



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

Update Friday 9th November 2018
Headteacher Miss V M Hunt
Core Christian Value for this half term: Friendship
Learning to learn skill : Collaboration

Dear Parents,

Out of School Achievements

Sofia W (R) & Summer W (Y1) have both achieved Amber level at Sapphire Gymnastics Club.

Amara W (Y4) has achieved Ruby level at Sapphire Gymnastics Club.

Congratulations to you all.

Special Achievers Certificates

Reception: George, Lola, Maliya & Max

Year 1: Finn, Jacob, Josh & Ruby

Year 2: George, James, Lexi & Pippa

Year 3: Imogen, Lucas, Oscar, Ruby & William

Year 4: Bailey, Daisy, Jake & Olivia

Year 5: Alice, Felix, Harry & Macy

Year 6: Charlotte, Harry, Luke & Soraya

Well done to all these children

Sports News

Two matches were played on Tuesday 6th November.

The Boys' Football Team won a tough game 3-2 away to a strong Leverstock Green side. Goals came from Callum P, Luca G and Robin S. Robin S scored the late winner. Luke B and Callum P were awarded joint players of the match.

The Girls' Netball Team won 7-3 away to Westfield School. Amy M scored 4 goals, Molly R scored 2 goals and Emily P scored 1 goal.

Well played everyone !

Road Safety

Please remind your children that they must ensure that cars have stopped before they cross the road at the High Street crossing. There have been a number of instances recently where cars have gone through the red light, possibly as the sun is bright and drivers are not seeing the red light.

Remembrance Day Service

This morning, the children made presentations and read prayers in church to commemorate Remembrance Day. Thank you to Revd Jonathan for leading the service, Miss Groves for organising it and Mrs. Pearson (mother of Lilly in Reception) for playing the bugle. The children conducted themselves with great dignity and respectfulness. Thank you also to the parents and friends who joined us to share in this moving service.

Attendance Statistics

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

Nursery : 92.92%

Reception : 95.27%

Year 1 : 97.48%

Year 2 : 98.38%

Year 3 : 96.61%

Year 4 : 97.4%

Year 5 : 98.23%

Year 6 : 95.84%

Well done to Year 2 for the best attendance statistics.

Punctuality

Please ensure that your child arrives at school by 8.45a.m when KS1 and KS2 children are collected from the playground by class teachers. EYFS children may enter directly through the EYFS outside area.

Children who arrive after 8.55 a.m. should be brought in via the school office and will have their minutes late recorded in the register. Arrivals after 9.30 a.m. without a valid reason (e.g. hospital appointment) will be counted as an absence. If children miss the beginning of a lesson, it will affect the progress they and the rest of their class can make in that lesson.

Infant Toilets

A huge thank you to the School Association for organising and paying for the refurbishment of the infant toilets. During half term week Mr. Draper and his team, and Mrs. Draper and Mrs. Evans worked tirelessly to ensure that this work was carried out, and that the school was spick and span ready for our return on Monday. The children (and staff) are delighted with the new toilets.

Christmas School Fayre – Bring a bottle

Friday 16th November is a non-uniform day for bringing a bottle for the Christmas Fayre. Thank you for your support.

School Council News

We have had a very successful Tuck Shop this week but noticed that the Kellogg's breakfast bars do say on them that they may contain nuts even though they are not listing any nuts in the ingredients and the website did not state this information. Those who have allergies may contact me to discuss this further and if you wish us to stop offering this product then we will withdraw them. We do have other products available and I will reorder some snacks today but will try a different product. I would really appreciate feedback from parents with regards to the products Tuck Shop should offer.

Children in Need is happening on Friday 16th November. The School Council will be offering wristbands and a limited amount of headbands and key rings. We will start offering these on Monday 12th November. I am so very grateful for your support with these charities; the children are very passionate about helping those less fortunate.

We debated recently the People not Borders charity and wondered how we could support this. The children felt they had many things at home that they no longer needed and so suggested a table top sale for the Christmas Fayre. I am more than happy to collect in donations of good quality toys and games but sadly I can't attend the fayre as I'm helping with my guide unit. I will need parent volunteers with DBS checks in place in order to make this a reality. Please can you let me know if you can assist me. We have a very charitable School Council this year and it is great to see their good wishes come to fruition where possible.

Mrs Bates and School Council

National Anti bullying Week

This is taking place next week and the national theme is 'Choosing Respect'. At St. Mary's we have decided to call it 'Cool to be Kind Week' and the children will be taking part in various activities during the week to help them with their understanding. Attached is a leaflet giving more information so that you can support your children with activities they may have for homework.

Maths Evening

We will be holding a maths evening for parents on Wednesday 21st November, from 6.30pm until 7.30pm. The evening will be an opportunity for parents to watch their children's teachers demonstrating the methods taught at school, in order to help them to support their children with maths at home. This will be for adults only. Please remember to return your attendance slip.

Thanks, Mr Potter

Visit From Sue Hampton

The author Sue Hampton will be joining us on Thursday November 15th, and signing her books after school. Her writing has been praised by many other authors, including the great Michael Morpurgo, whose stories she used to share with her classes when she taught for eleven years at St Mary's. With 32 titles across genres for children, teenagers and adults, she has something for everyone.

See <https://www.suehamptonauthor.co.uk/> for more details.

ESafety talk for parents

We have had to postpone the planned talk for parents which was due to be on Wednesday 14th November. We will reschedule it for later in the year.

News from Reception

We have had a wonderful week in Reception. We have discussed our Bonfire night experiences and then discovered that another celebration uses fireworks to celebrate. Many of us were intrigued to find out more so we explored the Hindu celebration Diwali. We made beautiful rangoli patterns using powder paint. Some of us drew and coloured mehndi hands on paper so we decided to really decorate our hands using black face paint. Some children then wanted to design their own mehndi which did get a bit messy! I bought in some Diva lamps and some children decided to use the clay and make their own. When the clay is dry we will paint and decorate them. We played Indian music and tasted Indian sweets. It is vital that the children feel that they belong in the classroom and they really appreciate the things on display. We have the family board because the children like to have their family displayed. Please let me know if you are having issues printing your photo.

Mrs Bates

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.

Pre-school bulletin 9/11/18

A very warm welcome back to Pre-school after the half term break, we hope you all had a lovely week.

At Pre-school this week we have enjoyed talking to the children about all the exciting things they did during their week away from school. Some of the children have told us about firework displays that they went to. So following on from that we have done some fabulous splatter paintings with neon paint and stampers. Experimenting with different paint techniques forms part of their Expressive Arts and Design development, and the recall of special events forms part of their Knowledge and Understanding of the World development.

This has also led nicely into talking about the Festival of Lights, and making clay diva lamps to celebrate Diwali this week.

For information about a place at Pre-school please email stmaryspreschool.northchurch@gmail.com

Music Lessons

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

Reminder that we are a nut free school

Please ensure that no nut and sesame seed products are brought into school.

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

Thank you.

Title	Class	Via
Dacorum Music School Recorder Day – Thursday 15 th November	Y3-Y6	Email
Nursery newsletter – 25/10/2018	N	Email
Cycle Training	Y5 & Y6	Email
Year 5 & 6 District Cross Country	Y5 & Y6	Email
Parents' Maths Evening	R – Y6	Email
Curriculum Letters	Years 1 - 6	Email
Science of Sound Workshop	4 & 6	Email
Cool to be kind week information	All	Email

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

Event	Date & Time
National Anti Bullying week	Week commencing 12 th November
Prospective Reception Parent Tour	Monday 12 th November – 11am
Children in Need Day	Friday 16 th November
Non uniform day – bring a bottle for Christmas School Fayre	Friday 16 th November
Year 5 National Space Centre Trip	Tuesday 20 th November
Year 4 & 6 Science of Sound Workshop	Tuesday 20 th November
Parents' Maths Evening	Wednesday 21 st November – 6.30pm
Christmas Decoration Day	Friday 23 rd November
Christmas School Fayre	Saturday 24 th November
Y5 & Y6 Cycle Training	Week commencing 26 th November
Prospective Reception Parent Tour– 11am	Wednesday 28 th November
Occasional Day	Friday 30th November

Next newsletter on Friday 23rd November

I hope you all have a happy and relaxing weekend. V. M. Hunt.

Term Date Academic Year 2018-19

In 2018-19, schools have 5 Staff INSET Days and 1 Occasional Day Holiday on which to close the school. These are all taken during the school terms template issued by Hertfordshire County Council.

Autumn Term 2018

Monday 3 September	Staff INSET (1)
Tuesday 4 September	Pupils return
Friday 26 October	Staff INSET (2)
Mon 29 October – Fri 2 November	Half term break
Monday 5 November	Pupils return
Friday 30 November	Occasional Day
Friday 21 December	End of term (early closure)

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7 January	Staff INSET (3)
Tuesday 8 January	Pupils Return
Mon 18 – Fri 22 February	Half term break
Monday 25 February	Pupils return
Friday 5 April	End of term (early closure)

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23 April	Staff INSET (4)
Wednesday 24 April	Pupils return
Monday 6 May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Monday 27 – Fri 31 May	Half term break
Monday 3 June	Pupils return
Tuesday 23 July	End of term (early closure)
Wednesday 24 July	Staff INSET (5)