



The School Bell



“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”

Ringling in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 26 | 14th April 2011

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Value of the month, April - Respect

Our school council has helped with an important review of Assemblies. In discussion with Mrs. Green and me, the children have asked to be more involved in the assemblies. Their ideas are now part of our planning and review of daily worship. In addition, councillors are helping evaluate assemblies by commenting on what they especially enjoyed and how much the children were involved. This work is an example of how well our school community shows respect and takes into account the views of children as well as adults.

Governors, staff and I wish you and all your family an Easter full of joy as well as chocolate!

Kind regards,

Miss Taylor.

PTA news

The sun shone on Saturday and brought out crowds of eager seekers after Easter treats. A wonderful afternoon of fun, quizzes, hunts, games, crafts and cakes was a welcome break to Lent. Just over £650 was raised for PTA funds with a further £500 raised by the table top sale in the Memorial Hall. The hall proceeds are towards our Room for All appeal. PTA can now pause for breath before planning this summer's It's a Knockout! Decorated egg winners are – Class 1 – Lucy McCardle; Class 2 – Joseph Harwood; Class 3 – Laura Samuel; Class 4 – Mia Moore.

Sainsbury's Active Kids

Please collect these if you shop at Sainsbury's. A collection box is in the foyer.



Staff news

Following interview we are delighted to announce that Miss Amy Duckett will cover Mrs. Gibbs' maternity leave. Amy joins us in September but will spend time here at the end of next term to meet the new Reception children and parents. Amy comes to us from teaching Reception in London for the last two years. We are also pleased that Miss Emma Brotherhood will cover Class 1 for the last four weeks of the summer term. Emma is a regular volunteer in school and has just been awarded her teaching qualification. And yes, she is Mrs. B's daughter and we are fortunate she is able to help cover the end of term and also that she knows our school so well! We look forward to welcoming both to St. Mary's.

You may have heard on the grapevine the news that Miss Taylor is to marry in December. It is true and was not a late April fool as rumoured! We wonder when was the last time the Head teacher at Fownhope wed...?

Jess Talbot begins her maternity leave this week and we send our best wishes as we await the news of baby's safe arrival. During Jess' leave, Layla Johnson acts up as Deputy Supervisor in playgroup and takes charge of After school care. Please note that After school care is now based in the playgroup room as more pre-schoolers are using the service. Please collect your child from the playgroup entrance.

School Hot Dinners

A new menu for the summer term, with a slightly different layout, a three week rolling menu returning to Week 1 after half-terms and holidays irrespective of which week we finished on.



Dates for your diary...

Good News assembly - Every Thursday 2:45pm at school, parents, family and friends all welcome

May

4th - Summer term commences

5th - Playgroup dance session in the school hall

6th - Final instalment for the London visit due • First swim for Years 2,3,4 & final group of Year 1 • Finance governors meet

7th - Chess megafinal

10th - Full Governing body meeting, 6pm • Meeting for parents of children going to London, 3.30

16th - Room For All fundraising meeting, PTA invited to send a delegate.

18th - Listening Link Buddies Meeting @ Bishops

19th - Class 1 and playgroup attend a performance of The Gruffalo's Child at the Courtyard • PTA fashion show - details to follow

24th - London visit to see the Wizard of Oz, with Mordiford school

Half term - 30th May- 3rd June.

St. Mary's C of E Primary School | Biggs Lane | Fownhope | Hereford | HR1 4PG
www.st-marys-fownhope.co.uk | email: info@st-marys-fownhope.co.uk

School Office open from 8:30am, call: 01432 860474 | Headteacher: Miss Allyson Taylor

Village News

Fownhope Heart of Oak Society – Treasure Hunt

It's time again for the popular village Treasure Hunt. With a chance to be the first to win a coveted 2011 Heart of Oak Mug. This year it's a Walking Treasure Hunt around Fownhope (No stiles involved) to be held on Sunday 8th May, commencing 2.30pm at the Pavilion on the Recreation Field. Bring the family and take the children and dog for a walk! Entry for this is £5 per team. Cream Tea at the end included! We look forward to seeing you there, Fownhope Heart of Oak Society.

Sports triumphs



We retained the Rural schools' Football cup, winning all matches at the tournament at Credenhill last week, despite being one of the smallest schools to compete. Many congratulations to all our footballers and netballers. While the netball team did not win a trophy they did compete for the shield and lost by a narrow margin. These events bring the winter games season to an end. Well done to coaches, players and supporters alike. For a small rural school we are punching well above our weight in a range of sports.

None of this would be possible without the support of parents and staff who give up their time to coach the squads.

ICT Evening for Parents

After the well attended maths evening in the first term, we hope you found the IT evening of interest. It conveyed powerful messages about e-safety. If you have any suggestions for further curriculum events, please let us know.



Summer uniform

Blue dresses and polo shirts with the school badge may be worn after the holiday. Polo shirts are available from the Uniform shop in Maylord Orchard. Children may also wear secure flat sandals with socks. Please apply sunscreen on hot days and ensure your child has water in a bottle to sip during the day.

Requests for Holiday Absence

Our policy is not to give permission for absence in the 8 school weeks prior to SATs tests which are taken in Years 2 and 6 during May/June. Other year groups also have assessments at this time. Please bear this in mind if you are considering a request for absence. We look at every request individually and take into account the level of attendance in this school year when making a decision. Unfortunately, if your child's attendance is below 90% we are unlikely to authorise further absence for a holiday.

Please bear this in mind when considering a request.

A Warm Welcome

To Imogen and Finlay Bell who joined Reception and Year 2 recently and to Esme who joins Mums and Tots. We hope all the family feel at home at St. Mary's. We noted Mum, Jackie, helping in Class 2 on her first day as a St. Mary's parent!

Chess Megafinal and St. Mary's Champion



After weeks of gruelling matches we have several worthy qualifiers for the Mercia Megafinal held at Kingstone primary school on 7th May. Many congratulations to Hannah Drury who is this year's school champion, our first girl in at least 8 years! Also congratulations to Bethany and Joseph Harwood, Rosie Harris, Henry Jones, Samuel Dominguez Middle and Hannah and Bevis Drury who all qualified to play in the Megafinal against other qualifiers from the Mercia region. Our thanks to Santi and Peter Daines who have run the after school chess club this year.

Term dates 2011/2012

Spring Term 2011:

Term starts	5th January 2011
Half term	21st-25th February 2011
Term ends	14th April 2011

Summer Term 2011:

Term starts	4th May 2011
Half term	30th May-3rd June 2011
Term ends	21st July 2011

Autumn Term 2011:

Term starts	Tuesday 6th September 2011
Half term	24th-28th October 2011
Term ends	16th December 2011

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

Allyson Taylor - Headteacher | Jaine Yule - Chairman | William Dereham - Vice Chairman
Sian Nunn - Parent Governor