



The School Bell



“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”

Ringling in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 94 | 11th December 2015

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Mary's Christian Value for this half term - Thankfulness

Well, here we are again nearly at the end of another busy term. I can't believe that Christmas is nearly here!

We are very much looking forward to enjoying all the Christmas events and activities planned for next week. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Christmas service next Friday at 2pm in St. Mary's Church.

On behalf of everyone here at school, I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

Best wishes,
Mr Milne

Dates for your diary...

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

DECEMBER: Value – Thankfulness

Tuesday 15th - KS1 trip to see 'Peter Pan' at Malvern Theatres • KS2 trip to see 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' at Birmingham Rep

Wednesday 16th - Year 6 carol singing at Brockhampton Court, 11.00 am

Thursday 17th - Christmas parties and buffet lunch

Friday 18th - School Christmas carol service in church, 2.00 pm

Sunday 20th - Church carol service, 6.00 pm

Monday 21st - 'Christmingle' in the village, evening

Carol Service

A huge thank you to the children and parents who supported the Herefordshire schools' carol service in Hereford Cathedral last Friday evening. It was lovely to be part of such a fantastic event.

Termly Progress Reports

Many thanks to all those who provided feedback on our new proposed termly summary reports. We are still working on the format, based on the responses we have had, so unfortunately the reports will not be ready until after Christmas. We hope to have them ready by the end of January at the very latest.

Christmingle

A reminder that on the evening of Monday 21st December you are all warmly invited to take part in Fownhope's 'Christmingle' event. You will be receiving a separate leaflet about this event.

Social Media and Internet Use

Unfortunately we have incidences of children using social networking sites inappropriately. Please discourage your children from using inappropriate sites and ensure that you know which sites they are visiting. We are in the process of rewriting our Social Media Policy, which we will invite you to read when it is finished. If in any doubt please refer to www.thinkuknow.co.uk. We have also received reports of parents using the PTA Facebook page inappropriately; it is only to be used to promote PTA events. If you do have any concerns about any aspect of school life, please do come to us with your concerns rather than posting them online. Thank you.

Mobile Phones Unfortunately, for safeguarding reasons, visitors to school are now requested to not use mobile phones for photos or other purposes on the school premises. Thank you for your support and understanding with this.



The Landlord's Cat

Congratulations to Key Stage 1 children and staff on a fantastic production earlier in the week. Watch out for information about how to order a copy of the DVD.

Support for refugees



Please can I say a huge thank you to all of the parents that donated food items for the refugees trapped in Calais. With your help our initial donation was approximately 200 individual food parcels. These included a combination of beans, pulses, rice, spices, fruit, tomatoes, oil, veg, tea bags, onions, garlic and stock and a little extra where able. An extra big thank you to Layla Johnson and Grace Cooke for all of the extra help in collecting and separating bulk bags too! The collection of food items will be ongoing and we are now working with an experienced group of volunteers in Newport who take a monthly trip to Calais to distribute, co-ordinated with CalAid. Thank you and best wishes, Jade Evans-Scott.

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: Mr T Milne

A Reminder of Our Christmas Activities

Theatre visits – Tuesday 15th December. KS1 children will be attending a performance of 'Peter Pan' at Malvern Theatres. KS2 children will be attending a performance of 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' at Birmingham Rep.

Pre-School Christmas Party - Tuesday 15th December in the afternoon.

Year 6 carol singing at Brockhampton Court - Wednesday 16th December at 11.00 am

Christmas parties – Thursday 17th December.

Once again Sally in the kitchen has offered to provide a hot buffet lunch of pizza, chicken goujons, sausage rolls etc. for all the children and staff. There will be no alternative cooked meal on this day. We are not charging for the buffet but would appreciate voluntary contributions towards the cost. **Children may wear party clothes all day.**

School Christmas carol service – Friday 18th December 2.00 pm in church. Everyone welcome!

Church Christmas carol service – Sunday 20th December 6.00 pm in church. A group of singers from school will be performing some Christmas songs. More details soon.

'Christmingle' in the village – Monday 21st December in the evening. More details soon.



NUT FREE SCHOOL

A reminder that as a 'nut-free school', we ask that you do not send any food containing nuts, sesame or chickpea products (e.g. hummus, peanut butter, nutty cereal bars, bread with sesame seeds, etc.) into school as we have children with severe allergic reactions to these products. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

School Council Disco

Many thanks to the School Council for organising the discos at the end of November. A great evening was enjoyed by all, and a great total of £301 was raised towards school funds.

Swimming

A reminder that swimming lessons have finished for this term. Mrs Buck's class, Miss Scrivens' class, Mrs Gooch's class and Miss Welling's class will all be swimming on a Monday afternoon in the spring term, starting on 11th January.

Christmas Cards



A reminder that our Christmas post box is in the main corridor. Post cards to your friends here! Our Year 6 prefects will be making daily deliveries to the classrooms.



Christmas Parties Thursday 17th December

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alternative cooked meal on this day. We are not charging for the buffet but would appreciate voluntary contributions towards the cost. **Children may wear party clothes all day.**

Christmas Fair

Huge thanks to the PTA members who have put a tremendous amount of work into organising today's event, and thanks to everyone who has supported it. Look out for a PTA newsletter in the new year announcing the profit made and how the money will be spent.

Clubs

A reminder that clubs have now finished for this term. New clubs will start in the second week of the spring term.

Term dates 2015/2016

Please note the term dates in your diaries.

Autumn Term 2015

Term ends Friday 18th December

Spring Term 2016

Term starts Tuesday 5th January

Half term Monday 15-19th February

Term ends Thursday 24th March

Summer Term 2016

Term starts Monday 11th April

Half term Monday 30th May -3rd June

Term ends Wednesday 20th July

Autumn Term Dates 2016

Term starts Wednesday 7th September

Half term Monday 24th-28th October

Term ends Friday 16th December

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

Mr T Milne - Headteacher | Peter Daines - Chairman | William Dereham - Vice Chairman
Sara Watts and Jennifer Hurds - Parent Governors