



The School Bell



"What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow"

Ringling in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 138 | 23rd March, 2018

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Christian Value for this half-term - Unity

Well, the end of term is rapidly approaching! It will be lovely to see as many of you as possible at our Easter service at 2 pm next Thursday, just before we break up for the holidays. Please join us if you can.

We already have lots of things planned for the summer term, so please make a note of the dates for your diary and keep watching our newsletters for more dates as the summer term progresses.

Have a lovely Easter holiday, and we will look forward to seeing you all on Monday 16th April.

Best wishes,
Mr Milne



Royal Marine Activity Day

A reminder that on Tuesday 27th March, all children will be involved in an activity day delivered by Royal Marines from Elite Commando Survival.

www.elitecommandosurvival.com.

The children will take part in the following activities: a commando assault course,

bushcraft and the observation model village task (team building).

The day aims to focus on building resilience, promoting bravery and experimenting through practical activities. These activities will be free of charge thanks to a grant from The Margaret Allen Foundation. Please note that the year 5 and 6 pupils will finish school at the later time of 4 o'clock on that day. Please ensure that all children have their P.E. kits in school for this day.



Sport Relief

The children have all enjoyed their cross-fit sessions in aid of Sport Relief. If you haven't already donated and would like to do so please visit our Just Giving page at

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stmaryscrossfitfun

Performing Arts

Well done to Jasmine Chadd, Thomas Niblett, Gemma Powell and Emily Clarke from Performing Arts Club who took part in poetry speaking at the Herefordshire Performing Arts Festival this week. A fantastic achievement!

Dates for your diary...

Good News assembly - Every Friday 2:40pm at school, parents, family and friends all welcome
MARCH: VALUE - PATIENCE

Monday 26th: Parents' Evening 5 - 7 p.m.

Tuesday 27th: Royal Marine Activity Day for all years.

Thursday 29th: Easter Service in church at 2p.m.

SUMMER TERM

VALUE FOR THE FIRST HALF-TERM: HAPPINESS

APRIL: VALUE - HAPPINESS

Friday 27th: Tempest Photography in school all day to take class and team photographs

MAY: VALUE - HAPPINESS

Monday 7th: Bank Holiday

Wednesday 9th: River Festival community presentation, 3:30 pm

Monday 14th: Year 6 SAT tests all week

Monday 14th: Governing Body meeting, 6:15 pm

Thursday 24th: Key Stage 2 trip to the Hay Festival

Friday 25th: 'Wear what you like' day - School closes for half-term

VALUE FOR THE SECOND HALF-TERM: FREEDOM

JUNE: VALUE - FREEDOM

Monday 4th: School resumes after half-term

Wednesday 6th: New parents' induction evening

Thursday 7th: Year 6 to multi-faith event at Holmer Primary School

Tuesday 12th: Sports Day, afternoon preceded by a family picnic [reserve date Tues 26th June]

Thursday 14th: Meeting for parents of children attending Oaker Wood residential trip, 3:30 pm

Monday 18th: Governing Body meeting, 6:15 pm

Thursday 21st: Year 6 children to Crucial Crew event

Saturday 23rd: St. Mary's Church fete

Thursday 28th: Year 6 visits to respective secondary schools

Friday 29th: 'Wear what you like' day

JULY: VALUE - FREEDOM

Saturday 7th: School summer fete

Monday 16th: Drop-in parents' evening to discuss reports, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Tuesday 17th - Thursday 19th: Years 5 and 6 residential trip to Oaker Wood Leisure

Friday 20th: Leavers' Service in Church: 2:00 pm. School closes for the summer holidays.

The next school Bell will be issued on Friday 20th April, 2018

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School Office open from 8:30am, call: 01432 860474 | Headteacher: Mr T Milne

St. Mary's - News from the classes

Pre-School

We have been busy with numbers, finding them in our environment and learning how we can count and recognise them.

Reception - Violet Class

Hooray, Ralfy Rabbit (The Book Burglar) has returned our books at long last with a note saying 'Thank you for letting me borrow your books!' Violet Class have been very forgiving and have even made some nice homes to keep Ralfy safe from foxes. We are very proud to have won Barney Bear for the last two weeks in a row...he has been busy making friends with the bear who appeared in our class overnight, after reading Julia Donaldson's story called 'The Everywhere Bear'.

Year 1 - Indigo Class

In Indigo class we have been learning about subtraction and counting back using a number line. We have been writing, reading and talking about 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in literacy and we have written a new ending for this traditional story. We have been practising our song for the Easter Service and we have been thinking about the question "Where is God?"

Year 2 - Blue Class

Blue Class have been enjoying their Space topic and have used it to make investigations into what humans need to live and what essentials they might take with them into space. We have been reading the Oliver Jeffers book, 'The Way Back Home' to base our own sentences on and have focused on descriptive language and sentence structure with some very impressive results! We had great fun making 'greggars' or shakers, when we learned about the story of Esther which is celebrated at the Jewish festival of Purim. In the storytelling part of the festival when the name of the King's evil right-hand man, Haman, is mentioned then the whole audience makes as much noise as they can to drown the sound of his name out! As you can imagine, Blue Class managed to make lots of noise with their greggars! Continuing with our space theme, we have been learning about Neil Armstrong and his achievements. We have considered how astronauts need to eat healthily even though they are in space and we have planned them a healthy, balanced menu. We have looked at the earth from space, identifying its oceans and continents.

Year 3 - Green Class

Green Class have started work on reading and writing mystery stories. This week we have been planning a story about a crime at Queen Victoria's Palace. We have thought carefully about clues and red herrings to keep the reader guessing. We have also just started a new topic about fractions in Maths.

Year 4 - Yellow Class

Yellow class are having a great time –our chocolate 'WOW' day went down a treat with KS2 children, who have been discovering all about chocolate and the Aztecs this term. 84 children got to make hot chocolate, eat tortillas around a camp fire, taste test bars of chocolate, play an Aztec game and most excitingly watch... ..Birdie's mum, Ray Farr, demonstrate how she makes chocolate for her own business. It was a truly scrumptious day! Then last week we had a trip to Cadbury World. We have been learning about the Cadbury family in our guided reading sessions. We have also said a brief goodbye to Mr Rickman, who has been teaching some fantastic lessons recently. We will see him next week to give him a proper send-off.

Year 5 - Orange Class

Orange Class have been continuing their study of the award winning book 'The Legend of Podkin One - Ear'. We have been looking at character analysis, using evidence from the text to support our descriptions as well as writing our own detailed passages about the dark, mysterious warren 'Boneroot' using a DADWAVERS structure to aid our work. In maths we have been looking at equivalent fractions - how to make them and how to find the largest fraction with different denominators by applying this knowledge. Science has been fun, where we have been testing different conductors to see which will be best for setting up the brightest floodlights at a football stadium! We are about to present our findings!

Year 6 - Red Class

Along with the rest of Key Stage 2, Red Class enjoyed a trip to Cadbury World. We learned about the history of chocolate, visited the 4d cinema and tasted some chocolate - just a little bit! In maths we have been learning about how to calculate percentages using different models including the bubble method and the bar model. We have also learned to calculate percentage increases. In guided reading we have continued to read and analyse Kensuke's Kingdom. Our science work has taught us about drugs and alcohol and their effects on the body. Mr Marshall finished his teaching practice with us but is hoping to return for a few days soon.

PTA Lottery

Congratulations to the winners of the February lottery (drawn in Good News Assembly on 16th March)

1st – Mrs Harwood - £50

2nd – Sophie Wheadon – £20

3rd – Chris Brotherwood – £10

To join the lottery scheme, please collect a form from the office or contact Alyson Layton.



Parent Governor Vacancy

The Governing Body currently has a vacancy for a parent governor. If you would like to apply for the position please fill in the nomination form and return it to the school office by Monday 16th April. If you would like to discuss what the role entails, Mr Milne or Mrs Fishbourne would be happy to chat with you.

Kitchen Vacancy

We are looking for someone to help out in our school kitchen on a Monday and Friday until Sally returns to work. Any necessary catering and food hygiene training can be provided by the school. We are also in need of someone to deliver meals to Modiford School a few days a week, just before lunchtime. Please contact the school office if you can help with either of these roles.

Goodbye

We have now said goodbye to Miss Porter, Mr Rickman and Mr Marshall who have been teaching Green, Yellow and Red and classes respectively since January. We thank them for their hard work here at St. Mary's. We will miss them all and wish them every success in their teaching careers and for the future.

REMINDERS

Swimming

A reminder that Violet Class and Yellow Class will be swimming on a Monday afternoon in the summer term, starting on Monday 16th April.

School uniform

A reminder that children may wear summer uniform after the Easter holidays. Please see our website for full details.

NUT FREE SCHOOL



A reminder that as a 'nut-free school', we ask that you do not send any food containing nuts, sesame or chickpea products (e.g. hummus, peanut butter, nutty cereal bars, bread with sesame seeds, etc.) into school as we have children with severe allergic reactions to these products. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.



Mobile Phones Please remember that the school has a 'no mobile phone' policy. This includes the school's outside premises as well as the inside of the building.



Wye Valley River Festival

On Thursday 15th March Years 5 and 6 started an art project with Josie Rogerson. This project is part of the Wye Valley River Festival which will be flowing through the riverside towns and villages of the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), as artists and communities celebrate the river and its wonderful woodlands in a magnificent arts and environment festival.

In the first session the children thoroughly enjoyed designing creatures linked to local plants and animals. The project will continue over the next few weeks with some sessions taking place at Faulkner House. Residents from Faulkner House will be invited to join in with the project.

The end of the project will be celebrated on Wednesday 9th May at 3:30 when parents will be invited to the school field to view the children's work and watch a performance by "Desperate Men". For more details on these performers and the River Festival please visit www.wyvalleyriverfestival.co.uk



St. Mary's C of E Primary School - Board of Governors includes:

Headteacher: Mr T Milne | **Co-Chairs of Governors:** Mrs Alice Hayter and Mrs Sarah Fishbourne
Parent Governor: Mrs Helen Seaborne