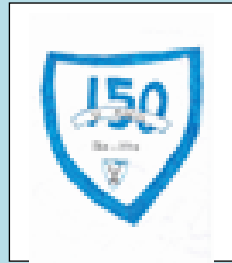




# St Mary's C of E (VA) Primary School

'Excellence Together, Learning through Faith'



Update Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Dear Families of St Mary's,

Welcome back and a very warm welcome to all our new families joining St Mary's. We are now officially a Primary school. Our first Year 5's have settled into their beautiful new classroom well and look very smart in their new uniform. All the children have had a lovely start to the year and it has been lovely to see the children happy, chatting and eager to share their news this week.

### Music tuition flourishes

Music lessons have started in our music room, which teachers have commented is a fantastic space and a real asset to the school.

### Meet the teacher meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended these meetings, giving us the opportunity to inform you of the routines, curriculum and to clarify effective communication between yourselves and the school. The presentations will shortly be added to the class pages on our website

[www.stmarys916.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stmarys916.herts.sch.uk)

### School Comms

We would like to apologise to Nursery parents who may not have received emails this week. Due to our temporary office the update has had technical issues. The issue has been resolved.

### Cooking update

A huge thank you to Mr Draper for supplying and fitting the kitchen for our cooking area. The finishing touches are under way – however we will not be cooking until after half term.

#### Dates:

**19<sup>th</sup> September- New Parent Coffee morning, Parish rooms 9:00-10:00**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> 7:45pm singing at Northchurch cricket club**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Individual class photos**

**20<sup>th</sup> September – Camping on the field (new date)**

**26<sup>th</sup> September MacMillian Coffee morning**

### School Meals

Herts catering have had some teething problems this week with the packed lunches and supply universal free school meals to Reception, Year 1 and 2. We would like to reassure you that we are holding Herts catering to account to ensure the service is as expected. They will be supplying a cold option that offers fruit juice or water, fruit, veg, and a variety of cold sandwiches, rolls, sausages etc. and a pudding. From October we will be able to return to our pupil choice menu with hot options.

### Leaving the site promptly

At the end of the day we ask that pupils and parents leave promptly so building work, maintenance and after school clubs can continue without safety issues. Please respect this request.

### Volunteers

For the new school year, we are again looking for people who would like to help. In particular, those who would like to do some reading activities/craft work/cooking etc. would be very welcome.

If you feel you would like to help out in any way, please let your class teacher know. A volunteers induction will be offered shortly.

### Clubs

The following clubs are taking place this term – please look out for letters in book bags with start dates, fees etc.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Before School</b>	Breakfast Club Parish rooms 7.45 to 8.45	Breakfast Club Parish rooms 7.45 to 8.45	Breakfast Club Parish rooms 7.45 to 8.45	Breakfast Club Parish rooms 7.45 to 8.45	Breakfast Club Parish rooms 7.45 to 8.45
<b>Mornings</b>				Guitar Years 3, 4 Music Room, in small groups Mrs G	
<b>Lunch Time</b>	Street Dance (Apex) Years R, 1, 2 12.30 to 1 Parish rooms	Sewing club Years 1&2 Mrs Bottali Running Club Years 3, 4 & 5 Lunchtime School Field Green team Class Reps year 1-5 Mrs Christy	Choir Years 2, 3, 4 12:30 Mrs Fitzgerald French Years R, 1, 2 12 to 12.30 Years 3, 4, 5 12.30 to 1 School Council Years 1, 2, 3, 4 12.45 to 1.15 Miss Gore Speed stacking Year 3 Mrs Waterhouse	Spanish Years 4&5 £4 a term Mrs Zimet Gardening Club Rota basis Mrs S Stewart	Boogaloo Boogie Years 1, 2 12.30 to 1.10 Parish rooms Homework club Mrs Hawkes
<b>Afternoons</b>		Piano Individual 30 min lessons	Piano Individual 30 min lessons		Violin Individual 30 min lessons
<b>After School</b>	Ross & Andy's Football Club Years 3, 4 3.30 to 4.20 School Field Table tennis Year 3-5 3:30-4:15 School Hall Mr potter £2 half a term	Street Dance (Apex) Years 3, 4 3.30 to 4.30 School Hall	Netball Years 4 & 5 Playground 3.30 to 4.15 Drama KS1 Mrs Bates 3:30-4:15 School hall		Ross & Andy's Football Club Years 1, 2 3.30 to 4.20 School Field Story club Year 5 & 4 Mrs Forsyth

### The office

The second temporary location for office is in the extension to the staffroom. This means access to the

office is limited. Please drop all slips payments etc in the orange box outside. Enquires should be made via telephone or email. It would be greatly appreciated if all parents approach the office via the front door and not through the staff room.

### **Don't be a Road Monster**

We will be launching the Road Monster campaign. This is a town wide project, where all Berkhamsted schools are involved. There will be an assembly informing children about the campaign. Through the children we are encouraging adults to drive and park responsibly on the roads around our school and in the town. Please look out for a leaflet in your child's book bag. This is a great opportunity to teach the children about road safety. Please complete your pledge to gain a car sticker!!

### **WOW**

Walk to school once a week starts next week.

### **Pick up arrangements**

Please provide in writing who picks up your child each day. If teachers have not been informed they cannot release your child to anyone else.

### **Gardening club**

Well done to Gardening club who this week harvested potatoes, courgettes and pumpkins, which they'd grown on our school allotment. And thank you for your donations for the produce to help continue to finance the club.

### **Term dates**

#### ***Autumn Term 2014***

Monday 1st September to Friday 18th December  
Inset Day: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th September  
Pupils Start Back: Monday 8th September  
Occasional Day: 19th December  
Autumn Half Term: Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October  
Christmas Break: Friday 19th December to Monday 5th January

#### ***Spring Term 2015***

Tuesday 6th January to Thursday 2nd April  
Inset Day: Monday 5th January 2015  
Pupils Start Back: Tuesday 6th January  
Spring Half Term: Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February  
Inset Day: Monday 23rd February  
Pupils Start Back: Tuesday 24th February  
Easter Break: Friday 3rd April to Friday 17th April

#### ***Summer Term 2015***

Monday 20th April to Thursday 23rd July  
Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May  
Inset Day: 1st June  
Pupils start back: Tuesday 2nd June

### **Diary dates**

Please find attached the diary dates. Please note these dates and check weekly updates for additional dates and changes.

### **Buddies**

This week our new reception children have been introduced to a Year 5 buddy who will be a friend for them especially at lunch times. We aim to give pupils a sense of responsibility and to teach them the skills to resolve conflicts peacefully without the need for adult intervention and will play an important part in developing lunchtimes for all pupils.

### **Extreme Reading Challenge**

You may remember from the end of last year that we set an Extreme Reading Challenge, asking you to bring in photos of you reading in the most extreme places (last year's included on a rooftop and under water!) Please could you bring in your photos to either the Office or Miss Waterhouse next week, we can't wait to see where you've been!

On Sunday September 21st the St Mary's Sunday Clubs will be starting again at the 10.00am service. The children come into church for the opening hymn/song and then leave with the team of volunteers for a range of enjoyable activities for their age group before coming back into church at the end of the service. We are also running a creche. Please do come along and you will be made very welcome. If you have any questions please ring of email Rev Jonathan on 871547 or [revjagordon@gmail.com](mailto:revjagordon@gmail.com)