



St Mary's C of E Primary School

'Excellence Together, Learning through Faith'

Update Friday 4th 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

Eliza J has been awarded an STA Level 4 swimming badge.

Imogen R has been awarded Level 10 in the Berkhamsted Gymnastics Club's award scheme.

Joshua S has been awarded a Swim England Level 5 swimming certificate.

Phoebe J has been awarded a STA Level 5 swimming badge.

George D, Harry D, Harry E, Hayley J, Lexi M, Macy H, Max H, May E and Mikel W were all awarded a medal for completing the 5k Hospice of St Francis Bubble Rush run.

Congratulations to you all.

Year 3 Trip

This week, Year 3 were transported back in time to the Stone Age. At Celtic Harmony, our clan 'The Wolves' got straight to work with some Stone Age activities. We learnt about the art of flint knapping to make tools and weapons and had a go ourselves with soap...It didn't have the same scare appeal as a flint arrowhead, but it was still tricky to get the right shape! Afterwards, we moved into the Bronze Age where we worked in teams to wattle fences which would have been used to create the first farms on our land. Next, we moved onto the Iron Age where we learnt about how weapons advanced and battles really began! We had a really fantastic day! Thank you to Mrs Turnham, Mrs Lams, Mrs Lupton and Mrs Heck for accompanying us on our time travel adventure! Miss Groves

News from Reception

A massive thank you to all the parents for working so hard helping the children to learn the songs for the assembly. The children made me so proud, they were amazing. Not only did they come up with what they wanted to say but they decided most of the dance moves. I am incredibly proud of them having so many ideas in such a short space of time. We did have to work hard and they did this without any complaint. The children really did enjoy all the songs and I am sorry if they have all now become fans of guitar music.

I am looking forward to seeing those of you who have so kindly offered to help in the garden revamp on the 12th May. Many hands make light work! We have offers of plants and the roof felt. I have managed to secure some exterior paint free of charge but still need some compost for these plants. We will need tools and paintbrushes. Please bear in mind that for health and safety reasons it will not be appropriate for children to be brought to the revamp.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Bates

Attendance Statistics

The attendance statistics for the academic year to date is as follows :

Nursery : 94.47%

Reception : 95.49%

Year 1 : 97.35%

Year 2 : 94.84%

Year 3 : 97.6%

Year 4 : 96.57%

Year 5 : 95.75%

Year 6 : 95.36%

Summer Fayre

It is with regret that the School Association, with the support of the School and Governors, have made the decision to cancel the Summer Fayre this year. The decision was not taken lightly as this is a great fundraiser for the school. Very few parents were able to commit to helping on the day and, unfortunately, without this help the Fayre cannot go ahead. However, the School Association has a number of other exciting events taking place instead. Details to follow.

School Association News

A big thank you to the School Association for organising the Film Night.

Open Classrooms

Open classrooms is taking place next Thursday afternoon, 10th May, at 3.20p.m. Due to our Ascension Day Service which is taking place in church at 9.30 a.m. Nursery parents will be able to look at their children's work during their usual Friday morning visit.

Royal Wedding Celebration

The School Council would like to invite the whole school to a picnic on the school field during the lunchtime of Friday, 18th May to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Children are invited to dress for the occasion and will be allowed to wear non-school uniform on that day. If your child normally has a school meal on that day then they will be given a choice of a yellow option to choose from and there will be no need for parents to do anything. All children who normally bring their own packed lunches from home can still do this.

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

Church Services

Our Pentecost service is now taking place on Tuesday 22nd May at 9:30am. It will be on the field (weather permitting). Watch this space for more details! Ascension Day service will be Thursday 10th May at 9:30am in Church. Everyone is welcome.

Pre-school Bulletin 4/5/18

This week at Pre-school we have started to make our papier-mâché hot air balloons, and added some butterflies and flowers to our display board. We have enjoyed playing board games in small groups as we learn to share resources and take turns.

Next week we are hoping for some sunshine to get out our washing line, we have a selection of socks to wash, and then match and sort. Carrying on with the bubble theme we shall be blowing bubbles, counting them as they move, and jumping to pop them.

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

School Council News

School council are excited to announce that Tuck Shop is returning and will be available on Thursday 10th May at break time. School council executive committee will be manning the stall again and we will be offering fruit crisps as well as a new product!

School council are not quite making profit yet and we are still in debt to Mrs Holmes, whom we are endeavouring to pay off as soon as possible whilst still continuing to trade. We have found new suppliers and are excited to continue this project. Please support us but bear in mind supply is still low, so first come first served.

If you think you could help us in any way with this venture please contact us.

Mrs Bates and School Council

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 email or 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.

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.

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.

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.

The school appreciates that sometimes parents receive numerous emails on one day. All emails are titled to try and help parents quickly determine if the email is of interest to them and emails are only sent to the appropriate class.

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.

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

Staff Vacancy

We have placed an advert on the Teach in Herts website for a Breakfast Club Manager to start in September.

If anybody has any questions regarding the post, please contact the school office for further information.

If anyone is interested in applying for this post, please visit the Teach in Herts website, in order to access the application form

https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,breakfast-club-manager_46950.htm?preview=d89486ba9f99710b768293bf97c2025d

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.

Music Lessons

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

Title	Class	Via
Year 1 Singing Workshop	Year 1	Email
Year 6 Legoland Trip	Year 6	Email
Giant Wiggle Walk	Nursery & Reception	Email
Nursery Newsletter – 27 th April & 4 th May	Nursery	Email
Online Safety News	All	Email
Year 2 Trip to Ashridge	Year 2	Email

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

Next newsletter on Friday 18th May.

I hope you all have a lovely long weekend relaxing in the anticipated sunshine.

Miss V.M. Hunt