



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

Update Friday 29th March 2019

Headteacher Miss V M Hunt

Core Christian Value for this half term: Thankfulness

Learning to learn skill : Creativity

Dear Parents,

Out of School Achievements

Billy (Y2) took part in the Tring RFC Festival of Rugby. His U7 team came joint first in their group.

Callum finished 24th in the National Schools Cross Country Championship. He was the 2nd Hertfordshire finisher.

Emily (Y1) has been awarded a STANley 7 swimming certificate.

Gemma (Y4) was awarded Honours in her Medal Test in Dance.

Gil (Y2) has been awarded a STANley 5 swimming certificate.

Lorelie (Y4) has passed her ABRSM Piano Prep Test.

Maliya (R) has been awarded a Duckling Stage 2 swimming certificate.

Ruby (Y3) has achieved Level 4 in the UK Gymnastics Proficiency Award.

Jonathan (Y1) has passed his 5m backstroke swimming badge.

Congratulations to you all.

Mother's Day Service & Mother's Day Secret Room

The church was full to bursting at this morning's Mother's Day service in church. The pictures, poems, songs and prayers the children shared were delightful. Thank you to Jonathan for conducting it and to Miss Groves for organising it. A huge thank you also goes to the School Association for preparing the flowers for the service and for organising the Mother's Day Secret Room. The School Association have worked incredibly hard this week. We all really appreciate this.

Sports News

Congratulations to the boys' football team who won their Quarter Final against Kings Langley on Monday 18th March. The final score was St Marys 2-1 Kings Langley. Goals were scored by Callum and Luke. Player of the match was Charlie.

St Mary's had a very entertaining match against Aldbury on Monday 11th March. It was a great match and the children all enjoyed participating. The score was St Mary's 2 – Aldbury 3. Both goals were scored by Olly C.

Congratulations to the St Marys swimming team for reaching the finals at the recent ESSA (English Schools Swimming Association) Championship. They finished 8th in the medley relay, and were agonisingly close to reaching the final in the freestyle relay, finishing in ninth position. They were up against all small schools in Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire. The team was Olly (Y6), Alana (Y5), Charlotte (Y5) and Mollie (Y5).

Modern Foreign Languages Day (Non-uniform Day)

On Monday 1st April we will be celebrating learning a foreign language with a Modern Foreign Languages Day. We have a specialist teacher visiting us for the day who will teach a session in each class. We would like the children to dress in the colours of the French flag (red, white and blue) to celebrate the day and contribute to making it a fun experience for all. They do not have to wear all 3 colours. The children will learn some French vocabulary, sing songs and take part in some art/craft activities.

Mrs Christie

Year 1 Trip

Yesterday Year 1 went to Woburn Safari Park to consolidate their Science work about animals. The weather was beautiful and we saw lots of animals - lions feeding, tigers, wolves, bears and baby otters to name a few. The children were able to talk about which animals were mammals and which were carnivores, omnivores and herbivores. Well done Year 1!

Medicines in School

In accordance with school policy, all medicines, inhalers and epipens held in school need to be taken home at the end of this term and returned, if they are still needed, **in date**, at the beginning of the summer term. Could you please ensure that you collect your child(ren)'s medicine if this affects you - especially if you know that your child will not be in school at the end of this term. Medicines need to be collected from the children's class teachers.

School Attendance

Although we accept that there will be occasions when pupils are unwell and unable to attend school, all pupils are expected to meet the Government's target of at least 95% attendance. As set out in our Attendance Policy, parents will be informed if their child's attendance falls below 95%. Awareness letters will be sent home to parents at the start of each half term.

If your child's attendance falls below 90% (the Government target for a 'persistent absentee'), letters will be sent home to parents when necessary. Please note, attendance below 90% may result in the involvement of the Local Education Authority Attendance Improvement Officer. Parents who fail to respond to requests to send their children to school or who take unauthorised holidays during term time may also be issued with a Fixed Penalty Fine by the Local Education Authority.

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

Nursery : 91.64%
Reception : 96.28%
Year 1 : 95.95%
Year 2 : 97.83%
Year 3 : 95.74%
Year 4 : 97.21%
Year 5 : 97.49%
Year 6 : 93.60%

News from Reception

What an exciting time we've had in Reception this week. We were so lucky to have the visit from the fire service. We all listened beautifully as they talked us through how they help us and the protective clothing they have to wear. We were also lucky enough to sit inside the fire engine and hear the siren! We have also been working on the fabulous Mother's Day Cards and song for the service. I do hope you love them as they have worked so very hard.

Next week is our last week before the break and of course a very important religious holiday. The children have been learning the Easter story and will make cards next week. I'm hoping the Easter bunny will pop by and leave us a little hunt to do! I'll take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Easter break. Happy Easter !

Mrs Bates

Pre-school bulletin 29/3/19

This week at Pre-school we have been very busy preparing for Mother's Day on Sunday. The children have been busy planting pretty violas and making beautiful cards. The children have been very proud of their work, and we really hope you enjoy them.

This week we have continued to practice our songs in sign language, we have learnt 'I can sing a rainbow', so that the children know how to sign the colours.

Next week will be our Easter week so we shall be creating Easter cards. We have some pretty plastic Easter eggs that we will use to play an egg hunt game. The children will be able to take it in turns to hide and find the eggs, and then count the eggs to make sure none are lost!

If you would like any further information about our Pre-school, please see me at the end of the school day, or email stmaryspreschool.northchurch@gmail.com

We wish you all a really lovely Mother's Day weekend.

Lisa Burkett and the Pre-school team.

Visit From Sue Hampton

The author Sue Hampton will be joining us on Thursday April 4th, and selling her books after the Nursery session at 11.45am and at the end of the school day. 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.

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
Summer Term Milk Letter	All	Email
Yoga Club	Y1,2 & 3	Email
Minutes of the parent forum meeting	All	Email
Nursery Newsletter – 22 nd March & 29 th March	N	Email
Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip Letter	3	Email
Year 2 SATS Letter	2	Email
Year 4 Girls Letter	4	Hard copy
Shaftesbury Court Letter	All	Email
Rocksteady Club Letter	R-Y6	Email
Boogaloo Boogie Lunch Club	Y1-Y3	Email
Ross & Andy – Friday After School Football Club	Y1&Y2	Email
Ross & Andy – Girls Only – Tuesday Lunch Time Football Club	Y3-Y6	Email

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

Event	Date & Time
Modern Foreign Languages Day	Monday 1 st April
Parents' Consultations	Tuesday 2 nd April 5-8pm & Wednesday 3 rd April 3.40-6pm
Year 1 Class Assembly to Parents	Thursday 4 th April 9.10am
Easter Church Service	Friday 5 th April 9.30am
End of Spring term	Friday 5 th April - Finish 1.30pm
Inset Day	Tuesday 23 rd April
Start of Summer Term	Wednesday 24 th April
Year 2 SATs Parents Meeting	Wednesday 24 th April 3.00pm
Year 4 Woodrow Parents Meeting	Thursday 25 th April 3.30pm
Year 3 Trip to Celtic Harmony	Friday 26 th April

Next newsletter on Friday 26th April

Thank you to everyone who supported the 'Wear a Hat for Brain Tumour Day'. As this is the final newsletter before we break up for Easter, the staff and I wish everyone a peaceful and happy Easter holiday. Children return to school on Wednesday 24th April.

Miss 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