



The School Bell



“What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow”

Ringling in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 97 | 5th February 2016

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

Well, here we are approaching another half-term holiday. I can't believe that we are nearly halfway through the school year already!

Next week you will be receiving a parents' questionnaire asking you to share your thoughts and views on how we are performing as a school, in many different aspects. Unfortunately, some parents have chosen to voice negative concerns about the school on social media sites, especially after the end-of-term reports were sent out last week. This was particularly disappointing, as the format of the reports was based on consultation with parents last term. We pride ourselves on being approachable and open and would much prefer parents to come to us directly rather than posting negative comments online. We do value your feedback as parents, and the questionnaire will be your chance to tell us what you think in a constructive way. We will then take your feedback and use it to see how we can improve what we do.

I hope you all have a lovely half-term break.

Best wishes,
Mr Milne

Dates for your diary...

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

FEBRUARY: VALUE - CO-OPERATION/HOPE

Tuesday 9th - SATs information meeting for parents of Year 6 children, 3.20 pm

MARCH: VALUE - HOPE

Thursday 3rd - World Book Day: come to school dressed as your favourite book character!

Thursday 3rd - Parents' evening 5.00 - 7.00 pm

Friday 4th - Governors' staffing and finance meeting 9.00 am, curriculum meeting 3.30 pm

Tuesday 8th - Parents' evening 3.30 - 6.00 pm

Monday 14th - Governors' meeting 6.15 pm

Friday 18th - Sport Relief: bring in loose change to make a giant 'S'!

Thursday 24th - Easter service in church, 2 pm



Sainsbury's
Active Kids
Eat well • Move well • Live well

Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers are now being issued. Please collect them

and send them in to school with your children.

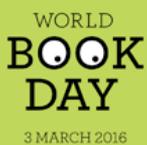


Sport Relief

After half-term we will be selling wristbands in aid of Sport Relief, priced at £1 each. Children may wear these in school in the lead-up to the Sport Relief weekend on 18th - 20th March. A reminder also that children are asked to bring in loose change on Friday 18th March to make a giant 'S' in aid of the charity.

Sickness

Please note that if a child has been off school with diarrhoea and/or vomiting, he/she should not return to school until 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped. For more information on recommendations on medical issues, please consult the Health Protection Agency on 08701 555455 or www.hpa.org.uk. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.



World Book Day

Your child has brought home a book voucher in aid of World Book Day. A reminder that children are invited to come to school on Thursday 3rd March dressed as their favourite book character. There will also be a special assembly at 9.00 am, to which you are all invited.

News From 'Operation Christmas Child'



Our final total came to 8,565 shoe boxes which have been sent to Kyrgyzstan, leaving the warehouse on Saturday 12th December to begin their long journey there. We want to say a very big "Thank you" to everyone for all your help with Operation Christmas Child last year. Whatever your role, we are so grateful for your involvement, for your time, for your generosity. It really is a huge team effort and the part that each person plays along the way is so important and greatly valued.

Gardening and Wildlife Evening

Radio 2's Terry Walton and wildlife gardening expert Richard Fishbourne will be joining forces to present a fun and informative evening of anecdotes and gardening hints and tips about growing vegetables, gardening and wildlife.

Trinity Primary School,
Tuesday 24th May at 7.30 pm.

Tickets available from Peter Spitzmaul at Trinity Primary School at a cost of £5 per head.

Telephone: 01432 266268 or
email: finance2@trinity.hereford.sc.uk.

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

News from the Classes

Reception We have been making and tasting porridge and are looking forward to baking gingerbread men. We have also been learning new songs for our 'Sing Spring In' concert.

Year 1 We have been making moving models and sawing axles. We have also been adding three coins together and learning new songs for the Singing Strategy.

Year 2 We have been learning about the life cycle of a frog and writing explanations. We have been learning to use computer programs to produce a Powerpoint presentation. We have been exploring our local area with 'Googlemaps' and are looking forward to our walk around Fownhope to explore the house types and use maps.

Years 3/4 We have been continuing our work on mountains, looking at how they have been formed. We have enjoyed creating artwork based on contour lines from maps. We have also been using the computer program Scratch to make racing games, and we have read 'The Twits'.

Years 4/5 We have been reading the book "Escape from Pompeii" and writing diary extracts. We enjoyed going into the outdoor area with Mr Fishbourne to discuss ideas to improve it.

Year 6 We have been looking at beasts from the Mappa Mundi – did you know that J.K. Rowling used a few in Harry Potter? We have enjoyed being 'book judges', reviewing our own books and listening to each other present their reviews to the class.



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.

SATs Meeting

A reminder that there will be a meeting for Year 6 parents next Tuesday at 3.20 pm in the Jubilee Room to explain the Year 6 SAT tests and how you can help your child prepare for them.

Outstanding Monies

Please send any outstanding monies for swimming or clubs to the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Term dates 2016/17

Please note the term dates in your diaries.

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 2016

Term starts	Wednesday 7th September
Half term	Monday 24th-28th October
Term ends	Friday 16th December

Spring Term 2017

Term starts	Wednesday 4th January
Half term	Monday 13th - 17th February
Term ends	Friday 7th April

Summer Term 2017

Term starts	Monday 24th April
Half term	Monday 29th May - 2nd June
Term ends	Friday 21st July

The next School Bell will be issued on Friday 26th February.



M and M Productions - Aladdin

We very much enjoyed the performance of Aladdin last week. In response to comments online, we can confirm that

the school subsidises half the cost of these productions, only passing on half the cost to parents. There are still a few contributions from parents outstanding, so please send these to the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Parking

Unfortunately, there have been problems recently with parents parking unsafely on the road outside the school. On some occasions there have been cars parked on both sides of Nover Wood Drive at the end of the school day, making it extremely difficult for cars to pass safely. Please consider the safety of our children and other road-users when parking at the beginning and the end of the school day. Thank you.



Mobile Phones

Unfortunately, for safeguarding reasons, visitors to school are requested to not use mobile phones for photos or other purposes on the school premises.

Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

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