

# The School Bell



*“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”*

Ring in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 33 | 16th November 2011

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's

## Christian Value of the month – November – Responsibility

This value was planned to reinforce safety messages around Bonfire and Firework celebrations. It also supported our thinking around the British Legion Poppy appeal. On the 11th we made a short act of remembrance with playgroup children and staff joining us. We held a two minute silence and listened to the church bells. I read the famous lines written by Canadian poet and soldier, Laurence Binyon: “They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.” The children responded by saying “We will remember them.” With several forces families in our school community, this year's act of remembrance was more fitting than ever. It is our wish that our children feel a sense of gratitude for those serving in the forces, past and present, and show consideration for others as they grow up and become responsible citizens.

Kind regards,  
Miss Taylor.

## Sports News



Congratulations to our netball squad and Mrs Blair, who hosted the cluster tournament recently. We came a gallant third overall with some excellent and closely fought games. The tournament was extremely well organised by Mrs. Blair, with Class 5 and parents supporting by providing marshalling, scoring and much needed refreshments!

The football squad competes this week in the Community Cup, so more news in the next edition.

## Teaching Assistant Vacancy – temporary post

We seek a new member of staff to support a specific child for 25 hours a week. Details are on the Herefordshire website or available from the school office.

**Closing date 21st November.**

## Parking and safety request

Parents are asked not to park on the yellow zigzag lines by the main gates or on the opposite corner. The zigzags are there to allow safe access for minibuses and to prevent accidents. Parking there may result in a fixed penalty fine. The safest place to park is on the main village road and walk up Biggs Lane.



## Christmas Events

Classes 3 and 4 are staging a seasonal production, “Merry Christmas, Mr. Scrooge!” on Monday 12th December in the school hall. There will be 2 shows, one at 9.15 for pre-schoolers and parents and an evening show at 6pm. Tickets available soon!

School Carol Service will be in St. Mary's Church at 6pm on Tuesday 13th December.

Christmas Fayre – Sunday 11th December – 4-6pm – see below for details

In addition to our theatre visits, see last edition, we welcome Rob and Sea Legs puppets to school on 5th December. The show is for playgroup and Classes 1, 2 and 3.

## Dates for your diary...

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

### November

**16th** – Community cup football tournament, no after school football club • Class 1 phonics evening for parents, 6-7pm • Mr. Ben Straker leading Assembly and working with Class 5, equality theme.

**19th** - Tae Kwondo in school am.

**25th** - Interviews for new TA post.

**28th** - Meeting of the full Governing Body

**30th** - Possible strike action and school closure

### December

**5th** - Sea Legs puppet show

**6th** - Classes 4 and 5 at the Old Rep, Birmingham, to see the Jungle Book • Playgroup Nativity and party in the school hall

**11th** - Christmas Fayre, 4-6pm

**12th** - 9.15am and 6pm, performances of Classes 3 and 4 play

**13th** - Carol service in Church

**15th** - Classes 1,2, and 3 at the Everyman theatre, Cheltenham, to see Jack and the Beanstalk

**16th** - Term ends

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

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

## News from the Classes

**Class 1** have transformed into Superheroes in the last week and developed special costumes and powers. Have you noticed?

**Class 2** have had a special gymnastics lesson with Bishop's PE teacher, Mrs. Rudge.

**Class 3** are spending time at Forest school and made fantastic model houses, complete with electric lights!

**Class 4** have learned about compass directions and coordinates within a topic on pirates.

**Class 5** children are continuing their research into WW2 and had a presentation from visitor, Mr Dowling. He talked about his wartime experiences.

## PTA news

Chair of PTA, Mrs. Claire Braybrook and the new committee are busy planning our Christmas Fayre. As ever, this popular event takes place after the Christingle Service on Sunday 11th December, 4-6pm. We hope Father Christmas will visit and say hello! If you could spare some time to help either on the day or before hand, then please let the school office know. Many hands make light work!

## Possible Strike Action and school closure –Advance Notice

You will know from the national news that a public sector strike is planned for 30th November. If this goes ahead school is likely to close as several key staff are affected. We suggest you make advance contingency plans for that day and apologise for any inconvenience caused. We will update you nearer the time.

## Shoebox appeal

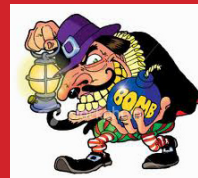


These will be collected on Friday 18th November. Some children are making one with a partner which seems a good way of sharing the cost and message of helping others. We watched a DVD from the charity in Assembly. In it we met some of the children who received a box last year. Please support this appeal if you can. We sent a record number of boxes last year and know how well received they were.

## Church News

Reverend Christopher Moore is installed and licensed this week. Miss Taylor will attend this service and we hope to see our new Rector in school soon after.

## Guy Fawkes Competition



Well done to Molly Preece and Cameron Burt, whose Guys won 1st and 3rd place respectively. Molly's Sky Fawkes was a delight, with Cameron's Fireman and engine on duty to sort any firework problems!



## Bags 2 School

will now be collected on **TUESDAY 6th DECEMBER** – please do **NOT** bring your bags into school before this date, as we have nowhere to store them!

## School Lunches

STOP PRESS! Governors are in discussion with a company interested in cooking meals for us in our own kitchen. More information to follow but we hope to have better provision in place next term. At present, it is vital you pay for meals on a Monday. School has to pay for every meal ordered and if there is a shortfall, we have to pay from school budget.



## Junior Road Safety competition

This year's Officers, Eve Straker and Jake Price, ran a competition to raise awareness of the use of cycle helmets. The winners were **Ella Watts** (1st Key Stage 1), **Hannah Russell** (2nd, Key Stage 1), **Laura Samuel** (1st Key Stage 2), **Bevis Drury** (2nd Key Stage 2).

## Term dates 2011/2012

### Autumn Term 2011:

Half term 24th-28th October 2011  
Term ends 16th December 2011

### Spring Term 2011:

Term starts 4th Jan 2012  
Half term 13th-17th Feb 2012  
Term ends 30th March 2012

## 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