



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

Update Friday 7th December 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

Betsie (Y2) has passed her Level 2 Learn to Swim badge.

Charlotte (Y5) has taken part in the Berkhamsted Swimming Club Championships. Charlotte came first in the 25m freestyle, 25m breaststroke, 50m breaststroke and the 200m individual medley races.

Daisy (Y4) has been selected to join the Arsenal Women Player Development Programme for Under 10s.

Emily P (Y5) has been awarded the Ross & Andy's Player of the Term trophy.

Harry (Y3) has been awarded the following St John Ambulance Badger awards : Welcome and Global Badger.

Macy (Y5) has been awarded the following St John Ambulance Badger awards : Welcome and Global Badger.

May (Y4) has been awarded the following St John Ambulance Badger awards : Bronze, All About Me Badger, Global Badger and Healthy Badger.

Mia (Y4) has been awarded the following St John Ambulance Badger awards : Bronze, All About Me Badger, Global Badger and Healthy Badger. Mia was also awarded Badger of the Year 2018.

Phoebe (Y4) has been awarded the following St John Ambulance Badger awards : Bronze, Global Badger and Healthy Badger.

Milly (Y4) has passed her piano prep test.

Poppy (Y3) has passed her Level 5 Learn to Swim badge.

Congratulations to you all.

Special Achievers Certificates

Reception: Laiya, Ronnie
Year 1: Harriet, Eliza
Year 2: Benji, Louis
Year 3: Oscar, Jack
Year 4: Chloe, Josh
Year 5: Ffion
Year 6: Dylan, Eve
Well done to all these children

School Association

We can officially reveal that the Christmas Fayre has this year raised £4,218.66 for St Mary's School Association. That's over £500 up on last year! Thank you to the School Association for the all their hard work in organising and running the Christmas Fayre. Thank you also to parents for all your support in making the Christmas Fayre a huge success.

Santa's Sleigh

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the Santa's Sleigh on Saturday 1st December. We will only know the amount raised in the New Year when the School receive their allocated share.

Royal British Legion Visit to Year 6

Year 6 were delighted to be able to welcome Mr Hulbert and Mr Richards (the Standard Bearer) from the Royal British Legion who visited them this week. They wanted to thank the children personally for the Poppy Poems they wrote for the school's Remembrance Service, which were sent to the British Legion who shared them with their members. The class were presented with a certificate thanking them. Well done to Year 6 for the perceptive and interesting questions you asked. The British Legion members said that you were a credit to the school.

Year 5 & 6 Cycle Training

Congratulations to the children in Year 5 and 6 who have recently undertaken levels 1, 2 & 3 cycle training. They demonstrated great stoicism in coping with the cold and wet weather. Very well done to you all.

Rocksteady Assembly

The children enjoyed performing at the Rocksteady assembly this afternoon. If your child is interested in starting Rocksteady's in-school rock band music lessons, then please contact the School Office for further information.

News from Reception

Thank you to the parents who are supporting their children in coming into the classroom independently. The children can all now remove their own coats and make their own lunch choices. At the end of next term the children will all be saying goodbye to you at the gate and during the second half of the summer term they will be lining up on the top playground with the rest of the school, so it is a really good idea that you are encouraging their independence now. To enable children to do this, could you please stand well back from the door so that all children can have easy access to the classroom. If you have any concerns about this, please come and speak to me. As has always been the case, parent helpers are very much welcomed in the classroom. If you wish to help but do not have a DBS check, please speak to the school office who will be able to organise this for you.

I am really looking forward to showing you the Nativity. The children have done spectacularly well. I am so very grateful for all the rehearsals at home and for those who have provided costumes. I know you will be super proud of them just as we all are. It's been an exciting week, as we all wrote letters to Santa. We then went and posted them! I'm not sure Santa will be able to provide all of these wishes but you never know.....maybeif you've been very very good this year!

Mrs Bates

Pre-school bulletin 07/12/18

This week at Pre-school we have continued making our glitter pine cones, Christmas stockings and Christmas cards. The children have been encouraged to write their names in their cards, or to make some marks with a pencil. We have also been practising some Christmas songs.

We have some new children joining us in the New Year, and we have enjoyed welcoming them for their settling-in visits.

If you would like any information about Pre-school, please speak to Lisa Burkett at the end of the school day, or email us at stmaryspreschool.northchurch@gmail.com

Have a lovely weekend,
The Pre-school team.

School Council News

School Council would like to thank everyone who supported us with the Tuck shop this week, we are in profit so will purchase more healthy snacks to offer a little variety for the next sale.

Can we remind you of our Table Top sale NEXT WEEK!! At this moment I have very few donations. Please can good condition toys and games be given to me or the office, in bags and boxes and I will store them until Friday. School Council Executive Committee will be assisting at the sale with the School Association. Many thanks to School Association for sharing Reception Treat Friday with us. At this time of year we all need to make space for the new gifts, and what better than donating so that proceeds will help refugee children surviving in dire situations.

Many thanks.

Mrs Bates and School Council

Open Classrooms

The next open classrooms event is on Tuesday 11th December, at 3.20pm for Reception to Year 6 parents. Parents are invited to come in and look at children's books.

Nursery parents are welcome to come in and look at children's work first thing in the morning at drop off.

Christmas Post Box

The Christmas post box is now in use. Children are invited to post their cards at a convenient time when in school (not in lesson time). Year 6 children will deliver them each lunchtime. Please ensure that the envelopes are clearly labelled with the full name of the child and class for whom they are intended, and that the card includes the name of the child who wrote it. Nursery and Reception children should give their cards to EYFS staff who will organise suitable times for delivery. Please do not come to the front office before school to post cards.

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper instead of a school jumper or cardigan on the day of the school Christmas lunch – Wednesday 19th December. The school will be collecting voluntary donations of £1 per child for The Hospice of St Francis. Thank you to everyone for your support. The School Christmas lunch will be served to all who normally have a school meal or who have requested a Christmas lunch.

Christingles

Please could every child bring an orange into school on Friday 21st December as we are making our Christingles. Thank you.

Reminder that we are a nut free school

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

Road Closure

We have been advised by Hertfordshire County Council that New Road will be closed from High Street and Kiln Road between 11th December and 13th December between 9.30am and 4pm.

September 2019 Reception

If you have a sibling of a current St Mary's pupil who is due to join our Reception cohort next September, please do complete our Supplementary Information Form under the admissions tab on the school website, or collect one from the office. This will ensure that your sibling is considered under Criteria 4 of our Admissions Policy 2019.

Applications for Reception places next September must be made before 15 January 2019.

Music Lessons

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

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 office will be closed in the afternoon on Wednesday 12th December & Friday 14th December. If you urgently need to contact the school, please telephone and a member of staff will answer.

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

Thank you.

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.

Title	Class	Via
Nursery newsletter – 23/11/2018	N	Email
Parent Forum Meeting Minutes	All	Email
Secret Room	All	Email
Key Stage 1 Christmas play letter	1 & 2	Paper copy via book bag
The Prince & The Pauper Film Letter	6	Email
Spring term milk	All	Email
Ross & Andy's Football Club Letters	Years 1 - 6	Email
Cheerleading Club	Years R - 6	Email

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

Event	Date & Time
Foundation Stage Christmas play	Tuesday 11 th December – 9.30 am
Open Classrooms	Tuesday 11 th December
Key Stage 1 Christmas play	Wednesday 12 th December – 9.30am
Cheerleading Club Assembly	Thursday 13 th December – 9.15am
Key Stage 1 Christmas play	Thursday 13 th December – 5.30pm
Foundation Stage Treat Friday & School Council Sale	Friday 14 th December
Secret Room	Friday 14 th December
Year 3 & 4 Church Carol Service	Thursday 18 th December – 6.30pm
Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day	Wednesday 19 th December
School Association Christmas Disco	Wednesday 19 th December
End of term – finish at 1.30pm	Friday 21 st December
Start of Spring Term – Children Return to School	Tuesday 8 th January
Prospective Nursery & Reception parent tour	Thursday 8 th January 11am
Maths Evening	Wednesday 16 th January 6.30pm

Next newsletter on Friday 21st December

Have a lovely 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)