



**S<sup>t</sup> Mary's C of E Primary School**  
'Excellence Together, Learning through Faith'

Update Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017

Headteacher Miss V M Hunt

Core Christian Value for this half term: FORGIVENESS

Learning to learn skill is Curiosity

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school for the summer term.

**Out of School Achievements**

Poppy Baker has passed grade 6 in Gymnastics and qualified for regional trials.

Thomas Osmond has passed grade I in guitar.

Congratulations to you all.

**Perform Workshop**

To kick off our whole school topic of 'Into The Wild', St Mary's was visited by Perform, a Drama company for children. Each class enjoyed joining in with various aspects of Drama, which helped them explore countries in Africa, wild animals and tribes. The children had a fantastic time, and if you would like more information about Perform please see the Office for a leaflet. Thank you to all the parents who contributed towards the workshop, and thank you to Mrs Zimet for organising it.

**Story Shack**

Today we celebrated reading for pleasure and the positive impact it has on our lives with a story assembly and by opening the new St Mary's Story Shack.

We know that reading for pleasure has a notable impact on children's progress and attainment.

The children all had a chance to visit the Story Shack after the assembly and they will be able to use it on a rota system each week.

Thank you to Hertfordshire County Council Locality Budget Scheme (David Lloyd) and the SMOULT Trust who gave us the bulk of the funding for this project and also to the School Association and parents who have helped us get the Story Shack up and running.

Finally, a huge thank you to Miss Forsyth for her work on getting this project off the ground.

Grand opening to follow at a later date.

**Scholastic Book Fair**

Every day next week the School Association will be running a book fair after school. If the weather is fine this will be in the playground, if not, in the library. Any profit will go towards new books for the Story Shack. You can also donate books to the Story shack as explained in the letter attached and in book bags.

**Brain Tumour Research**

Thank you to all for your generous donations on Wear a Hat for Brain Tumour Research Day. We raised a total of £199.65.

**Lost property**

Please check lost property as there are many items that need to be reunited with their owners.

**Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers**

This is a reminder that we are collecting the Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers again this year, so if you or your family or friends shop at Sainsburys, please bring in your vouchers to school. Thank you.

**Crisp Free Packed Lunch Thursdays**

To promote healthy eating we would like to remind parents that every Thursday should be crisp free packed lunches.

**Parent view Survey**

Parents can give their views of our school to Ofsted at any time of the school year using an online questionnaire called <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Your views are important in helping inspectors make a decision about our school, and to help us know what is going well and what could be improved.

If you do not have a computer or an email address or if you would like help to use Parent View, please come into school and ask the school office.

**Fundraising for St Mary's Children's Hospital**

As many of you will know, Mr Potter welcomed his twin boys Leo and Zac into the world in October last year. Unfortunately both boys were very ill over Christmas, but thanks to the treatment they received from the wonderful staff at St Mary's Children's Hospital, Paddington, they made a full recovery and are now doing very well.

St Mary's Hospital is currently fundraising to increase the size of their children's intensive care unit so that more critically ill children can receive the urgent treatment they need in the future.

Therefore, in May, Mr Potter is running a charity 10k race to raise money for this fantastic cause, and would hugely appreciate any contributions from the school community. You can donate on his fundraising page at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tomjamespotter>

Thank you for your generosity! Mr Potter

#### Head lice

There has been a reported case of head lice. Please can we ask that all children are checked over the weekend. The [head lice policy](#) is on the website. Children with long hair should keep it tied back at all times including non-uniform days.

#### Chicken Pox

There have been several cases of Chicken Pox in Nursery and Reception reported this week.

#### Hygiene at Home

The children are provided with antiseptic hand gel in school. We would appreciate your support in reinforcing the importance of hand washing at home to prevent the spread of infection.

#### Breakfast Club

Please contact Breakfast club via email [breakfast.club@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk](mailto:breakfast.club@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk)

#### School Comms

St Mary's will be moving towards being a 'cash free' school. This means that we will no longer be accepting payment in cash or cheque. Please make all payments via School Comms.

**Instructions regarding this system will be sent next week.**

#### St Mary's Church dates

The Sunday School Summer Term timetable is now complete and St Mary's Church would like to invite all families to join the 10am Sunday Services. Sunday school runs through the term for ages 3 - 11yrs and there is also a crèche in church for the

under 3's. Holiday clubs run through the half term and summer holidays, every Sunday too.

The All Age family services are on the following dates and it would be lovely to see you all there:

Sunday 14th May, Sunday 11th June, Sunday 9th July.

Youth Leader Connie is also running the Runway Bible Study sessions for the children in Y's 4 - 7 on Sunday 21st May & 18th June, everybody welcome to either or both.

The preparations for the Church fete are well underway too, it is on Sat 1st July 12.30 - 16.00 in the Church, rectory and school grounds; it would be so good to have as many people visit as possible; there will be lots there for both adults and children, with games, pets corner, bouncy castle, face painting & glitter tattoos to name a few. More details will come out closer to the date.

#### Dates

School Association Quiz – 21<sup>st</sup> April  
 Year 2 SATs meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> April 3pm  
 Year 6 Overstrand trip meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> April 6pm  
 Year 4 class assembly – 27<sup>th</sup> April  
 Reception class assembly – 4<sup>th</sup> May  
 SATs week – 8-12 May  
 Walk to School week - 15-19<sup>th</sup> May  
 Open Classrooms – 15<sup>th</sup> May  
 Year 3 class assembly – 18<sup>th</sup> May  
 Year 2 trip to College Lake – 23<sup>rd</sup> May  
 Half term 29th May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and a Happy St Georges Day on Sunday.

V.M. Hunt

#### Attachments:

**Afonso School of Performing Arts Trial,  
 ASD ADHD Parent Support Group May and June 2017,  
 Ross & Andy's 3v3 Course 2017,  
 Ross & Andy's Girls Summer Course 2017,  
 Ross & Andy's Y1-2 Football,  
 Ross & Andy's Y3-6 Girls Football,  
 Ross & Andy's Mini Pee Wees Football.**

#### Checklist of Letters sent home in the last two weeks

PLEASE CHECK BOOK BAGS FOR LETTERS

Title	Class	Via
Apex Cheerleading	Year 1-6	Letter
Game on Tennis Club	Year 4-6	Letter
Game on Rounders and Athletics Club	Year 4-6	Letter
Game on Mini Olympics Club	Year 2-3	Letter
Curriculum letters	All years	School Comms
Forest School	Year 2-6	School Comms

Swimming Gala	Year 5-6	Letter
Scholastic Book Fair & Story Shack letters	All years	Letter

Please contact the office if you did not receive one of the above letters