



The School Bell



"What we nurture today, flourishes tomorrow"

Ringling in the St. Mary's School news

Issue 98 | 26th February 2016

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

I hope you enjoyed the half-term break last week.

Many thanks to those parents who have returned their completed questionnaires to school. These will be discussed and analysed by staff and governors over the coming weeks and an action plan will be drawn up to address the major issues identified. Your feedback is important; therefore we are asking as many parents as possible to return their questionnaire to the school office so we can gauge the views of the majority of parents. At the moment, less than half of the families in the school have returned the questionnaire. If you have not done this yet, we have extended the due date to next Monday to allow you to complete it over the weekend. The questionnaire has been sent out again by email today and is available to download from our website. Thank you for your participation in this. I am hoping that in this way parents, staff and governors can work together to improve our school.

Best wishes,
Mr Milne

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome Miss E. Morley and Miss T. Roberts, first-year teaching students from the University of Worcester, to help teach in Mrs Gibbs' class for the next few weeks. It is great to have them with us.

School Uniform A reminder that children may wear summer uniform after the Easter holidays. Please see our website for full details.



Sport Relief

On Friday 18th March we will be raising money for Sport Relief. The School Council will be helping the children to make a giant 'S' out of coins, so please bring in your small change! Also, at 2 pm, weather permitting, all the children in the school and pre-school will be completing fun laps of the school field, where they will be travelling around the outside of the field using a variety of methods, e.g. running, skipping, dribbling a football etc. Parents are very welcome to come and watch this event. Please ensure that your child has his/ her P.E. kit in school on this day. **Please note that this event will replace Good News Assembly on this day.**

We are now 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.



World Book Day

A reminder that children are invited to come to school next Thursday dressed as their favourite book character. There will also be a special assembly at 9.00 am, to which you are all invited.

Dates for your diary...

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

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

• Year 2 and Year 6 trip to Hereford

Monday 14th - Governors' meeting 6.15 pm

Wednesday 16th - 'Sing Spring In' concert for Key Stage 1 children, Marlbrook School, 2.30 pm

Thursday 17th - 'Sing Spring In' concert for Key Stage 2 children, Aylestone College, 2.00 pm

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

Thursday 24th - Easter service in church, 2 pm

Goodbye

We sadly said goodbye to Evie in Year 4, who left us just before half-term to go to another school. We wish her every success for the future.



Uganda Appeal

Judi Whistance, a retired child-minder from Fownhope, is collecting old crocs for children in Uganda. She says: I am supporting a charity called planting for **Hope in Uganda** which a family friend is helping to organise. There is a small village called Kititi in Uganda, it is very poor, some of the children do not have any shoes, they get jiggers (foot parasites) eating into their feet without shoes on, which have to be removed by a doctor. So I am asking Fownhope families if you have any outgrown Crocs, small plastic shoes, please. If so please drop them at the Pre-school or ring me on 07816 561768 so I can collect them. Thank you so much for your support with this.

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

Pre-School We have been making fresh orange juice this week and making pasta pies in our mud kitchen!

Reception We are looking forward to learning about our favourite animals and having some special little visitors in our classroom...

Year 1 We have been partitioning 2-digit numbers into tens and units. We are very busy practising the songs for the Sing Spring In concert. In R.E. we are thinking about 'Where is God?'

Year 2 Just before the half-term holiday we enjoyed a walk around Fownhope studying the different types of houses in our local area. We learnt to use maps, keys and compass directions. Thank you to the parents who came to help. Over the coming weeks we will be comparing modern homes and homes in the past and learning about the materials used in our homes and why they have been used.

Years 3/4 In R.E. we are talking about special moments in the journey of our lives. The children have filled boxes with keepsakes to show each other and discuss.

Years 4/5 We have been locating mountains in Europe and learning about contour lines. We are also making model volcanoes.

Year 6 We have been writing short stories and some of the class have entered the BBC 500-word competition, which we have been following on their website. Our mythical beasts are works in progress, incorporating collage techniques and imaginative use of materials.

Lateness

There are still a number of children arriving late in school. This causes disruption to the beginning of the school day to teachers and other children and can cause embarrassment to the children who are late themselves. Please ensure that your children arrive in school by 8.50 a.m. at the latest.

Dinner money

Please settle dinner money balances by the end of term. The menu will be changing after Easter. Order forms will be sent out on Friday 11th March, to be returned by Friday 18th March. Please pay in advance, either weekly, monthly or half termly; cheques preferred, made payable to Herefordshire Council. Please also note that on the last day of term, Thursday 24th March, as is now traditional, lunch will be sausage and chips served in paper (or veggie sausage - no sandwiches that day).



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.



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.

Community Play George and the Dragon

Unfortunately the school will not be involved as planned in the Woolhope community play in April. However, if your child is 8 years old or over, he/she can still be involved in the play by attending rehearsals at Woolhope Parish Hall on a Tuesday evening from 7.00 until 8.30 pm, starting next Tuesday.

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 11th March.

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