



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

Update Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Headteacher Miss V M Hunt

Core Christian Value for this half term: ENDURANCE

Learning to learn skill is Determination

Dear Parents,

**Out of School Achievements**

Well done to Hugo in Year 3, who has received a certificate from BBC Children in Need, congratulating him for raising £31.00.

**Young Voices Concert at the O2**

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February, members of the choir from Year 5 and 6 went to the O2 to take part in a Young Voices performance. We arrived at the O2 and made our way up to our seating area. During the afternoon there was a full rehearsal and then the concert took place at 7.00pm. The children were a credit to the school; they sang beautifully and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to perform as part of a large choir and in such an exciting venue. Well done to all the children for learning the songs so well and performing enthusiastically. It was definitely a night to remember.

As part of our whole school Growth Mindset philosophy, we are very excited to be welcoming Andy Instone, the founder of Urban Strides, to St. Mary's on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, when he will be taking the assembly. They were one of the acts performing at the O2 and we are delighted to have been offered this opportunity.

**Cross Country at St Albans**

The St Mary's runners did incredibly well on Saturday. In the Year 6 Boys' category St Mary's was placed third team overall (out of 28 teams), which was a really fantastic result. Olly came 5<sup>th</sup>, Jamie 10<sup>th</sup> and David 66<sup>th</sup> (out of 145 entrants). Olly and Jamie have also both made the county team for the National Championships in Leicestershire.

Billy Read was 65<sup>th</sup> in the Year 5 boys' race, Lucy Cooley was 51<sup>st</sup> in the Year 6 girls' race, whilst Phoebe and Bella were 75<sup>th</sup> and 76<sup>th</sup> respectively. We would like to congratulate the runners on their success and to thank Mr. Powell for managing the team on the day.

**Football**

Congratulations to the Year 5 and 6 Football team who won their match against Kings Langley on Tuesday 10-1.

**Year 2 trip to Tring Museum**

On Tuesday Year 2 visited the Natural History Museum in Tring, as part of their Science topic. The children took part in a 'Discovering Animals' workshop, completed a range of fun activities around the museum and then practised their maths skills when purchasing in the gift shop. The children were excellently behaved and had a great time.

Miss Waterhouse

**Goodbye Mrs. Young**

Today we said goodbye to our wonderful School Secretary, Mrs. Young. The Governors, staff and children all gathered together this morning for an assembly, when the children shared special memories and poems with Mrs. Young and the choir sang to her. It was a very moving occasion and marked the 26 years Mrs. Young has spent welcoming parents and children to St. Mary's. This is the end of an era and we all wish Mrs. Young a really long, happy and very well deserved retirement. Goodbye Mrs. Young; we will all miss you so much.

**Bags2School**

The bags will be sent home today for parents to fill with unwanted clothing etc. Filled bags must be returned to school on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March (not before as we have nowhere to store them). Thank you.

**Roadworks in New Road**

We understand that the work that was scheduled to take place outside the school this week has been delayed for some time. We will provide further information as it becomes available.

### Attendance

We are continually striving to achieve an attendance level of over 97%, as research tells us that attendance has a direct impact on progress. During the first half of the spring term, we achieved an attendance of 95%. Whilst this is lower than we had hoped, we do realise that this was due to a slightly higher level of illness this half term.

We are pleased to announce that Year 4 had the highest attendance for last half term. Well done Year 4.

Year 1 – 92.6%

Year 2 – 96.0%

Year 3 – 97.5%

Year 4 – 97.8%

Year 5 – 92.5%

Year 6 – 91.7%

### Lost Property

Please can we ask parents to collect their children's lost property from the boxes in the Foundation Stage and by the door leading to the top playground.

Any unclaimed lost property will be taken to a local charity shop at the end of the week after half term.

Much of the lost property has not been marked with children's names. Please can parents ensure that all items are labelled, so that they can be easily reunited with their owners. Thank you.

### Breakfast Club

We have now set up a new email address for Breakfast Club. Can parents now email – [breakfast.club@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk](mailto:breakfast.club@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk) if they wish to book or cancel sessions. Thank you.

### Dates

Half Term – Mon. 13<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Fri. 17<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**Inset Day Mon. 20<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

**Children return to school Tues. 21<sup>st</sup> Feb.**

Year 5 Class Assembly – Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb.

Ukele Festival - Year 5 and 6 Sat. 25<sup>th</sup> Feb.

World Book Day – Thurs. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar.

Year 1 Singing Workshop at Centenary Hall – Fri. 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar.

Wendover Cross Country – Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> Mar.

Year 4 Parents Woodrow Meeting – Thurs. 9<sup>th</sup> Mar at 3.30 pm

Bags to school – return bags on Thurs. 9<sup>th</sup> Mar by 9:00am

Year 5 trip to RAF Hendon – Tues. 14<sup>th</sup> Mar.

I hope you all have a relaxing half term break.  
V.M. Hunt

**Attachments: None this week**

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

PLEASE CHECK BOOKBAGS

Title	Class	Via
Young Voices Concert final letter and DVD form	Selected pupils	Letter
Forthcoming events in Year 5	Y5	Schoolcomms
Ukele Festival Year 5 and 6	Y5 and Y6	Schoolcomms and letter
Year 1 Singing Workshop	Year 1	Letter
RAF Hendon Museum Trip	Year 5	Letter
Wendover Cross Country	Years 3,4,5 and 6	Schoolcomms
Rescheduled Year 5 Assembly	Year 5	Schoolcomms and letter

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