



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

'Excellence Together, Learning through Faith'

Update Friday, 13th November 2015

Headteacher Miss V M Hunt

Core Christian Value for this half term: *PEACE*

Learning to learn skill is *Curiosity*

Dear Parents,

Breakfast Club

Star of the week this week is Teddy Carroll for being a good friend.



Special Achievement Awards

Reception - Finley Denham and Oliver Sargeant

Year 1 - Sofia Lams and Luas Dale

Year 2 - Alice Brooks and Samuel Walker

Year 3 - Abigail Piatek

Year 4 - Max Corr and Lottie Beck

Year 5 - Bella Thomas and Matthew Horton

Year 6 - Madeleine Morris

New Admissions

The link to dates for prospective parent tours for children entering Reception and Nursery in September 2016 can be found on the front page of the website. To book a place please email the school office admin@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

Could we remind any parents who will be applying for Reception places for September 2016 under the sibling rule to complete our Supplementary Information Form and return it to the school. These forms can be downloaded from the school website. If it is not clear that your application is for a sibling, you run the risk of not getting the offer of a place.

Don't be a Road Monster road safety film

The children who took part in the filming of 'Don't be a Road Monster' will be appearing on Newsround on the 26th November. If you wish to see a clip of the film they made, click on the link below.

<https://youtu.be/b0y-3Nz1Pcl>

Sports news

Year 5/6 Football

Our football team had their first league matches this week. We played two tough matches resulting in 9-1 to Greenway and 5-0 to Boxmoor. However, throughout both matches the team has shown great enthusiasm and commitment and played some great football. We have been up against teams with Year 6 players, whereas our team is predominately Year 5s.

Well done to Bella, David, Elliot, Francisco, Hamish, James, Jamie, Lucy, Madeleine, Matthew, Olly and Tallulah. They should be very proud of their efforts. We are.

Fixtures

19th Nov – Away v Hammond Academy

26th Nov – Home v Bridgewater

1st Dec - Away v Leverstock Green

The matches will be after school and it would be brilliant if parents could come along and support the team.

Year 4 trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor

On Tuesday, Year 4 visited Bhaktivedanta Manor Hindu Temple and Education Centre. The children were treated to a bullock cart ride and then fed some of the cows who provide the milk and plough the land there, learning about why the cow is sacred to Hindus. Once inside, they were shown how Hindus worship and took part in some meditation. They then had a chance to dress up as one of the Hindu deities, a princess or a warrior, before going to see the shrine. There they watched some children from the Hindu school singing and playing traditional Indian instruments and saw the beautiful shrine with some of the deities, such as Krishna and Rama and Sita. All the children enjoyed the traditional Indian lunch and there was just time for some face painting before we headed back to school. The children were a real credit to St Mary's in their behaviour and enthusiasm for learning. Our guides commented on how impressed they were with the class' knowledge. Well done Year 4.

Visit from the Bishop of Hertford

On Thursday 12th November, St Mary's Primary School was lucky enough to have a visit from the Bishop of Hertford. After a welcome song from Reception and a tour of the school, Bishop Michael was interviewed by the Collective Worship Group and School Council, using a selection of questions from pupils within the school. The children really enjoyed the experience and Bishop Michael commented on how good (and hard) some of the questions were.

School Council news

We are so thrilled with the biscuit sales and apologise to those who missed out when we ran out on Thursday. The School Council were fantastic and gave up their break-times with no complaint. I look forward to hearing all about non uniform day and our wristband sales. We will keep you updated on how much we have raised for this special cause. A very kind lady has offered to help with sewing sashes so we now just need material. I am on the lookout but want a good solid colour with no pattern, my old curtains are too floral. Ms. Bates

Reception news

This week we began to explore Diwali which happened on 11th November. We have had great fun with the items in class. We shall continue to discuss this celebration and I am hoping to get some Indian sweets for the children to taste. Please let me know if your child has any allergies or if you have any concerns. They do not have a list of ingredients, but I can ask when I purchase to avoid certain ingredients if necessary. We have also discussed Remembrance this week and many children made poppies. The children behaved beautifully in church and I am very proud of them.

Forest School news

A huge thank you to all helpers who cleared, tidied and planted saplings in the Forest School this week. It looks great.

A plea – can we have any old, big plastic bottles to use as guards/collars for our new saplings in the Forest School? Please hand these into the school office. Thank you. Ms. Gore

Year 5 and 6 Assembly to parents

This week years 5 and 6 reprised their performance of Farmer Duck for parents and friends. They created their own original music and artwork for the piece, as well as working collaboratively in groups. Well done Year 5 and 6 we are very proud of you. Thank you to all our supportive parents who came to watch the performance.

English evening for parents

We will be holding an English evening for parents on Monday 23rd November at 7.00 p.m. This is for parents/carers of children in years 3 – 6 to help you understand the way in which we teach English at St. Mary's. This session is in addition to the phonics and KS1 English evenings held earlier this term and will cover our main teaching approaches and how we are integrating the new curriculum including the new grammar requirements.

Nut allergy



A reminder to parents that we are a nut free school and children must not bring in snacks or food with nuts in or traces of nuts as we have children with severe allergies. Thank you for your co-operation.

Remembrance Day

At the Remembrance Day Service on Wednesday we were honoured by a visit from the Standard Bearer with the Royal British Legion. This was a lovely addition to the service and he presented us with our own Standard to display at school. The children sang beautifully and their presentations were very moving. Thank you to Jonathan for conducting the service, to Mrs. Archbold for organising it and to our Chair of Governors, Alan Kemp, for arranging the visit.

