



The School Bell



“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”

Ring in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 53 | 25th September 2013

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Christian Value for September/October – Co-operation/Appreciation

Term is moving on rapidly and classes are starting to plan for our Harvest Service. This takes place on Monday 21st October at 2pm in St. Mary's church.

Our service is a week after that celebrated by the parish so we hope the church will still be beautifully decorated. As in recent years we ask that each child brings in a harvest offering of tinned or dried foods and toiletries. We support the Community Larder project which provides food for families struggling to feed themselves in these hard times. Children are asked to bring their offerings in on the day and we arrange for them to be collected by food bank volunteers. Please spare all you can!

Kind regards,
Miss Taylor.

Parents' evenings

Advance notice – these take place on 23rd and 24th October after school. Further details and a booking form to follow, but please make a note of the dates.

Learning mentor and school counsellor

We are delighted that Mr. Hewitt, who works as a TA in school, is taking on the role of learning mentor and counsellor. His role is to help children overcome barriers to their learning. You may recall Mrs. Close supporting children in a similar way and Cath retired in July. If you think your child would benefit from some extra pastoral support please contact Mr. Hewitt through the school office.



Fresh Start

This term sees the implementation of Fresh Start, a programme designed to be used in Key Stage 2 to complement the Read Write Inc programme. It has been recommended to boost reading, writing and spelling levels.

NASUWT/NUT strike action, Tuesday 1st October.

This strike has been called to protest at changes to teachers' pay, conditions and pensions. While governors are committed to keeping school running as far as possible, we regret that only Miss Welling's and Mrs. Brotherhood's classes will be open on 1st October.

There will be no after school clubs on that day. Playgroup and after school care are not affected.

Year 6 SATs results

Last year's Year 6 achieved outstanding results in their tests.

100% achieved Level 4 or 5 in maths, 83% in reading and 100% in writing.

Two children came close to Level 6 in maths.

Dates for your diary...

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

September 2013

27th - Year 5s gardening

30th - Mrs. Blair, Heartstart refresher training

October 2013

4th - Year 6s gardening

14th - Sovereign repair the trim trail

21st - Harvest service 2pm in church

22nd - Playgroup committee meeting

23rd / 24th - Parents' evenings 3.30-5/6pm

25th - Half term begins

December 2013

20th - Term ends at 1pm

Spring term 2014

January 6th - Term commences

February 17th - 21st - Half term

April 11th - Term ends

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

Miss Welling's children have already learned their first reading sounds in Read Write INC!

Mrs. Gooch's class is investigating sounds and how these are made and heard.

With Mrs. Richard's the children are finding out where our food comes from.

Year 3 children are visiting Tudor times and have explored what makes a good friend.

Years 4, 5, & 6 this term study the Second World War and are using the novel: "Goodnight, Mr. Tom," to understand what happened to evacuees.



Medical and contact information

Please notify us in writing of any changes to medical or contact details for your child.

Please ensure that we have up to date inhalers in the school office for your child. Please note that we can only administer prescription items – no over the counter meds.

New Reception children

Our sixteen new children have settled brilliantly into life at St. Mary's. Miss Welling and Mr. Hewitt are setting exciting and challenging tasks and giving support to each child.

A very warm welcome to Esther, Laura, Birdie, William, Connor, Rory, Sophie, Beatrix, Rufus, Olivia, Eva, Jude, Cole, Keomi, Jacob and Thomas. Each was presented with a wooden welcome cross to mark their first weeks at school.

Leave of absence

Following a change to the legislation on school attendance from 1st September, schools cannot authorise term-time leave for holidays. Leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Singing and Samba Club

The first session will start on Thursday 26th September. The club is run by Karen Coleman who also provides musical tutoring within school under the Wider Opportunities scheme, which many of the children have participated in. The after school club runs until 4pm and is open to Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 and costs just £2.00 per week. **There are still places available if your child would like to join in. Contact the school office for further information.**

Breakfast club security

We respectfully remind parents that if you wish to speak to a teacher, you should leave a message at the school office, not approach staff inside the building when dropping children off at breakfast club. A small number of parents have been asked not to do so but continue to go through the hall to speak to a teacher. This breaches our fire and security rules. Any visitors must sign in at the main entrance. Thank you for your co-operation.

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



Prefect posts

Applications have now closed for the posts advertised. We will announce in the next few days who has been appointed as our Head boy, Head girl, Sports captain and prefects.

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