



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

Update Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
Headteacher Miss V M Hunt  
Core Christian Value for this half term: Endurance  
Learning to learn skill : Curiosity

**Dear Parents,**

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back to the start of the Spring term. I hope you all had a wonderful break over Christmas. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Burkett, our site manager, for all his hard work in painting the school reception area over the holidays.

V. M. Hunt

**Out of School Achievements**

Callum (Y6) finished 2nd at the Hertfordshire AAAs County Cross Country in St Albans.

Jessica (Y2) has been fundraising for DENS and has already raised £450 – her family and friends sponsored her to eat sprouts !

Isabelle (Y4) has passed a 20m swimming badge.

Rosie (R) has moved up to Level 2 swimming.

Congratulations to you all.

**Special Achievers Certificates**

Reception: Anya, Sofia W

Year 1: Summer, William

Year 2: Eva, Gil

Year 3: Henry, Mikel

Year 4: Daisy, Layla, Sadie

Year 5: Charlie, Daniel

Year 6: Eve, Flinty

Well done to all these children

**Bring A Bear Day**

Next Thursday 17th January is Bring A Bear to school day! We would like all the children to bring a bear (preferably stuffed!) to school on Thursday along with a donation of at least £1. The money collected will go towards adopting a bear. Children may also wear bear themed clothes and in class we will be doing lots of bear themed activities and work. We look forward to seeing all your bears next week!

**Wellington Boots / Trainers Needed For Outdoor Play**

Please can children bring in a pair of named wellingtons or trainers to wear when they go onto the field at lunchtime. We would like to keep using the field but do not want children wearing their outdoor shoes back inside as it is making the school very muddy.

**Ephiphany Church Service**

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 10.00am there will be an Epiphany Christingle at St Mary's Northchurch. A collection will be taken to support the work of the Children's' Society and there will be a Christingle procession around the church. All welcome and please contact Jonathan on [revjagordon@gmail.com](mailto:revjagordon@gmail.com) for details.

**Maths Evening**

We will now be holding the maths evening on Wednesday 16th January, from 6.30pm until 7.30pm. Please come along to support your child - you don't need to confirm your attendance in advance.

Thanks, Mr Potter

**News from Reception**

Welcome back! I am so impressed with how the children have returned to school. They have been really calm and focused. We have already managed to produce some wonderful writing with regards to our New Year's Resolutions. We have also had some great Ultimate Questions about how you get to Heaven. We have also started to talk about the concept of addition. Our school topic is the World Around Us and we have begun to think about different environments such as The North Pole and how it may compare to ours. All this in just a few days!! Phew!! Most children returned the homework and the quality was really high so a huge thank you for supporting this. The whole school participated in this homework so I will choose a few pieces to add to the school display.

Mrs Bates

**Pre-school bulletin 11/01/19**

Hello! A very Happy New Year to you all, we hope that you all had a great Christmas and enjoyed some lovely family time over the festive break.

We have loved seeing all the children again, it has been great to hear their news from the Christmas break and see them excited to see their friends. We have also been very happy to welcome some new Pre-school children, and have been very impressed with how they have settled in so quickly.

Next week we shall be encouraging the children to do puzzles and flash card games in small groups with an adult, we shall be prompting them to use each other's names and take turns. This forms an important part of their Personal Social and Emotional Development as they make friends and be part of a group.

We shall also be encouraging the use of the outdoor climbing equipment and PE equipment to keep them active and warm whilst the weather is chilly. This also gives us an opportunity to see their physical abilities as they play. Physical Development is one of the prime areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

If you have any queries about any of these activities, or any aspect of Pre-school, please see me or a member of staff at the end of the school day, or email [stmaryspreschool.northchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryspreschool.northchurch@gmail.com)

We wish you all a lovely weekend.

Lisa Burkett and the Pre-school team.

**Reminder that we are a nut free school**

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

**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.

All emails to the school office must be sent to [admin@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:breakfast.club@stmarys916.herts.sch).

Title	Class	Via
Year 4 Trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor	4	Email
Year 6 Jazz Festival at Thomas Corum School	6	Email
Curriculum Letter	N & R	Paper Copy
Curriculum Letters	1 - 6	Email
Online Safety Spring 2019 Newsletter	All	Email
O2 Letter	5 & 6	Paper Copy
Nursery Newsletter January 11 <sup>th</sup> 2019	N	Email

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

Event	Date & Time
Maths Evening	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January 6.30pm
Bring a bear day - £1 donation	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> January
Cheerleading Club Assembly	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 9.15am
Year 1 Treat Friday	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> January
RE Week	Week commencing 21 <sup>st</sup> January
Year 6 Jazz Festival at Thomas Corum School	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January
Year 4 Trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> January
Prospective Nursery parent tour	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January 11am
O2 concert for choir in Y5 & Y6	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> January

Next newsletter on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January

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

**Term Date Academic Year 2018-19**

**Spring Term 2019**

Monday 7 January  
Tuesday 8 January  
Mon 18 – Fri 22 February  
Monday 25 February  
Friday 5 April

Staff INSET (3)  
Pupils Return  
Half term break  
Pupils return  
End of term (early closure)

**Summer Term 2019**

Tuesday 23 April  
Wednesday 24 April  
Monday 6 May  
Monday 27 – Fri 31 May  
Monday 3 June  
Tuesday 23 July  
Wednesday 24 July

Staff INSET (4)  
Pupils return  
Bank Holiday (school closed)  
Half term break  
Pupils return  
End of term (early closure)  
Staff INSET (5)