



S^t Mary's C of E Primary School
'Excellence Together, Learning through Faith'

Update Friday 18th May 2018

Headteacher Miss V M Hunt

Core Christian Value for this half term: Love

Learning to learn skill : Collaboration

Dear Parents,

Out of School Achievements

Alana, Alice, Macy and Molly (Y4) all received Team Player Medals at the recent Raiders Tournament. The girls' Raiders team was awarded a trophy for 'Best Sporting Team' Fair Play Award. The trophy was in recognition of exemplary behaviour that promotes the spirit of fair play and compassion in football.

Adam, Alfie, Callum, Charlie and Jack (Y5) were awarded a trophy for 'Best Sporting Team' at the recent Raiders Tournament. The trophy was in recognition of the boys playing their matches with a great level of sporting behaviour and respect to the officials and their opponents. Each of the boys also received individual medals.

Clara (Y3) has passed her Grade 1 violin exam with merit.

Lucas (Y3) has won a trophy as the Under 8 Berkhamsted Tennis Club Champion.

Lottie (Y6) has passed her RAD Grade 3 Ballet exam with Distinction.

Thomas (Y5) has passed his Grade 1 Piano exam with distinction.

Congratulations to you all.

Bridgewater Cross Country

Congratulations to all our runners who competed fantastically at the Bridgewater Cross Country Event on Saturday 28th April, and especially to Callum Powell who came first in the Year 5 boys' race! The results were:

Year 6 Girls – Phoebe 11th

Year 6 Boys – Billy 13th

Year 5 Boys – Callum 1st, Joe 24th

Year 3 Girls – Scarlett 5th, Chloe 9th & Martha 12th

Well done to you all!

Mr Potter

Celebrations Assembly

The Special Achievers certificates went to:

Reception:

Year 1: Jessica, Lexi

Year 2: All of Year 2

Year 3: Sadie, Scarlett

Year 4: Alana, Brandon

Year 5 : Adam H, Harry

Well done to all of the children.

News from Reception

A massive thank you to all the parents who came in for the garden revamp. It was a really successful event and most enjoyable. The children have really enjoyed the changes and have been in the garden all week as a direct result. This revamp will enhance the children's enjoyment and learning. We were very lucky to have donations from ESK and HM Gazely, paint suppliers in Milton Keynes. I would like to offer huge thanks for their paint supplies and equipment. Being able to re paint the fences and stage has really ignited the children's interest in the garden and will appeal to prospective parents. Parents kindly donated coloured paint, plants and containers. Poppy's Nan, Anne Foster, donated an amazing amount of flowers, shrubs and compost, which we will teach the children to look after. We really appreciate the time and effort given by those parents who were able to support in some way and in particular, Ellie-Mae's Dad, Mr. Finlay, for the two days he spent reroofing the role play shed.

In class this week we have enjoyed painting in the style of Monet and doing some observational drawing. We have really enjoyed our new text, Bog Baby, and next week we may have a few surprises. Please note that from June 18th Reception children will be lining up at the playground with the rest of the school for morning drop off. Parents will not be able to come into class and will need to be mindful of giving the rest of the school children space to access the steps into the playground. It really is a good idea to assist this transition and from now on allow your children to come into class from the Foundation Stage gate.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Bates

Giant Wiggle

Nursery and Reception had a great time getting their wiggle on for the Giant Wiggle last Wednesday. We did a conga dance around the field followed by games and a picnic fit for a caterpillar! We raised an amazing £632.50 for Action for Children so a massive thank you for all your hard work collecting sponsorship money.
Mrs Brown

Year 6 SATS

This week the Year 6 children have been sitting their End of Key Stage 2 tests. This is the culmination of a great deal of hard work on behalf of the children and all the staff who have taught them throughout their time at St. Mary's. We would especially like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication from Mrs. Dobbs and Mrs. Clark during the children's time in Year 6. They even provided the children with breakfast on the mornings of their tests this week, to ensure the day got off to a relaxed and happy start. We would also like to thank all the adults who have given up their time to invigilate in these tests, especially our Chair of Governors Mr. Kemp and Parent Governor Mr. Goss. Well done to our Year 6 children. You are a credit to the school.
Miss Hunt

Royal Wedding Celebration

It was lovely to see the outfits that the children have been wearing today as part of the Royal Wedding celebration. Staff and children enjoyed a picnic and games on the field at lunchtime today.

Year 5 Trip

Year 5 visited St Albans Masorti Synagogue to take part in a Shabbat workshop. The children learnt what happens in a Jewish home on a Friday evening; watching candles being lit and prayers said in Hebrew. They had the chance to make some delicious Challah bread which is shared each week during Shabbat. Rabbi Adam also showed them around the Synagogue and explained how some of the objects are used. The highlights of the visit were hearing Rabbi Adam sing part of the Torah and blow the Shofar.

Year 1 Trip

Yesterday, Year 1 went to Berkhamsted School to join in with a Singing Workshop for all the Year 1 classes in town. They had great fun learning and singing different songs and joining in with the actions. The children's behaviour was a credit to the school.
Ms Gore

Year 1 Student Teachers

A big thank you to Miss Emberson and Mr Williams who have been working with us in Year 1. They have now moved on to continue their training back at University but they hope to come back and visit. They would also like me to pass on their thanks to Year 1 for being a brilliant class to teach and their parents for the kind leaving gift.
Ms Gore

Parent Forum

We have our next Parent Forum meeting on Friday 15th June. If you have anything that you would like to raise for discussion, please contact your Parent Forum Rep by Wednesday 23rd May. The parent reps are:
Nadia Lupo (Reception)
Tracy Webster (Year 1)
Julie Allen (Year 2)
Sarah Jones (Year 3)
Louise Cooley (Year 4)
Su Bennett (Year 5)
Lesley Bartholomew (Year 6)

Message From The School Council

School Council have specially asked for parents to please move away from the steps into the top playground first thing in the morning. They are blocking the children's pathway to go and line up.

Church Service

Our Pentecost service is taking place on Tuesday 22nd May at 9:30am on the school field. We hope that you will be able to join us for this outdoor service.

St Mary's Northchurch Confirmation Service, Sunday July 8th at 10.00am

On July 8th we will be welcoming the Bishop of Bedford to take the confirmation service at St Mary's. Confirmation is the service when the candidates renew their baptism promises, are then blessed by the Bishop and take the bread and wine at communion. It is a special service in the life of the church and I am contacting you to see if your son or daughter would like to be confirmed. Miss Hunt has kindly said that it will be possible to arrange confirmation classes in school, most likely over a few lunchtimes for half an hour in June. If you would like to be involved in the service or know more please can you contact me by email: revjagordon@gmail.com or phone 07752 261679. Alternatively please feel free to call round to the Rectory.

Rev Jonathan Gordon

Pre-school Bulletin 18/5/18

This week at Pre-school we were delighted to have taken delivery of our brand new role play kitchen units! The lovely wooden units include a sink unit with taps, a cooker with hob, a fridge unit and a washing machine. These have made a fantastic addition to the classroom and the children have thoroughly enjoyed using our new equipment in their role play games.

In addition to enjoying our new home corner we have continued making our papier-mâché hot air balloons, and have talked about the approaching Royal Wedding. We have also cut out some lollipop shapes to practice our scissor skills

Next week we shall be encouraging the children's ICT skills as they play with the remote controlled cars. We shall also be experimenting with our large selection of musical instruments.

For information about a place at Pre-school please see Lisa Burkett at the end of the school day, or email stmaryspreschool.northchurch@gmail.com

Absences

As part of the school's safeguarding procedures, we need to know the reasons for any child's absence, as early as possible. Therefore, if your child is ill and unable to attend school, please call the school office before 9.00am. This avoids the office staff having to make telephone calls, checking on a child's whereabouts. It also means that the school meal order is not held up whilst we find out where missing children are.

Please specify the illness eg high temperature or vomiting. A message must be left for **each day** of absence on the absence line.

On return from an absence please confirm in writing the length of time your child has been absent for and the reason.

Any late arrivals must be signed in the green late folder and a **full** reason for the lateness must be given.

Late Box

Please use the box provided in the school entrance for any items brought in after the start of the school day. Please ensure all items are named.

Music Lessons

Please note that a full half term's notice is required to cancel a music lesson.

Sun Protection

Please ensure that children bring in sun hats and water bottles. Sunscreen should be applied at home. Parents can buy high factor suncream that lasts all day. If parents do wish children to bring in sunscreen to school, it must NOT be a spray variety.

School Office

The school office opening hours are:

08:30 – 09:30am

14:30 – 15:20pm

Please avoid contacting the office outside of these times.

All emails to the school office must be sent to admin@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

Emails should not be sent via the School Gateway as this inbox account is not monitored.

Thank you.

Year 5 & 6 School Uniform

In very warm weather, it is acceptable for children to wear white open necked, short sleeved shirts with no ties.

Reminder that we are a nut free school

Please ensure that no nut products are brought into school

Breakfast Club

There are a few spaces available at Breakfast club.

Parents arriving after 8.00 a.m. please use the main entrance to the school.

Please contact Breakfast club via email

breakfast.club@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

School Gateway Reminder

St Mary's is now a 'cash free' school. **This means that we will no longer be accepting payment in cash or cheque.**

Please make all payments via School Gateway. Please report any issues to the School Office.

Please check your School Gateway account regularly for payments due. Breakfast club appears for all children in case of emergency requirement. Please ignore it if you do not use Breakfast Club. The same applies for Dinner Money for Years 3-6. Thank you for your continued support.

Title	Class	Via
Year 6 Kingswood Letter – kit list & code of conduct	Year 6	Email
Year 4 Trip – Verulamium Museum	Year 4	Paper Copy
Year 4 – Woodrow Photographs – consent to share photos	Year 4	Paper Copy
Year 6 SATs letter to parents and children	Year 6	Paper Copy
Nursery Newsletter – 11 th & 18 th May	Nursery	Email
Matchbox Challenge	All	Email
Junior Wind Band Day	Year 3-5	Email
GDPR Letter	All	Email

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

Next newsletter on Friday 8th June.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Miss V.M. Hunt