



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

'Excellence Together, Learning through Faith'



Update Friday 7th November, 2014

Dear Families of St Mary's

It has been another very busy week at St Mary's as the pupils settle in to our beautiful, light and spacious refurbished and extended building. We are delighted with how the school has been improved and updated. Thank you to everyone for your lovely comments. We are still putting everything in its place so please do bear with us. **Thank you to Mr Draper who has fitted the medical room with a cabinet and work top.**

On Monday the children were introduced to our SEAL (Social and Emotional aspects of learning) theme "Getting on and Falling out" and our value "Friendship". We looked at how two perfectly good ingredients, vinegar and baking powder, when mixed together can cause a reaction. This illustrated that not everyone one can get along without difficulty but we *can* manage it with consideration.

On Wednesday Mr Potter re-launched our Assessment for Learning toolkit by introducing our first character: **Creativity:** Using your brain, planning ahead, thinking things through, looking for ways to improve;

Many Thanks to Mr McPhee for designing our characters they are beautifully engaging for pupils.

This week you will have received your curriculum letters these are being uploaded to the website class pages for reference. Photos of the first half term will also be added over the coming week.

Safety

We are temporarily without a crossing patrol due to illness. Please take care. Also the front gate is now back in use and we would like to remind parents and pupils to be cautious and look out for cars and delivery traffic that may be using the entrance. We do restrict use at peak times but care should still be taken.

Maths evening

This week a letter went out advising parents of the new date for the Maths evening, 20th November, 6pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Remembrance services

You are warmly invited to attend St Mary's School Remembrance service at 2:30pm on Tuesday 11th. As part of the re-organisation for education in Berkhamsted and our transition to Primary schools, the Head Teachers of the schools have organised a Remembrance Service for all Year 5 children across the town. We all felt that this would be an appropriate opportunity to work together as a group to provide a new experience to contrast what has happened previously. We have liaised with all the clergy across the town in organising this service. This service will not be open to the public or to parents (unless you are a parent helper

supporting the walking to and from the church) as we would not be able to accommodate everyone. **Please can you ensure that your child is wearing their poppy.** We are looking forward to commemorating this historical occasion at St Peters Church.

Mr Macey's inspirational news

Thank you to everyone who donated to Parkinson UK in support of Mr Macey running the Great South run. He completed the 10 miles in 1 hour 15 mins and 2 secs! Congratulations. We are very proud of Mr Macey and feel very fortunate to have such a great role model leading sport and fitness at our school.

Opportunity to Tender for an After School Club at St Mary's

We are looking to provide on-site provision for an Afterschool Club at St Mary's Primary School. Applications are welcome from high quality providers who are prepared to work in close partnership with the school. Visits to the school are therefore encouraged.

The care required is: A supervised afterschool Club from 3:20pm to 6pm along with safe supervision of children from classes. The Club will take place in the hall. Closing date for written applications: Noon Friday 21st November 2014

Successful applicants will be invited to present to the Leadership and Management Team on 26th November 2014 (during the school day).

It is anticipated that the preferred provider will be selected by 30th November 2014 and the contract is expected to start on 5th January 2015.

Applicants are asked to express their interest by:

Email: head@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

Background information and instructions will then be sent to you.

For an informal discussion or to arrange a visit please contact Mrs Haezwindt on 01442 389030

Next week...

Packed lunches will be provided from our new kitchen! Please look out for the opportunity to register for hot meals.

Remembrance service St Mary's 2:30pm 11th November

Parents evening 5:00-7:70 Tuesday 11th & 3:45-5:30

Thursday 13th

Year 4 Hindu temple visit Friday 14th

Year 3 treat Friday 14th.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Gift. Just before half term your child should have brought home a leaflet giving details of this wonderful opportunity to help underprivileged children across the world. This is the largest children's Christmas project run by the Christian relief and development organisation Samaritan's Purse. The Christmas shoeboxes are given to children based on need, regardless of their background or religious beliefs and in most cases they are their only Christmas gift. We are aiming to collect at least 50 shoeboxes this year and we must have the boxes in by **Friday 16th November.**

Please follow the instructions carefully. If you need another leaflet please collect one from the pockets near the school office. Thank you for your support.

Save the date:

11th Nov - Remembrance Church
Service 2.30pm

20th Nov - Maths Evening – 7.00 pm

21st Nov - Y5 Class Assembly – 10.15am

27th Nov - Guitar Concert – 10.25am

Girl Guides Christmas Market

Cakes, Tombola, Raffle, Secret Santa Room
Christmas Cracker Fundraising Market

Saturday November 15th, 10.00 – 13.00
Berkhamsted Town Hall

