



The School Bell



“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”

Ring in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 51 | 16th July 2013

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Christian Value for July – Respect

As the school year draws to a close I reflect on the many highlights of this year.

We began by opening the Jubilee room to allow us to have six classes. As well as growing in physical space we have grown in pupil and staff numbers. The first term closed with a packed church celebrating the Nativity with readings and carols. This term has flown by in a flurry of special events, visits, plays, sports et al! Ofsted inspected in April and for the third inspection running, 2006, 2009, 2013, we achieved all good/ outstanding grades.

My thanks to all who support our school and make it such a special place, something visitors comment on. We send our Year 6 children off to their high schools with all good wishes for the future and look forward to hearing of their progress and successes. We say goodbye and good luck to Miss Duckett who moves away over the summer. I know the families whose children have been in her class appreciate how fantastic she is and how lucky we are as a school to have had her with us for two years. She came initially for a few months maternity cover and stayed on! We also say thank you and goodbye to Mrs. Cath Close who has supported a number of children and families in the last two years.

The end of year prizegiving service is on Friday at 1.30pm. You are welcome to take your children early when we return from church.

On behalf of all working at St. Mary's I wish you and your family a wonderful, happy and well-deserved holiday.

Kind regards,

Miss Taylor.

Romeo and Juliet

Year 5 and 6 performed this to great acclaim at the Courtyard in June. Two sell out performances will be in school next week. Years 2, 3, and 4 watched the dress rehearsal.



This project has been such a success we have signed up for a similar production of a Roald Dahl story next year!

Year 1 phonics check

We are delighted that 71% of our children passed the check. The pass mark is 32/40 so achieving this is cause for celebration and shows the impact Read Write INC phonics and skilled support for different abilities is having. We are also pleased that the few children who did not pass last year have flown through the test in Year 2.

Internet update

As you know we have had problems in switching to a new Broadband provider. We hope that all will be fully in place in the last week of term. In the meanwhile please phone or call in with messages as email is unreliable at present. Thank you for your patience. Pen and ink don't create the same problems and we have looked with interest at carrier pigeons!

Dates for your diary...

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

July

17th - Year 5&6 performance of Romeo & Juliet at the school 2pm & 7pm.

18th - Last Good News Assembly.

19th - Prizegiving in Church at 1.30pm.

September

4th - New term commences.

October 28th - 1st November - Half term

December

20th - Term ends at 1pm

Spring term 2014

January 6th - Term commences

February 17th - 21st - Half term

April 11th - Term ends

Summer term 2014

April 28th - Term commences

May 26th-30th - Half term

July 16th - Term ends at 1pm

St. Mary's C of E Primary School | Biggs Lane | Fownhope | Hereford | HR1 4PG
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School Office open from 8:30am, call: 01432 860474 | Headteacher: Miss Allyson Taylor

News from the classes

All classes move up in the last week of term and spend a lesson with their teacher and classmates.

Miss Duckett's children have written recounts of their excellent day exploring Puzzle wood

Mrs. Gooch's children have been working on counting in steps of 5 ready for learning times tables.

Year 2 with Mrs. Richard's have been investigating seaside holidays past and present.

Mrs Brotherwood and Miss Scrivens - Lots of piratical noises have emanated from the Year 3s in Mrs Brotherwood and Miss Scrivens Class, who are investigating buccaneers and seafarers!

Mrs. Gibbs' class have written amazing fantasy stories over several sessions and were totally absorbed in this task.

All things African has been the theme in Year 5/6 with Swahili maths lessons, science on malaria, music and PE based on Africa.

Attendance

As all schools, we promote good attendance to ensure children make the progress they should. With the changes in legislation we can no longer authorise planned leave unless in truly exceptional circumstances. We ask you to think about the consequences of taking your child out of school. Studies prove that low attendance, below 90%, shows in at least one grade lower at GCSE. **Fixed penalty fines will be issued from September and these can be around £120 per child for one day.** You will see your child's attendance level on the end of term report. If your child is prone to illness we can arrange flexible days when they are recovering and we will administer prescription medication once you feel they are well enough to return, even part-time. **We ask you to help your child maintain good attendance at the expected level of 97% for primary age children.**

PTA News

It's a Knockout proved another triumph with many teams competing around the challenging course. Profits look to be in the region of £1,100! Thanks to the PTA team and many helpers, staff and children who made this event such a success. Those of you who were there saw Miss Taylor with Mackenzie, both had a great afternoon meeting folks and cheering on the teams.

Sun safety

In the event of further sunshine please ensure your child brings water (not squash) to sip during the day, has a sun hat and long lasting sun protection applied before school. Bearing in mind the unpredictable summer weather, a coat would still be of use in school!

Holiday Club



Playgroup staff are offering holiday club with a range of exciting activities already planned. The club will run for the first two weeks of the holidays.

Please see Jackie in playgroup for details.

End of term reminder

Please ensure all your child's belongings go home by the last day. Any items left (lunch boxes, bottles, kit) will be disposed of over the holiday. Lost property will be on the playground for you to check over the last few days of term.

Term dates 2013

The Autumn term commences on Wednesday 4th September. The new Reception children with Miss Welling stay till 1pm on the first week then join us full time from Monday 9th. Please note the term dates in your diaries.

Summer Term 2013

Term ends 19th July 2013

Autumn Term 2013

Term starts 4th September 2013

Half term 28th Oct – 1st Nov 2013

Term ends 20th December 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