



The School Bell



“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”

Ringling in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 36 | 10th February 2012

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Christian Value for February – Friendship

It is hard to believe that half-term is upon us! Fortunately, to date, the cold weather has not disrupted school.

In the last few weeks school welcomed two Local Authority inspectors who spent the day observing lessons, meeting with staff, governors and children and looking at books. The report from Huw Evans and Sarah Somers is extremely positive and awards a securely “good” with some outstanding features in teaching, pupils’ achievement, behaviour and safety and school leadership and management. We are very encouraged by the reports’ findings.

Staff and I wish you a good half-term break.

Kind regards,

Miss Taylor.

School dinners and staff update

These are so much better now they are cooked on site. Fresh veg and a choice of three dishes each day. We welcome Mrs. Michaela Emmett, Mum to Christie in Class 5, as Stewart’s assistant cook. Please note that dinners have to be ordered on a Tuesday for the following week.

Playgroup news

During Bethryn’s maternity leave, Jess is acting supervisor with Jemma and Layla helping on the days Jess is not in. We welcome Becs Wallis Sorbo to playgroup 3 mornings a week. Becs also continues to run the successful mums and tots group on a Wednesday afternoon.

Playgroup children have made some wonderful artwork to celebrate Chinese New Year. Melody Bear sessions with Class 1 have been a great success.

PTA News

PTA committee members have a new Easter event in hand – more details to follow but don’t “charity shop” any good quality children’s clothes, toys, books or games! Make a note of the date 24th March.

Good News Assembly

As you know we love to share the successes children make out of school. Recently we heard about an act of kindness shown by Poppi Broderick in Class 1 towards her grandmother in St. Michael’s hospice and were able to congratulate her in assembly. If your child has done something you would like us to celebrate please let us know. It doesn’t have to be a certificate, medal or trophy to present; something special done at home or kindness shown to others would be lovely to share.

Fownhope Community led plan

School is to take part in this consultation to help shape our village community in the future. The 3D map and display will be in school on the 16th and 17th March.

Fownhope is producing a plan of how it would like to look in the future. A Community-Led Plan sets out the views, needs and aspirations of the parish and captures this information in an Action Plan. These actions can be taken forward by the community and the Parish Council.

A Steering Group composed of residents and members of the Parish Council has been formed and will be organising two ‘Planning for Real’ events at the school. Planning for Real involves you placing flags on large scale maps of the parish indicating what you like, don’t like or would like changed. We would like to invite you all along on either Friday 16th March between 5.30-7.30pm or Saturday between 10.00-2.00pm - there will be refreshments and a chance to have your say, so I hope you can make it. There will also be an opportunity for the children to have their say about their village, which will be done during school hours. Anyone is welcome to join the steering group at any stage please get in touch with Mel Preedy, Steering Group secretary on fownhopeclerk@hotmail.com or 769480. Details of meetings will be placed on the newly formed website <http://sites.google.com/site/fownhopeclp/>

Mel Preedy - Clerk to Fownhope Parish Council

Dates for your diary...

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

February

20th - Term resumes

21st - SICO dinner table maintenance service in the Hall 8am

24th - First swim at Ross pool

27th - Foundation governor visits to school

March

2nd - Playgroup committee meeting

3rd - Swimming Gala

7th - ACTS 2 lead worship

8th - No Ukulele class after school

15th - 21st Book Fair

16th - 17th Fownhope community plan display/consultation in school

19th - meeting of the full Governing Body

21st - Rural schools tournaments at Credenhill

27th - PTA Easter Parties

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 children have had some very special visitors from the traditional tales they have read. Gingerbread men have been decorated and straw, left over from the little pigs' house, found outside. Whatever next?

Class 2 children have made chassis for their moving vehicles, practicing subtraction and learning about the Christian heroes, Noah and David.

Class 3 learners have investigated reversible and irreversible changes in Science. They also reenacted a baptism to find out about Christian symbols and traditions.

Class 4 is exploring the rainforest and children have made some exquisite artwork using shades of green and with pastels in the style of Rousseau.

Class 5 children are engaged in lively debate on the issue of graffiti. They are also working on sophisticated prints in three colours.

Questionnaires

A huge thank you for your time and suggestions in the recent parents' questionnaire. We had a very good response with over 50 forms returned. A more detailed feedback will follow but you have made some extremely helpful comments about how we can further improve St. Mary's. For example, a common comment was that you don't know who all our governors are or what they do. So, see below, which we hope you find helpful.

Governor Profile

Parent Governor, Mrs. Sian Nunn.

Sian works as an occupational therapist and is mum to Jack, Huw, David and Rhys. David and Rhys are in Classes 5 and 4 this year. Jack and Huw have moved onto Bishop's. Sian is our Special Needs governor and meets regularly with Mrs.



Brotherwood and class teachers to offer advice and monitor provision. You will also see her running the book and DVD stall and nearly new uniform. Sian works with Mr. Hewitt to run our small book group on Thursdays after school. She is in school virtually every day in some capacity and currently is coordinating the school swimming squad for the forthcoming county gala.

Book Fair

This arrives on 15th March for a week with a specially chosen selection of books for pre-school and school age children.

Advance notice – Easter Service

This takes place in St. Mary's Church at 2pm on 28th March. Children from Classes 1 and 2 will lead our celebration of this greatest Christian festival.

Medicine Policy

If your child requires a dose of prescription medicine during the school day, please fill in a consent form in the Office when bringing the medicine into school. In line with national health guidance we are unable to administer non-prescription medication eg. Calpol/Nurofen.



Term dates 2012

Spring Term 2012:

Term starts 4th Jan 2012

Half term 13th-17th Feb 2012

Term ends 30th March 2012

Summer Term 2012:

Term starts 18th April 2012

Half term 4th-8th June 2012

Term ends 20th July 2012

Autumn Term 2012:

Term starts 4th September 2012

Half term 22nd-26th October 2012

Term ends 21st December 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