



The School Bell



“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”

Ring in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 45 | 7th January 2013

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Christian Value for January – Patience

A belated happy New Year from staff and governors!

The holidays have flown by and at least it hasn't rained for a few days since the new year. Your child will bring home curriculum information and a timetable for the Spring term. Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any queries about the work planned for this term. Thank you for the kind gifts and cards received before Christmas. I hope you enjoyed the nativity with carols. I shall never forget Miss Duckett's class singing "Away in a Manger!" nor how well the other classes marked the occasion.

We have celebrated Epiphany in our worship and thought about the perseverance and patience shown by the wise men who travelled so far and for so long to visit the newborn king.

Kind Regards,

Miss Taylor.

Welcome

A special new year welcome to Robyn Burgess who has joined Year 1 and Mrs. Gooch's class. We hope she and her family soon feel at home at St. Mary's. We also welcome two new members of the support staff team. Miss Laura Thomas and Miss Sophie Stockton are working with Mrs. Gooch and Mrs. Gibbs supporting the learning in respective classes.

Clubs begin next week

You will receive a letter about clubs offered this term. Places are limited so please return the reply slip as soon as possible.

Playgroup news

We said goodbye to Jemma Slane and Jane Presdee and welcome Rachel Evans to playgroup as our new member of staff. Bethryn Hanbury, our supervisor, leaves us for a career break at the end of this half term. We thank all those members of staff who are moving on for their valuable contribution to playgroup over a number of years. The committee and I are delighted that Jackie Bell will be deputy supervisor with Jess Talbot until Bethryn's departure. After half-term Jackie will be the new supervisor. Jackie is known to many of you as a member of playgroup staff and parent of Finlay, Imogen and Esme. We look forward to her taking the lead in playgroup and building on the successes of Bethryn and the team.

Dinners

These are now **£2.20 a day** and we request that orders are received on Thursday for the following week. Sally has done a wonderful job last term in resurrecting our dinners and we thank her for the delicious meals and especially the Christmas dinners! We hope to offer a special meal for the end of this term, perhaps an Easter feast? If you are interested in helping in the kitchen as a volunteer, please let us know. On some busy days Sally would appreciate an extra pair of hands. Thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Price who helped serve Christmas dinners.

Cleaner required

We seek a cleaner for 2 hours a day with some stand down hours in the school holiday.

Please contact the school office for further details. We have someone helping temporarily but would like to recruit a permanent member of staff.

Please consider it – your school needs you!

Dates for your diary...

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

January

14th – Miss Lisa Barnes, student teacher begins working in Year 3

25th – Staffing and Finance governors meet at 9am

29th – Local Authority review, two inspectors visit

February

4th – Playgroup committee meeting 2pm

14th & 15th – School and playgroup closed for Staff training – Read Write Inc, phonics.

18th-22nd – Half term

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

Swimming

Swimming starts this week for Years 2, 3 & 4. Please remember kit and we ask that children with long hair wear hats. Last term saw a record number of children achieve badges and so more children than ever are safe and confident in water.

News from the Classes - already this week!

Miss Duckett's children are blending phonics and studying traditional fairy tales

Mrs. Gooch's class is investigating forces and moving vehicles

Mrs. Richards' children are solving number problems and exploring food groups

Mrs. Brotherwood's Year 3s are writing recounts in English

Mrs. Gibbs' class is preparing to explore Ancient Egypt

Mrs. Blair's children are beginning a study of the Victorians

Requests for leave

Governors have amended the school policy on planned absence to meet national guidelines and also reflect the expectation that primary age children's attendance should be 97% over the year. Only in truly exceptional circumstances will term-time leave be authorised. Each request is considered carefully; however, we have declined some requests in the last term and ask you to avoid taking children out of school during term time.

Let's talk course

This is a course for adults working with children who have speech and language difficulties. St. Mary's is hosting the sessions over 6 weeks, commencing 4th February. If you are interested in attending the sessions on Monday evenings, please contact Miss Taylor.

PTA News

The Christmas fair was a resounding success with a record number of visitors and an excellent result. £1313 was raised. Thanks to the band of willing helpers and watch this space for the next event!

Music Lessons

If you are interested in your child having individual music lessons there are places available for various instruments. Please contact the school office for details.

Birthday Cakes



If you send birthday cake in to share with the class we will hand this out at home time and ask that individual cupcakes or pre-cut and wrapped cake is sent in.

Parking reminder

We respectfully remind all parents that the Car Park is for **SCHOOL AND PLAYGROUP STAFF ONLY**. Unless by prior arrangement, parents should not park there.

Free School Meals

Some families may not know they are eligible for free school meals. Even if you do not wish to use these, being registered as eligible brings in more money to school and so helps all the children. Please ask Mrs. Barrand for a form even if you don't intend to use the meals..

Advance notice

14th & 15th February – School and playgroup closed for Staff training – Read Write Inc, phonics.

Summer term ends **Friday 19th July**, not Thursday 18th as previously indicated. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Term dates 2013

Spring Term 2013

Term starts 7th January 2013

Half term 18th – 22nd February 2013

Term ends 28th March 2013

Summer Term 2013

Term starts 16th April 2013

Half term 27th – 31st May 2013

Term ends 19th July 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