



St Mary's C of E (VA) First School

'Excellence Together, Learning through Faith'

Weekly Update 14th February 2014

Dear Families of St Mary's,

This week at St. Mary's ...

We say a huge thank you to Gary Kennedy for his work as our SA Chair. Gary is relocating and leaving us after half term. On Monday the SA welcomed new Chair Tracy Jervis.

Thank you to everyone who attended parent consultations this week. The pupils of St. Mary's are well supported.

Year 1 visited the Science Museum on Wednesday where they had hands on experiences to further their knowledge of materials. A wonderful educational time was had by all.

On Thursday evening St Mary's hosted the Advance Parent Support Group for parents of pupils with ADHD and autism across Berkhamsted. St Mary's has coordinated a whole town project to support parents and school staff to ensure the best outcomes for ADHD and autistic pupils.

On Tuesday it was 'safer Internet day'. For advice on e-safety please take a look at

<http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/parents.shtml>

Congratulations to Erin Pemberton for winning our 150 years logo competition and Rhys and Scarlett for being runner ups. We had 14 entries and the standards were high. Thank you to everyone who entered. Erin's winning logo will feature on our letter head and other celebratory stationary.

Proud Awards

N – Ruby, Imogen
R – Teddy, Mollie, Isabella
1 – Lucy, Callum
2 – Keira, Emilia
3 – Joshua, Jack, Aimee
4 – Georgia, Henry

Mrs Archbold is proud of all Y4 for their river projects and all Y2 for representing the school at the Inter-School Athletics competition.

Do Something Good Awards

N – Chloe, Daniel
R – Ollie
1 – Oliver, Luke
2 – Matthew
4 – Rhys

Golden Apple Award

R – Ruby, Samuel, Edie
1 – Callum, Holly, Mabel
2 – Emilia C, Lily, Billy
3 – Erin, Elliot
4 – Ella, Holly

Victorian Day March 28th

This coincides with our Mother's Day service. We ask pupils to come dressed as Victorian children and during the day they will experience schooling from a bygone era! We ask pupils bring at least a penny, as Victorian children pupils often paid to go to school. The "pennies" will be used to support the St. Mary's of the future, as we become a primary school. Before the day we will set a whole school homework project on Victorian childhood. These will be displayed in the classrooms at the end of the day for you to view. We will also be having a Victorian sponge bake off! Homemade cakes by pupils, parents and staff can be entered for 50p in the school hall. The best cake will be presented with a rosette. All cakes will be sold off at the end of school.

World Book Day 6th March

On World Book Day we ask pupils bring a book which has brought them pleasure and are now happy to pass on. We will place the books on display in the hall, then if you brought one in you can take one home! It's a great, green free way to share the joy of books.

Head lice.

We've had no reported cases of head lice for 2 weeks. Please do your regular check tonight and if necessary treat over half term. Many thanks.

SA reminders

Have you signed up for super market vouchers yet? Forms are in the SA pocket outside the office. It's money for nothing!

Bought your fashion show ticket yet? Models are confirmed! It should be a fun night.

School uniform consultation

Year 5 & 6 2014 onwards

You will have received a form regarding Year 5 & 6 uniform. To help support the transition of our Year 4's to Year 5 and our Year 6's to Year 7 we have discussed school uniform with the Parent Forum and Year 4 pupils.

The outcome has been that pupils would like to wear a tie as they become Year 5 and 6.

The rest of the school's school uniform would remain unchanged. Pupils in Year 5 and 6 would wear a white shirt, a school tie and a logo navy V neck sweatshirt jumper. Please reply to the consultation by 28th February

Quiz night

Thank you to everyone who attended the school quiz night on Friday last week and gave donations for the raffle. It was a great night and raised a brilliant £732. Mark was an excellent quiz master and we would like to thank him, Heidi and the team of organisers for putting on such a wonderful event.

Green Team

As part of 'Waste Week' we are holding a competition to recycle plastic bottles into something useful. Entries in by 28th Feb.

**Save the date: Fashion Show 7th March 7.30 pm
Camping on the field 28th June**

Happy Valentines day and happy half term.

Information and reminders

Fashion show

Hope you're all looking forward to the fashion show on March 7th. Be sure to get your tickets soon, as for the first 50 tickets sold there will be a fantastic goody bag from The Hair Secret on the night.

**Save the date:
Year 1 phonics screening meeting Tuesday 18th March
2:45pm**

2015/16 Admissions Consultation for St Mary's School

All school admission authorities are required to undertake consultation on their admission arrangements if they are changing their arrangements and even if no changes are being made, they are still required to carry out a consultation at least once every seven years. As St Mary's is a Voluntary Aided (VA) School, the Governing Body is the admitting authority.

We are undertaking a consultation on our admissions arrangements for the academic year 2015/16. Details of the proposed admission arrangements are available on the school website. The consultation period is for 8 weeks, between 2 January - 28 February 2014. If you

would like to make any comments, or respond to the proposed arrangements, you need to contact the school on admissions@stmarvys916.herts.sch.uk Your responses will be taken into account when determining the admission arrangements. All schools must determine their admission arrangements for 2015/16 by 15 April 2014, regardless of whether a consultation has been undertaken. Determined admission arrangements will be displayed on the school's website by 1st May 2014.

Below is information on a parenting course run at the children's centre

Nurturing programme:

The nurturing programme is a 10 week parenting course that looks at a range of tools and techniques to help equip parents for the delightful but sometimes very challenging job of bringing up children. You will explore empathy, positive discipline, appropriate expectations and self-awareness.

The course starts on Tuesday the 4 March, 12.45-2.45pm.

There is a crèche available and spaces need to be booked at the time of booking on to the course.

There is a £10 booking fee for this course.

To book on to the course please contact the children's centre on 01442 385 152 or e-mail Lizzie, elisabet@littlehandscc.org.uk

Glee Club

For Years 3 and 4, Monday lunch times from 12.30 starting Monday 3rd March. Glee Club is for anyone who loves to sing and have fun. Held in Year 2, each week we will learn, sing along to and maybe even make up some dances to different songs....chosen by you! If you are interested please let Miss Waterhouse know in the first week back after half term.

Dates:

Half term- 17-21st Feb

27th Nursery Parent Tour 9.30 am
28th 3:20pm FS Treat Friday

March

5th 2:45pm Church (Ash Wednesday)
7th Fashion Show – 7.30 pm Parish Rooms
6th World Book Day
10th Year 2 to Houses of Parliament
12th Y4 Natural History Museum
13th Music Concert
18th 3:20pm-3:45pm Open Classrooms
Nursery Parent Tour 9.30 am
21st 2.30 pm Parent Forum
3:20pm Treat Friday Year 4
28th Mother's Day Service (all mums welcome or a representative welcome for flower presentation)
Dance Day for Alopecia
Victorian Day & Victoria Sponge Bake off

April

2nd Year 3 Roald Dahl Museum
4th Year2 Class Assembly
2:30pm Treat Friday Year 3
1:30pm Easter Service
2:30 FINISH