



# The School Bell



*“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”*

Ring in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 44 | 3rd December 2012

## Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Christian Value for December – Love

Advent is upon us and I hope you received the advent calendar with instructions sent home to make with your child. This comes from the Mother's Union and Hereford Diocese who invited church schools to send them home at this important time in the Christian calendar. There are special, seasonal events in the last few weeks of term so I hope to see you and that you enjoy this time of anticipation up to Christmas. My daughter's Christmas list is now limited to four items. We make it our rule that as Jesus had four presents, if you count the lamb, and that should be enough. Staff and I hope the children understand the reason for the season and rejoice in Jesus' birth amongst all the glitter!

Kind Regards,  
Miss Taylor.

## Children in need

The pyjama day raised over £160 – a fantastic amount!

Thanks for your support. Well done to the group of older children who organised the celebrations and to Sally in the kitchen for her delicious Pudsey cookies.



## Dinners

PLEASE, PLEASE order, using the form, on the THURSDAY for the next week! Sally orders food supplies and cooks for the numbers indicated on Thursdays. Several families are sending

in late orders which we are struggling to meet. We cannot guarantee that your child will get a hot lunch if this is not ordered in time.

**Last orders for CHRISTMAS DINNERS is Tuesday 4th December 2012.**

## Dates for your diary...

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

### December

5th - Sea Legs puppet show

11th - Wear what you like for cakes/bottles/raffle prizes

12th - last Good News Assembly of the term

13th - PTA fair

14th - Playgroup Nativity in the school Hall, 2pm

18th - Nativity rehearsals in church pm

14th - End of term reports sent home

18th - Dress rehearsals for the Nativity in church

19th - R, Y1, Y2 attend the Everyman theatre, Dick Whittington - leaving at 8.30am

20th Years 3-6 attend the Rep, Wind in the Willows - leaving at 8am

21st Term ends 1pm

Spring term commences - 7th January, 2013

## Concern Universal Appeal



concern  
universal



Jo Davies from CU met with our school council to explore an appeal called "Path out of Poverty." This is to provide basic needs, like clean water, in parts of the developing world. Jo then gave a presentation during Good News Assembly. Children were invited to bring in a £1 coin to cover a map of the world and, at least symbolically, remove extreme poverty. There is still time if you would like to contribute to the appeal.

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

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

## Staff News

Sadly, Miss Sarah Potter, who was working in Miss Duckett's class had to resign due to ill health. We are sorry to see her go but also pleased to welcome Miss Siobhan Tutt into the same role.

## Good News Assembly, the last of 2012, will be on Wednesday 12th at 2.45pm.

### News from the Classes

Miss Duckett's children have made gloopy slime to help with their superhero work.

In Mrs. Gooch's class the children have investigated sources of light in Science.

Year 2 with Mrs. Richards are learning about Jesus as a teacher and healer.

Mrs. Brotherhood's children are investigating habitats and the rainforest.

In Mrs. Gibbs' class children are working on fractions in maths, challenging work.

With Mrs. Buck and Mrs. Blair the class is studying rivers and how forces work. No one is yet building an ark but with the weather as it has been...!

## Nativity with Carols

This service takes place in Church on **Friday 21st December at 11am**. Children will return to school and may be collected at 12.00 or 1.00pm. Term ends at 1pm for all pupils.

During the service a nativity scene will be created following the Bible lessons from Isaiah and the gospels. All classes will lead the singing by each performing the first verse of a traditional carol and invite the congregation to join in the rest of the song. We hope to see you there to mark the end of a wonderful term.



## Sea Legs puppet show

Rob and the puppets join us on **5th December** to perform the Selfish Giant. This gives our younger children the experience of attending a live show prior to their theatre visit to Cheltenham on 19th December.

## Swimming successes

A number of children have passed swimming badges recently. So many in fact we have run out of red badges! Please bear with us until we can order new ones. At this point in the year only two children from Year 2 up are non-swimmers and with Mrs. Robinson's coaching these two won't be long in gaining their red badge.

## PTA Christmas fair

Festive fun for All on Thursday 13th at 2.30-5pm. Tuesday 11th December is a "Wear what you like" day in return for donations of homemade cakes, bottles for the bottle stall and raffle prizes.



## Playgroup news

Jemma Slane has been appointed Deputy Supervisor at another setting and so leaves with our congratulations at the end of term. Miss Rachel Evans joins the playgroup team in January. Rachel has several years' experience in pre-schools, even in foreign parts! (well, Cardiff)

## Staff vacancies

We look to recruit two teaching assistants to support specific children with special needs. Linda McNabb, one of our cleaning team, retires at the end of the term and so we seek a replacement for two hours a day. Details of all 3 posts are on the Herefordshire Council website.

## Advance notice

School will be closed for essential staff training on 14th and 15th February, before half term. All teachers and assistants will be working on an exciting new phonics programme which will be used across the school to support reading and writing.

*Term dates 2012/2013*

**Autumn Term 2012/ Spring Term 2013**

Term ends 21st December 2012

Term starts 7th January 2013

## 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