



# The School Bell



*“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”*

Ring in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 71 | 17th October 2014

## Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Christian Value for October - Perseverance

The weather has certainly changed since the last newsletter; autumn is now well and truly upon us! As we head towards the winter, we would still like to do plenty of outdoor activities with the children and have as many outdoor playtimes as possible so please make sure that children have waterproof coats, etc.

A reminder that you are all warmly invited to join us next Friday morning in St. Mary's Church for our harvest festival service. We also look forward to seeing you in school afterwards if you have ordered a harvest lunch.

As many of you know, the children have written a new school prayer. We are very proud of our prayer and will be using it during our harvest service next week.

Best wishes,  
Mr Milne

### PTA AGM

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our PTA AGM and open evening last week. We were very pleased with the amount of people attending.

The PTA committee members for 2014/15 are:-

Co-Chairs: Kathy Wilkes and Jenn Hurds

Vice-Chair: Jo Jackson

Treasurer: Simon Lloyd

Lottery Co-ordinator: Simon Prater

A huge thank you also to the prefects who attended the open evening; they did a great job of showing everyone around!



## The Jungle Book

Next Wednesday afternoon, M and M Productions will be visiting school to perform their version of 'The Jungle Book'. Their productions are always of a very high standard, and we are looking forward to a very enjoyable afternoon. We are asking please for a contribution of £2.00 per child

to help towards the cost of hiring the production. Please put this in a named envelope in your child's bag - thank you.

## Dates for your diary...

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

### October 2014: Value - Perseverance

**Sunday 19th:** Church harvest festival service, 11.00 am

**Wednesday 22nd:** M&M Productions present 'The Jungle Book' in school

**Friday 24th:** School harvest festival service, 10.30 am, followed by harvest lunch in school

### November 2014: Value - Love

**Monday 10th:** Tempest photography in school for individual and sibling photographs

**Friday 14th:** 'Children in Need' fundraising day - 'superhero' dressing up day.

**Monday 17th:** Governors' meeting in school, 6.15 pm

**Thursday 20th:** Parents' evening, 3.30 - 6.00 pm

**Thursday 27th:** Parents' evening, 5.00 - 7.00 pm

**Saturday 29th:** Photographer in school to take family photographs

### December 2014: Value - Love

#### Thursday 4th and Friday 5th December

Christmas dinner in school

**Tuesday 9th:** KS1 Christmas production starring Years R, 1 and 2: 2.00 pm

**Wednesday 10th:** KS1 Christmas production starring Years R, 1 and 2: 6.00 pm

**Thursday 11th:** 'Wear what you like' day

**Friday 12th:** Christmas fayre, 3.00 - 6.00 pm

**Tuesday 16th:** KS1 trip to see 'The Elves and the Shoemaker' at the Courtyard

KS2 trip to see 'Horrible Christmas' at Birmingham Old Rep

**Wednesday 17th:** Christmas parties

**Thursday 18th:** School Christmas carol service in church, 2.00 pm

## Phoebe's Report

*I am very happy at Miss Hickey's. I am now standing up to the ex-bat hens! I am still enjoying some fine dining thanks to Sally's kitchen. Love Phoebe.*

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School Office open from 8:30am, call: 01432 860474 | Headteacher: Mr T Milne

## Church Harvest Service

You are all warmly invited to the harvest festival service at St. Mary's Church this Sunday at 11 am, where a group of our children will be performing some harvest songs. Many thanks to those parents and children who have signed up to represent the school at this service. The children will be sitting as a group with school staff; they need to wear school uniform and please arrive at the church by 10.50 am. Thank you.

## School Harvest Service

You are all warmly invited to our school harvest festival service at St. Mary's Church on Friday 24th October at 10.30 am, followed by harvest lunch at school for those who have signed up. This year, rather than asking the children to bring in food items, we are asking for donations towards our harvest charity Concern Universal. Thank you for your support with this. Please note that there will be NO GOOD NEWS ASSEMBLY on this day.

## News from the Classes

**Year R** children have been learning and retelling the story of The Little Red Hen in connection with their harvest work.

**Year 1** have enjoyed making 'Incy Wincy Spider' wind-up toys in the Design and Technology lessons.

**Year 2** have been studying the Jewish festival of Sukkot and enjoyed a mock celebration in their 'sukkah'.

**Years 3/4** have enjoyed making clay scarab beetles and practising an Egyptian dance.



*Pictured - Year 3/4 scarab beetles*

In connection with harvest, **Years 4/5** have been comparing modern farming methods to those used in Ancient Egypt.

**Year 6** children have been looking at the work of the artist Frederick Catherwood and writing a journal entry through his eyes when he discovered the Mayan city of Chichen Itza.

## Winter uniform

A reminder that after half-term we will return to our winter uniform. Shirts and ties at the ready!!

## Friday 14th November



### 'CHILDREN IN NEED' FUNDRAISING DAY.

This year we are asking everyone to come to school dressed as a superhero, in return for a donation to the charity. We are looking forward to seeing some fabulous costumes! The School Council will also be organising some fun activities.

## Asthma

We are currently updating our asthma register in school. We request that any children with asthma have a spare inhaler in the school office. If your child no longer suffers from asthma, please let the office know so that their name can be removed from the register. Many thanks for your support with this.

## Money

*Please note that change can no longer be given at the reception counter; it would be greatly appreciated if you could use the correct money when paying via your child's bag. Please do not write cheques for less than £4.40. Thank you for your co-operation with this.*

## Dinner Money

*Please keep dinners payments separate to other payments. Playgroup children and visitors please send separate payments for dinners. Thank you. Please make sure that payments for school dinners are handed in a **SEALED ENVELOPE** clearly marked with your child's name. Please do not hand loose cash in at Reception.*

## Phonics Meeting for Parents of Reception Children

We will be holding a meeting on Tuesday 4th November at 3.30 pm in the Reception classroom to explain how we teach reading through synthetic phonics using the Read Write Inc. scheme. If your child has just started school, please attend this meeting if you possibly can; this will help you to best support your child with their reading at home.

## Term dates 2014/2015

Please note the term dates in your diaries.

### Autumn Term 2014

Half term October 27th-31st

Term ends Thursday 18th December

### Spring Term 2015

Term starts Tuesday 6th Jan

Half term February 16th - 20th

Term ends Friday 27th March

### Summer Term 2015

Term starts Monday 13 April

Half term Monday 25-29 May

Term ends Friday 17 July

### Autumn Term 2015

Term starts Monday 7 September

Half term Monday 26-30 October

Term ends Friday 18 December

## St. Mary's C of E Primary School - Board of Governors includes:

Mr T Milne - Headteacher | Peter Daines - Chairman | William Dereham - Vice Chairman  
Sian Nunn - Parent Governor