providers of food and fuel make women more vulnerable when flooding and drought occur. Men go to the towns, leaving them to look after the community. Women are then working harder to feed and care for their families without support. Girls often have to leave school to help their mothers manage the increased burden.

Jocelyne Razafiarivony, the Mothers' Union provincial coordinator for Madagascar, speaking about the relationship between climate change and gender inequality at the UNCSW66, said: "Because of famine, the men left the region to go to the capital of Madagascar in a massive rural exodus. Women could not go anywhere. They were a burden so they had to stay. As caregivers, they were not able to feed their families any longer. They were only eating cactus and boiled water. They were really starving."

So, climate change isn't just changing our weather; its consequences are a daily reality for millions of people. When women and girls are displaced, they are also at greater risk of violence, including sexual violence, the tragic reality of their lives as migrants or refugees, the increased danger of human and child trafficking, and early and forced marriage, which women and girls on the move endure.

However, many organisations now advocate that women must be part of the solution. Women Deliver says: "The first step towards tackling the challenges of climate change is empowering women to safeguard the environment":

<https://womendeliver.org/investment/invest-women-tackle-climate-change-protect-environment/> and The World Economic Forum reports that when women are involved in decision making about the climate more effective and equitable outcomes are generated: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/02/women-gender-equality-climate-change-leadership/>

ActionAid as well considers that as women and girls living in poverty are some of the most affected by the climate crisis, their voices must be central to the discourse surrounding it: <https://www.actionaid.org.uk/our-work/emergencies-disasters-humanitarian-response/climate-change-and-gender>

Please take some time this month to read more about this important topic by following the links above and consider whether you can offer your support.

Anne Wilson mrsannewilson@gmail.com and Sandra Gamble acanadiangamble@gmail.com

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It is the responsibility of the land owner to ensure that paths are clear
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A right of way across a field is open to the public, but the land each
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There are different types of rights of way.

A footpath is only for people with feet.

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CANADA WOODS UPDATE

Canada Woods regeneration felling was postponed late last year due to the wet conditions. Despite our initial disappointment it gave the Parish Council the opportunity to explore different options.

The decision has been made to start the felling in September 2023 when all the marked trees will be felled in line with the Parish Council's Felling Licence issued by The Forestry Commission last year and by a well-qualified contractor.

The thinning process will open the woodland canopy and allow natural regeneration of our broad leaf trees. With our climate continuing to change we need to future proof Canada Woods for future generations to enjoy, increase biodiversity and protect and maintain the flood plain.

The Woodland Management Team have invited Dorset Horse Logging to assist in our project. Once the trees have been felled two working horses will be used to extract the timber from the woodland. The use of horses will minimise the impact to our woodland floor and they can be used in all areas of Canada Woods.

This does mean that Canada Woods will need to be closed to the public while works are carried out. It is estimated that this will be for approximately one month.

The Parish Council apologises in advance for any inconvenience caused by this temporary closure.

As soon as a start date has been formalised this will be publicised in all the usual ways.

For additional information and ways to get involved, please see our website

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**A Message from Cllr Dominic Muns
Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons**

I had the great pleasure of attending a Market Lavington Youth Council meeting recently. It was fantastic to see young people come together in the evening to discuss the issues that they see in the community. The young people from St Barnabas and Lavington elected a Chair and Vice Chair and set some initial projects in motion. As adults we often try to make the community better for young people, investing in play equipment, building skate parks or holding events etc. It is fair to say that as adults we don't always request the input of the young people in these projects, although this is starting to change. Youth Councils are important because they give our young people a voice and help us to understand how things look from their position in society. Well done to everyone who helped setup the Market Lavington Youth Council and long may it continue!

Any ideas you might have to improve our community, from youth activities and social events to environmental and nature-based projects could be supported by your local parish council and Wiltshire Council so drop me a line or your local parish council to get things rolling.

I recently attended an event in Devizes focusing on Anti-Social Behaviour with a focus on young people. As you will have seen in the news, there have been some alarming incidents in the town. I was very pleased to see so many stakeholders at the event. Various Wiltshire Council departments were joined by Wiltshire Police, the Devizes CCTV partnership, Motiv8 a youth focused drug advice programme, Devizes Town Council, Youth Mentoring Teams, Youth Justice Workers and Youth For Christ. It was reassuring to see so many people invested in resolving issues in the town, which, are very much the result of a small number of individuals rather than a problem with youngsters across the board.

And finally, a brief welcome to the new managers of The Royal Oak in Easterton, Dave and Niki. I wish them every success with the pub and I hope that we can support them as much as possible.

You may contact me about this or any other matter by email to dominic.muns@wiltshire.gov.uk or by phone on 07585 394 178.

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Valentine's Ball A Success!

Off the pitch, approaching 100 hundred people attended the club's Valentine's Ball on the 18th February at the West Lavington Community Hall. The event raised £500 towards the clubhouse fund raising appeal. The club would like to thank all who supported us and attended. Look out for another similar event later in the year!

On the pitch, all the teams are back in action, trying to catch up on the many missed weeks of fixtures due to the weather. A special shout out to Mark Goddard our groundsman for doing such an excellent job of keeping our Northbrook pitch playable every week when many other teams can't.

W&C girls are a friendly and supportive group of girls ranging in age from 6-11. They welcome new players with open arms and big smiles! We've few friendlies organised for the next few weeks and hope to enter a league next season for regular matches. Training 9:30 Saturday's at Elisha field, Market Lavington.

U6s- are now training 9 am Saturdays at Lavington School Sports Hall with a good core group enjoying a diverse array of coaching. More players always welcome.

U7s - relishing their games at the moment after a string of away matches. Training at Dauntsey's School on Wednesday nights. Unfortunately, we are not currently able to take any new players in this age group.

U8s –Both under 8 teams settling into the new stage of the season with more evenly matched teams which means the boys are enjoying their football more than ever.

U9s: looking forward to first cup competition, having a good season with lots of positive results. Training 6 pm Fridays at Dauntsey's School

U10s: enjoying their training and regular Sunday morning matches. We're looking to arrange a few friendly games for our newer/ less experienced players and are always on the look out for additional players as we move to 9-a-side next season so please get in touch if your child is keen to join! Training 5 pm Tuesdays at Green Lane, Devizes.

U11s: having some close competitive games. Looking forward to training on grass when clocks change. New players welcome.

U13s: squad doing well and numbers good. Performance improving each game. Training moving to West Lavington after clocks change. Training 7pm Fridays at Dauntsey's School.

U15s: Team have been having an up and down season, hit by injuries and losing three home games on the bounce before winning their next two. Training 7pm Fridays at Dauntsey's School.

U16s: Still going strong and sitting 3rd in league with games in hand. Unfortunately knocked out of cup in quarter final by Bradford Town after a win at local rivals Devizes in 2nd round. Training 7 pm Fridays at Dauntsey's School.

U 17/18s – The team remain second in the table. Spirit and attendance at training, and availability for matches, remain exceptionally positive. Training 7pm Fridays at Devizes Rugby Club.



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Another busy term of learning has flown by! In our Worship this term it was lovely to hear how the children are showing the values of Courage, Hope, Respect and Compassion. One of our regular visiting governors commented on the strong sense of kindness and support the children show towards each other. It would be lovely to hear from parents and members of the community when you feel St Barnabas has demonstrated one of our four values. It doesn't have to be something big or special just a moment when you felt proud. Please email me any of these moments and I will celebrate them at school. We strive to keep making improvements in our school, no matter how small, and with that in mind we always welcome people to share their views with us.

On the 7th February we held an Internet Safety Day. As part of this, our digital leaders gave a whole school assembly, reminding the school about the acronym SMART, which we use to support the children in remembering how to stay safe online. We then spent time in our classrooms sharing our thoughts on internet safety and how this can be achieved both in school and at home. This was followed by creating a 'Safe Use Agreement' in each class which all children and teachers have now signed and displayed in their classrooms. We are also in the process of creating a whole school display explaining 'Our Digital Footprint' which refers to all of the information left behind when we complete a task online. The children have thoroughly enjoyed these activities, as we continue to raise awareness of the importance of internet safety at all times. Safeguarding and the welfare of our children is paramount to us and parents and carers were asked to complete an online safety questionnaire to help us to help the children.

Over the last few weeks we have held a Spelling Bee and a Times Tables/ Number Bonds Challenge where the children are required to write their answers while on stage. This has helped to develop self-confidence, communication and public speaking skills, and the ability to thrive under pressure whilst showcasing their spelling and mental math skills. This included being able to spell their age group common exception words and in maths there was subitising for Reception, 'equal groups of 2, 5, and 10' for Year 1 and times tables and division facts for Year 2- Year 6. In preparation for this, the children took part in mini competitions within their classes in order for a select few to be chosen, who then went up to the front of the hall with the rest of the school showing support and encouragement to compete against one another. It was amazing to see the children sharing their confidence and knowledge, and we were very proud of everyone, whether they took part in their class competition or in the hall. We would like to say a massive thank you to the parents and carers whose continuous support has helped the children to become more confident in these skills.

Over the term we have been thrilled to be invited to Dauntsey's School to learn the skills of table tennis and participate in a fun competition. The children were taught basic skills before moving on to the actual tables where they thoroughly enjoyed playing against each other and some of the members of staff. All the children loved



the experience and smiled and laughed throughout the whole session. The children displayed fantastic skills and worked so well as a team, displaying resilience and positivity. Mrs Orr particularly loved how we played table tennis to classic 80's music! What a fabulous experience for everyone.

On Thursday 9th February, the children took part in a dance show at Dauntsey's School. Children from years 3,4,5 and 6 performed an Abba Medley which included the songs Mamma Mia, Dancing Queen and Waterloo. The level of professionalism from the children was outstanding and it was a wonderful experience for all involved. We look forward to participating again next year!

March saw us celebrating World Book Day in spectacular style! All the children and staff made a fantastic effort to dress as characters from our favourite books. We also held a cake competition which saw the children baking cakes in the theme of their chosen book, this was incredibly difficult to judge (although very tasty) given the quality of the cakes and the effort that the children had put in. Thank you once again to everyone who helped the children participate in this day, the support of the parents, carers and families is so helpful and appreciated.

We are holding a family 'Easter Bingo' night on Friday 24th March at 6.30pm. The night will consist of 10 games with two prizes a game – line and a full house. There will also be a bonus game of 'Stand up Bingo'. The cost for 10 games (a book) is £10. The bonus game will be a further £1 (payable on the night) by cash. To guarantee your place, please purchase a £10 book of games on SchoolMoney in the 'Shop' section (or contact the school office). All children must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments will be available to purchase on the night (card/cash accepted). Both soft and alcoholic drinks will also be available to purchase. Cash and Easter prizes will be up for grabs. We hope you will be able to join us on this fun evening.

St Barnabas Nursery Class

We are now taking applications for new starters in our Nursery Class. Spaces are available for 2-4 year olds. For further details or to request an application form, please email admin@st-barnabas.wilts.sch.uk or call us on **01380 813436**.

We have a Rags 2 Riches collection scheduled for Wednesday 21st June 2023. The scheme accepts any clothing, paired shoes, unwanted soft toys, towels, bedding and household linen. The scheme raises money for the school and helps others around the world benefit from our good quality unwanted items. Filled bags can be dropped off at the school office at any point between now and the collection date during school hours.

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