



**St Mary's C of E Primary School**  
**'Excellence Together, Learning through Faith'**

**Update Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019**  
Headteacher Miss V M Hunt  
Core Christian Value for this half term: Endurance  
Learning to learn skill : Creativity

**Dear Parents,**

**New Children**

We would like to welcome two new children who have recently joined St Mary's, Joshua in Year 4 and Zach in Year 2.

**Out of School Achievements**

Alana (Y5) has passed her grade 1 ballet with a distinction.

Callum (Y6) won the final Chiltern League cross country of the season in Milton Keynes on Saturday and in so doing secured the overall title for the season.

Charlie (Y5) has been awarded a 7<sup>th</sup> Kup Yellow Belt in Tae Kwon-Do.

Farida (Y3) has passed her primary grade ballet with a distinction.

Lottie (Y2) has passed Level 7 in the Berkhamsted Gymnastics Scheme and is now an intermediate level gymnast.

Poppy (Y3) has passed her primary grade ballet with a distinction.

Congratulations to you all.

**Special Achievers Certificates**

Reception: Buddy, Jacob  
Year 1: Beth, Tristan  
Year 2: Luca, Zennor  
Year 3: Finley, Poppy  
Year 4: Joshua, Phoebe  
Year 5: Charlotte, Sam

Well done to all these children

**Football News**

On the Friday before half term, the A team had a league match away to Boxmoor which they won 4-2. Goals from Olly, Callum, Luke and Charlie. Their best performance of the season so far. A real team effort!

**Year 5 Maths Challenge**

Rose, Ruby, Edie, Olly have been awarded certificates for representing the school brilliantly at the recent Maths Challenge at Bridgewater.

**World Book Day at St Mary's Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March & Extreme Reading Competition**

We are asking all the children to bring in a photograph of themselves reading in an unusual place. *There will be a small prize for all the winners.* The deadline for entries is World Book Day itself (07.03.19).

This year we are also marking World Book Day with a celebration of story! We are having a visit from Kevin Graal, renowned children's story teller and we are asking all the children to bring in their favourite story from home – it can be in a book but it doesn't have to be! Perhaps it's a family favourite told and retold, a fairy tale or even a story about your family. The children will get together in mixed age groups to share their favourite stories.

We are also inviting parents of years R to year 4 to come at 3.00pm and share their favourite stories with their children's class on the day.

**School Association News**

The School Disco which took place on Wednesday 19th December proved to be a great success making a profit of £572. However, the event was somewhat marred by many parents who did not return their permission slip and payment by the given deadline. On the day of the Disco itself we were contacted by many parents whose children wished to attend. Whilst we certainly do not want to spoil anyone's enjoyment, we do need to set deadlines for a reason. The first being that we need to know final numbers so we can cater for an event accordingly and ensure we have enough adult helpers. We also have to collate lists of parent contact numbers and details of adults collecting children. In the future, we will publish events well in advance of them taking place, however, we will not now accept any children where we do not have the relevant permission slip and payment received by the given deadline. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

### **School Council News**

School Council would like to support Comic Relief on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. This is a fantastic charity that works to raise money to help vulnerable people in both the UK and the world's poorest countries. We have decided not to order red noses and instead hope that all our donations go towards the charity rather than the production of a nose. We are suggesting that children can come to school, wearing a red accessory with their uniform, on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March and bring a £1 donation. So if you have already purchased a nose you can wear it or a wristband. Perhaps red laces or red socks? Please let us know if you are organizing any other fundraising activities and we will offer any support we can. We are very keen to support this charity. We announced in Assembly the amazing amount we raised for the NSPCC £268.50! Thank you so much for your outstanding support.

Tuck shop will be available next week on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Please speak to me if you are concerned with regards to allergies. The whole point of Tuck shop was to raise money to improve our playground facilities and improve lunchtimes and break times. Our hard work has been recognized by the Berkhamsted Lodge and they have very generously donated £285! We have begun scouring the catalogues and have asked children to talk to their Council rep with ideas.

School Council is also meeting with Herts Catering next week to discuss the meals provided and raise questions and increase understanding of this challenging role.

### **September 2019 Nursery Places**

If you wish to apply for a Nursery place next September, please complete the online admissions form on the school website. Applications for Nursery places must be made before **15 March 2019**.

### **Volunteer Helpers**

If any parents wish to help in school with reading or cooking, help on a school trip (including walking children to swimming lessons) or help at a School Association event, then they must have a DBS check. Please contact the School Office for further information.

### **News from Reception**

A fabulous return from my amazing class! We have had such a great week. We have begun our topic of People Who Help Us and the children have loved role playing in the St Marys School Hospital, sadly many patients don't seem to survive!! We have also had an assembly from the local community police officer which has sparked lots of interest in cops and robbers outside. We explored the frozen balloons, which created a great deal of discovery leading onto paints and water tunnels.

We have also started to learn about subtraction with number songs and puppets. I would like to embrace Shrove Tuesday and so we will be making pancakes next week. Your donations really help with the purchase of ingredients, as well as more exciting resources to enhance the classroom. I would really appreciate donations for the role play; the bandages are getting very grubby. I once got a lot of items from my local pharmacy such as plastic spoons, oral syringes, dosing cups, gloves and leaflets: if anyone has some medical connections these items really help. I may soon become barred from my local builders, pharmacy and dentist!

Mrs Bates

### **Pre-school bulletin 1/3/19**

A warm welcome back to all our Pre-school children and families. We hope you all enjoyed the half term break.

This week at Pre-school we have started our health and well-being topic by talking to the children about the benefits of exercise. We have introduced our daily run, where we take the children through to the main playground at 1:15pm for a couple of laps around the playground. The children have really enjoyed doing this, so this is something that we shall continue with.

Next week we are focusing on healthy eating, and healthy food choices. We shall be using food magazines to create food plate pictures that will reinforce their knowledge.

This forms part of the health and self-care section of their Physical Development.

If you have any queries about Pre-school, or our activities, please speak to Lisa Burkett at the end of the school day, or email [stmaryspreschool.northchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryspreschool.northchurch@gmail.com)

**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
Attendance ladder	All	Email
World Book Day Letter	All	Email
ESSA Swimming Championship Letter	Y5 & Y6	Email
Nursery newsletter 15/02/19 & 1/03/2019	N	Email
Reception health screening leaflets	R	Email
Online Safety Letter / MOMO Challenge Facts	All	Email
Curriculum Letters	N-Y5	Email
Victorian Day Letter	4	Email
Bridgewater Cross Country run	Y3-6	Email

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

Event	Date & Time
Ash Wednesday Church Service	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm
World Book Day	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March
Parent Forum	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 1.30pm
Science week	Week commencing 11 <sup>th</sup> March
Reception Health Screening	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March - am
Y4 Victorian Day	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Y5/6 Knex Challenge	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Y2 Class Assembly to Parents	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 9.10am
Y6 Residential & SATs meeting	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 6pm
Y3 Class Assembly	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 9.10am
Open Classrooms	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 3.20-3.45 pm
Mothers' Day Service in Church	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 9.30 am
Rocksteady Concert	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm

Next newsletter on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. V. M. Hunt.

**Term Dates Academic Year 2018-19**

**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)

## Term Dates Academic Year 2019-20

### **Autumn Term 2019**

Monday 2 September	Staff INSET (1)
Tuesday 3 September	Pupils return
Friday 25 October	Staff INSET (2)
Mon 28 October to Friday 1 November	Half term break
Monday 4 November	Pupils return
Friday 20 December	End of term (early closure)

### **Spring Term 2020**

Monday 6 January	Staff INSET (3)
Tuesday 7 January	Pupils Return
Mon 17 – Fri 21 February	Half term break
Monday 24 February	Pupils return
Friday 3 April	End of term (early closure)

### **Summer Term 2020**

Monday 20 April	Staff INSET (4)
Tuesday 21 April	Pupils return
Monday 4 May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Monday 25 – Fri 29 May	Half term break
Monday 1 June	Pupils return
Friday 17 July	End of term (early closure)
Monday 20 July	Staff INSET (5)
Tuesday 21 July	Occasional Day