



# The School Bell



*"What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow"*

Ringling in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 137 | 13th March, 2018

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

It is lovely to be back at school and feeling so much better than when I was last here! I have really missed everyone here and would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Gibbs, the staff, governors and everyone who has worked hard to keep the school running so smoothly over the past few months. I am now back in school part-time and will be increasing my hours every week between now and Easter. Mrs Gibbs will be based in Red Class every morning and some afternoons. I am really looking forward to getting back into school life once again.

Our value of the half-term is 'Unity'. We have started talking about the value in our assemblies and teaching it in classes. Please have a chat with your children about what unity means to them.

Best wishes,  
Mr Milne

## Dates for your diary...

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

**Wednesday 14th:** Years 3,4,5 & 6 visit to Cadbury World

**Thursday 15th:** SATs meeting for parents of Year 6 children, 5:00pm

**Tuesday 20th:** Parents' Evening 3.30 - 6 p.m.

**Thursday 22nd** and **Friday 23rd:** Crossfit activities linked to Sport Relief.

**Friday 23rd:** PTA Disco - Easter Bop.

**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.



## 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](http://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.



## 'A Sense of Herefordshire'

A reminder that copies of the children's book containing the children's artwork from last year are still available to buy at £10 each. If you would like to order a copy please let the school office know. The archivists at Hereford's Record Office have been delighted to receive a copy of the book for their archives, thus becoming part of the collection of documents and records held there concerning the history of Herefordshire. This means that the names of everybody featured in the book will go down in history!

## SATS Meeting

Unfortunately, the meeting for parents of Year 6 children had to be cancelled due to the snow last week. The meeting has been re-arranged for Thursday 15th March at 5:00 pm.



## Sport Relief

On Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd March the School Council will be organising a sponsored cross-fit event. Every class will have a designated time slot during the two days; children will receive a sponsor form to bring home during the next few days. All children may wear any sports clothing for the two days. Let's see how much money we can raise for Sport Relief!

## Parents' Evenings

You will have received your child's mid-year report last week. There will be an opportunity to discuss this with your child's class teacher at one of our parents' evenings, which take place on Tuesday 20th March between 3:30 and 6:00 pm and Monday 26th March between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. Please complete your appointment request form and return it to school as soon as possible. You will receive notification of your appointment time.

The PTA is holding a tidy-up day during the Easter holidays on Tuesday 10th April from 10:00 am. Please come along and help get the school grounds ready for the summer. Even if you can only come for a short time, any help would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you.

*The next School Bell will be issued on Friday 23rd March, 2018*

St. Mary's C of E Primary School | Biggs Lane | Fownhope | Hereford | HR1 4PG  
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School Office open from 8:30am, call: 01432 860474 | Headteacher: Mr T Milne

## News from the classes

### Pre-School

In pre school we have been covering the Gingerbread Man story and we decided that we didn't like him being eaten so we all helped to produce a happy ending to the story. We made gingerbread men which were delicious.

### Reception - Violet Class

Violet Class have been reading the story 'Wanted: Ralfy Rabbit, Book Burglar' and were in uproar when they discovered that some of their favourite books had been stolen from their classroom. They got to work straight away building rabbit traps and writing messages to Ralfy the book burglar to give them back! They are yet to be returned so if anybody spots Ralfy please let us know!

### Year 1 - Indigo Class

We have been learning about the seasons and the months of the year. We have been writing about our half term holiday and the snow! In Maths we have been adding numbers up to 20 and then writing their related subtraction number sentences. We have also enjoyed listening to various stories from the Bible.

### Year 2 - Blue Class

With Mrs McCann we have been investigating what traditional or fairy tales are. We have talked about good and bad characters and have decided to focus on writing a character description of a 'villain' to go on display for our World Book Day activities. With Mrs Whitesman, we have launched into Space finding out about the life of an astronaut and what they will need in order to stay alive in Space. We imagined that we are astronauts from the UK so we've found its four countries on a map and drawn the flag. We've used an atlas to find other European countries and we've learned about the points of a compass. In RE we are continuing to study Judaism, finding out about the festival of Purim.

### Year 3 - Green Class

In Green Class we have been measuring lots of things using different units of measure. In literacy we have been focusing on humorous poetry about school. In our topic lessons we have been creating different rhythms using body percussion to create chocolate bar jingles. Green Class are also really enjoying Miss Porter's French lessons and have learned lots of new vocabulary about families and pets.

### Year 4 - Yellow Class

Mr Rickman has been tackling division in maths and the children have been discussing the best strategies to solve problems. We are now moving on to learning about equivalent fractions. In literacy Yellow class have been planning instructions on 'How to write a good story' - not an easy task. Our Aztec plaques are finished and we have created a sacrificial temple display on our class wall - do come and have a look! In science we have continued to investigate animals and their habitats, which ties in with our percussion work based on 'Carnival of the Animals' by Saint Saens.

### Year 5 - Orange Class

Orange Class have started to read 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear' by Kieran Larwood. We are studying it as a class with guided reading sessions, grammar and punctuation work as well as extended writing. It is a mixture of Watership Down and the Hobbit and we are really enjoying it! In maths we have been looking at short division methods both practically (using counters and place value grids) as well as formal written methods.

### Year 6 - Red Class

We have been learning about the adventures of Spyfox who embarks on a mission to save the world by defeating the evil Dr. Hammer and his sardines. This year the whole school took "villains" as a writing theme for World Book Day so we have developed our own villains for Spyfox to defeat in his next adventure. In maths we have been learning about fractions, decimals and percentages. We have also been busy practising for "Sing Spring In".

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

### World Book Day

World Book Day 2018 was all about sharing a book with someone. It was an eventful day, to say the least, with the snow arriving. However, all the children and staff rose to the challenge and dressed up as well-loved book characters. The staff really went to town as spotty dalmations.

We managed to have an assembly, where we shared suggestions for some great books to buy with our World Book Day vouchers. Mrs McCann and Mrs Buck asked children to read out some character sketches based on truly great villains from children's literature - which is the theme for our class writing across the school in the days to come. Mrs Gibbs made a dramatic entrance as Cruella De Vil. We never realised that she makes a great villain! Some of the children even got to dress up in some interesting items to accompany 'Oi Goat!' read by Mrs Buck. It was a fantastic start to a rather disruptive day! It has been great that we were able to rerun the dressing-up part of the day again last Friday; everybody looked fantastic!



## 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  
**Vice Chair:** Mrs Sara Watts | **Parent Governors:** Mrs Sara Watts and Mrs Helen Seaborne