



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Spring Term Issue 4
2nd February 2024

As we come to the end of another week at St Mary's, it seems as if, once again, we have fitted a great deal in. Firstly, our morning Maths booster session, a new initiative started this week, has already proved to be very popular. This is a targeted academic session for some of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils and this has already had benefits to support work going on in the classroom. I am very grateful to those staff who are working with the pupils to support and enhance their learning.

Secondly, we saw our first football fixture of 2024 against Howdell School. Although we didn't actually win the match, the team played well together and, in terms of working as a team, probably had one of their most successful matches to date and, again, I thank the staff who give generously of their time to support the pupils in their supporting endeavours.

There have, of course, been other highlights this week, but I do just have to mention when Mrs Hoile, our Chair of Governors, and I were invited yesterday afternoon to join the Reception children at their picnic on the moon: they were certainly enjoying the sandwiches that they had made. Something of which we have been particularly conscious this week is the content of some of the packed lunches that are coming into school. Earlier today we sent out a separate letter about packed lunches and snacks. Packed lunches brought in from home need to be part of a healthy and balanced diet, in order that the children can thrive. Please do read the information carefully and if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

I am delighted to say that we have heard from Miss Hazell again who is still thoroughly enjoying her adventures and travels in South America. I have included the email that she sent within this newsletter, so you can read what she has been doing. It is only a few more weeks and she will be back with us at school.

In the Church's calendar, today, 2nd February, is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, marking the moment when Jesus, 40 days after his birth, was taken by his parents to be presented in the Temple. It was during this ceremony that Simeon was the first to understand and proclaim Jesus as the Saviour of the World. Simeon knew that he had to live long enough to see Jesus Christ who would be the Saviour of the World. As centuries of Christians, along with Simeon, would attest:

"And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world." (1 John 4:14)

Have a good weekend.

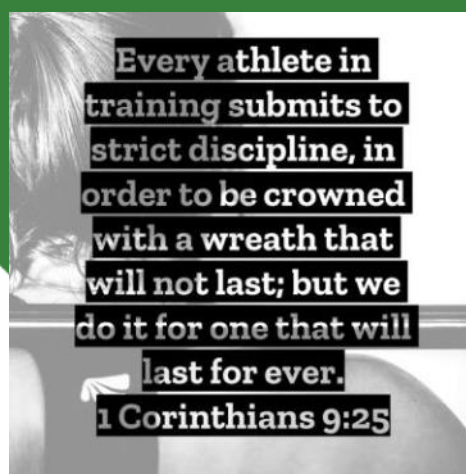
Adrian Petty

Headteacher



Our value this half term is:

Perseverance



Contact us 8:30am to 4pm at...



01707 276725



admin@stmarys565.herts.sch.uk



www.stmarys565.herts.sch.uk



Dellsome Lane, Welham Green, AL9 7NE

HOUSEPOINTS



I am pleased to report that House Points this week were as follows:

347



293



248



245



Well done Badgers!

Running Totals:

1367

1189

997

1202

STARS OF THE WEEK

The following children were nominated by the TAs for good manners and joined Mr Petty on the Star Table .

Reception - Oscar

Year 1 - Jasmine

Year 2 - Reynard

Year 3 - Rishika

Year 4 - Sonny

Year 5 - Leo

Year 6 - David

ATTENDANCE STARS

Luther King 98.1% 

Curie 93.3% 

Attenborough 92.1% 

Weekly Teacher Nominations this week were:-

Reception - Callie

Year 1 - Jawayne

Year 2 - Cristiano

Year 3 - Daisy

Year 4 - Daniel

Year 5 - Mia

Year 6 - Sophia

Congratulations to all these children.

SCHOOL DIARY



Date	Event
19th February—23rd February	Half Term
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
Friday 8th March	PTA Mother's Day Sale
Thursday 28th March	End of Term— School ends 1:45pm
Monday 15th April	Inset Day—School Closed
Tuesday 16th April	Term Starts—Children back at 8:40am
Thursday 2nd May	Reception screening children born after 1st March
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday—School closed
13th May—17th May	Key Stage 2 SATs week
27th May—31st May	Half Term
Friday 14th June	PTA Father's Day Sale
Saturday 22nd June	Summer Fayre 12pm till 4pm
Thursday 4th July	Year 6 trip to Stanborough Water Park
Thursday 11th July	Transition Day
Tuesday 23rd July	End of Term— School ends 1:45pm
Monday 2nd September	Inset Day—School Closed
Tuesday 3rd September	Inset Day—School Closed
Wednesday 4th September	Term Starts—Children back at 8:40am

CLASS PE DAYS

Elizabeth	Tuesdays & Fridays	Indoors & Bikes and Scooters
Curie	Tuesdays & Fridays	Indoors & Outdoors
Hawking	Wednesdays & Fridays	Outdoors & Indoors
Mandela	Mondays & Wednesdays	Indoors & Outdoors
Attenborough	Mondays & Tuesdays	Swimming & Outdoors
Luther King	Mondays & Thursdays	Outdoors & Indoors
Goodall	Thursdays & Fridays	Indoors & Outdoors

“

We are a welcoming Christian community where every child has the chance to flourish.

We bring and share joy, inspire daily and creatively equip children for the future.

We're thankful for all that God has provided; proud of where He has placed us; and excited at the potential to come.

”



The C.S. Lewis Award for

Perseverance




"Overflowing with thankfulness, inspiration and joy"

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
(Galatians 6:9)

Prayer of the Week

Help me shape my dreams: bless my planning and my preparing.

Help me shape my here and now: bless my thinking and my doing.

Help me shape my memories: bless my remembering and my forgetting.

Amen

Reception - Elizabeth

Elizabeth Class have been extremely busy this week exploring our book Whatever Next? We planned and drew what we would like to take to the moon - Shane wanted to take his little brother and sister and Antonia wanted to take her pet Sacha. Next we planned our picnic on the moon! The children voted for their choice of sandwich filling and they loved making their own sandwiches and choosing which shapes to cut them into. We packed our picnic basket and blankets and set off to the moon! Mr Petty and Mrs Hoile joined us for the fun!

From next week Tuesday will be our Show and Tell day. Please ensure that any items brought in are not precious or delicate.

Have a great weekend!



Year 1 - Curie

Another busy week in Curie Class. In Maths, we have been exploring measurement with a focus on length, mass and speed. When exploring the vocabulary linked to length, the children had a piece of border roll (as their measuring tool) and were investigating if classroom items were longer or shorter than their border roll. Here are some of their comments -

If I stuck more border roll together it would make it longer – Ali

The table is longer than the border roll – Robert

The border roll is shorter than the beads – Peter

Mr Petty is taller than the border roll – Ali (Mr Petty popped in to see Year 1 and also got measured!)

In Computing, we have been making pictograms and the children have really enjoyed using the program '2 count' on Purple Mash. This is something you can also access at home through their Purple Mash log in. You can also see the work they have saved in class.

Have a great weekend.



Year 2 - Hawking

This week in Hawking class we have continued practising our mental maths skills and how we can add big numbers easily. In English we have started a new book 'Voices in the Park' by Anthony Browne. The children are really enjoying looking at each character and creating story maps to sequence the events. In history we have been looking at who Neil Armstrong was and what he achieved. A quick reminder that we have PE on Wednesdays and Fridays, so please make sure children come to school in their PE kits. Also, a note about Mathletics, in order to gain access to the extra activities, children need to complete their 'to do' list. We have time on Mathletics in class on Fridays as well.

Have a lovely weekend!



Year 3 - Mandela

Mandela class has welcomed Parshv into our class and it has been a pleasure to see him enjoying our lessons as much as we have enjoyed having him here.

This week we have finished our topic on column method subtraction (with regrouping) and I have sent home some homework to continue practicing these equations.

In English we have created our own fables and even added speech into our stories for effect. Charlotte produced some fantastic work she was proud of, as were we, which she showed to Mr Petty.

In P.E. we have done yoga, gymnastics and group activities to build on our knowledge of teamwork. We have all tried different gymnastic positions to stretch and evolve our bodies into positions we have not previously.

We have completed a computing afternoon where we have combined our History lesson and computing lesson. I have also set homework on Purple Mash for you to complete with your little ones on this. Please do let me know if you are struggling to get onto Purple Mash.



Year 4 - Attenborough

Year 4 have had a busy and productive week. In Maths, we have continued to look at converting and estimating amounts. The children enjoyed estimating how much water was in each container and how factors such as the width and height affected how much water was in each vessel. In English, we moved onto our new book 'Leon and the Place Between' the children have created circus posters and speeches to invite guests in. In Science, we looked at what makes up our digestive systems. We also had lots of fun cutting up and observing our egg experiment from the previous week. In History, we looked at how the Anglo-Saxons wrote things down, the children even tried decoding an Anglo-Saxon message. In RE, we looked at why Jesus healed the leper, the children wrote a diary about how the man felt once he had been healed and his thoughts on how people treated him. We finished off the week looking at collage again in Art and how contrasting colours can help a piece stand out.



Year 5 - Luther King

In Luther King class this week we have started looking at division. Dividing 4- digit numbers, which required us to rely on our times tables knowledge. We were so impressed with everyone's dedication and hard work in Maths this week. As pupils took ownership of their learning and persevered, even when the tasks were challenging, they also felt proud of their achievements and so are we! Well done Year 5!

In English we continue to look at the Boy in the Tower and the mystery in the story is deepening, which has caused for great discussions, using our inference and prediction skills. We also wrote a persuasive letter as the main character using powerful emotive language and looking at the use of rhetorical questions.

History is always a popular lesson in the week, especially as Mr Petty comes to teach about Ancient Greece this term and his wealth of knowledge inspires all our Year 5 pupils to be historians and get excited at the prospect of exploring what life was like in Ancient Greece.

We know that lots of learning has taken place in Year 5 again this week. Keep up the good work Luther King class!



Year 6 - Goodall

A big focus for Goodall class this week has been writing persuasive letters to Mr Petty and our local MP Grant Shapps. The children chose to write about topics that mattered to them including break times, prom, local restaurant offerings, football and local plans for the economy! It has been fantastic to see children writing with purpose and we're looking forward to seeing if we get a reply. In History, we continue to explore the impact of the Second World War on local children. I know that our trip and workshop at the RAF museum later on in the term will really help them with consolidating this knowledge and seeing it in practice so please make sure that they have signed up.

Homework this week for Maths is the second part of the progress test and in English is fact & opinion. These are areas that have been covered before but support for these tasks can be found in the SATs revision books.



A second message from Miss Hazell in South America

Hola again chicos!

It's now only 2 weeks left until I make my way back home. Let me catch you up on what I've been doing!

We travelled into Peru and headed straight for Cusco. We had a big hike planned there and rainy season was fast approaching, so we wanted to get that done.

We took a day trip to Rainbow Mountain and the hike up to that was tough, it was good to get a little taste of what was to come on the Salkantay trek. We had pretty poor visibility at the summit. There were small breaks in the clouds where you could see how colourful the mountain was. I had my photo taken with a pair of very cheeky llamas at the top.

The Salkantay trek was 4 days of walking at very high altitude, finishing with day 5 at the Inca ruins of Machu Picchu. Walking is so tough when you're up high as there is less oxygen. Day 2 was definitely my hardest day, climbing to 4600m above sea level. It took so much determination to keep going but I felt so proud of myself when I made it. I even had a little cry! We met some great people and had so much fun! We got up very early to get to Machu Picchu and made it there for 6.30am to see the ruins from the famous viewpoint. Instead we were greeted by thick white cloud. We waited a long time and finally got a break in the clouds to see what we had walked all this way for. It was really spectacular!

We continued to explore Peru and made it to the Nazca lines to see all few of the shapes carved into the ground.

We visited a town called Paracas and took a boat trip to see penguins and sea lions and cycled to the national park there. We were so tired after the 25km cycle we had to get a taxi back with our bikes!

We made it to Ecuador and flew over to the Galápagos Islands for 6 nights. I felt so lucky to be able to do this. It was amazing. Beautiful beaches absolutely covered in sea lions, marine iguanas and pelicans. We went snorkelling and saw lots of beautiful fish, tons of sea turtles and even reef sharks and hammerhead sharks. I thought I would have been terrified but it wasn't scary at all! I was so sad to leave. We had to shorten our stay in Ecuador due to some political issues that started so we flew to Cartagena in Colombia instead. This means that I've not had the chance to go into the Amazon unfortunately. Just means I'll have to pop back one day!

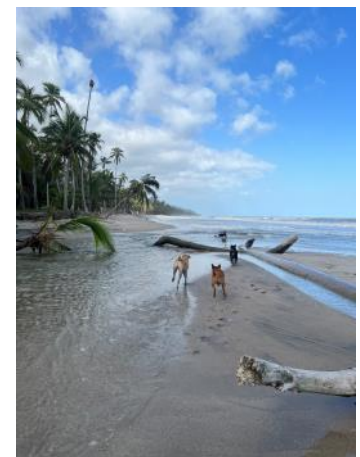
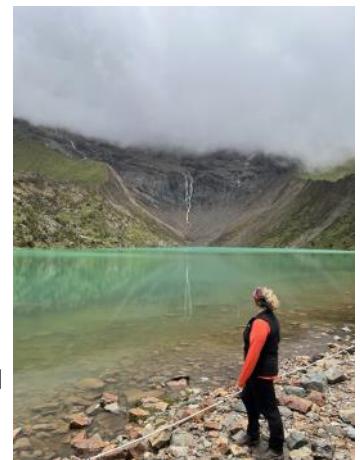
Colombia is a very colourful and vibrant country with lots of music and dancing! It's been nice to spend some time on the coast and go swimming in the sea here. We even spent a morning walking dogs with the local dog shelter.

I have just spent the night on a bus travelling south to Medellin where we fly home from. There are a few other towns nearby that we plan on visiting one of which is Salento down in the coffee region. You know how much teachers love their coffee!!

Can't wait to see you all and hear what you've been learning about!

Still missing you all lots!!

Miss Hazell





If you have a missed call from school, please listen to your voice message prior to contacting us. The message may be for information only and there will be no need to call us back, or it may be a member of staff that has called you and the office won't know who to put you through to unless you have a contact name.

There is no need to call us if you receive a message from Medical Tracker informing you of an injury to your child. The school will always phone you if the injury is urgent.

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