



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

# NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Spring Term Issue 5  
9th February 2024

In Collective Worship this week we have continued to look at our half termly value of perseverance; why it is important to keep trying to achieve the best we can and why we should never give up. We looked at the story of the hare and the tortoise and the moral of how the tortoise had simply kept going to win the race.

Our school football team has continued to give of its best this week and, whilst we were 1-0 down at the end of the match, the way the team pulled together and did their best was really impressive. It is much the same in the classroom, when the class works hard together, the best outcomes are achieved. There is no time for disappointing behaviour in lessons, as it distracts from the main purpose of the activity in the classroom and takes important learning time away from others. Please encourage the highest standards of behaviour in your children so we can focus on the important work of learning in the classroom, from which everyone will benefit.

Letters have been sent this week to parents and carers where attendance fell below 90% in the Autumn term. However, I'm delighted to report that I have sent fewer of these out than I have done previously, as more children have achieved more than 90% attendance than has previously been the case. We are continuing to persevere with our attendance strategy and, as has been the case each term since I arrived in April 2022, the attendance figures are improving. During this week, we have also been looking at Internet Safety and I would encourage all parents and carers to address this issue at home with the children, as whilst the internet is a wonderful resource, there are also considerable dangers of which children need to be aware.

It is Ash Wednesday next week, which marks the begin of Lent - the six week period of preparation in the Church's calendar leading up to Easter - when we recall the perseverance that Jesus demonstrated during his period of 40 days in the wilderness. On Wednesday morning next week, Rev Ruth will be coming into school to lead an Ash Wednesday service and for those who want to receive it, she will be placing an ash cross on their forehead as is the custom in the Church. There is no obligation for the children to have ashes placed on their forehead and, if there are any parents who do not want their child to have ashes placed on their forehead, please let your class teacher know. Lent is also a time where people give things up: the decision to give something up is one thing, sticking to it is quite another. How many of us will persevere this coming Lent?

As Ramana Maharshi said: *"No one succeeds without effort... Those who succeed owe their success to perseverance."*

Have a good weekend.

**Adrian Petty**

**Headteacher**



*Flourish for the future*

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:

**291**



**187**



**197**



**261**



**Well done Badgers!**

Running Totals:

**1658**

**1376**

**1194**

**1463**

## STARS OF THE WEEK

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

**Reception - Antonia**

**Year 1 - Ewaolorun**

**Year 2 - Davidzo**

**Year 3 - Parshv**

**Year 4 - Kofi**

**Year 5 - Maria**

**Year 6 - Erfan**

## ATTENDANCE STARS

**Luther King 95.6%**



**Curie 92.7%**



Weekly Teacher Nominations this week were:-

**Reception - Kimani**

**Year 1 - Max**

**Year 2 - Valerie**

**Year 3 - Bella**

**Year 4 - Charlene**

**Year 5 - Darcey**

**Year 6 - Tomiwa**

**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

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

God our father,

we all promise that we will persevere when we do our learning.

Thank you for helping me to persevere every day that I've lived.

Amen

## Reception - Elizabeth

Elizabeth Class have had another busy week! We have been learning about 3D shapes and the children enjoyed doing a shape hunt in the Reception garden finding everyday 3D shapes outside. We have also been learning about the seasons and singing the Seasons Song - Callie really impressed us all by already knowing the names of all four seasons! We have also had fun learning new morning and afternoon songs and the Makaton signs that accompany them.

Have a great weekend!



## Year 1 - Curie

Another busy week for Curie class. In Maths we have been sequencing the days of the week and the months of the year and are now very good at singing the songs linked to this. In History, we have been finding out about Queen Victoria and what happened during her life. We are very proud of our information posters that we have made following our work on London landmarks and were excited to find out about the Natural History Museum and the Science Museum, where we will be visiting in March. Next Thursday, we hope to have a D.T. (Design and Technology day), where we will making models of the London landmarks that we have been finding out about. If you have any empty boxes or anything suitable for 'junk modelling', please send these in by Thursday. On Friday, next week, we hope to go into the woods next to the school, to make a natural stick sculpture (linked to our Art lessons). If needed, we may ask parents for a change of footwear, further information next week. Have a great weekend.



## Year 2 - Hawking

This week in Hawking class we have been doing some wonderful Maths, and everyone has tried so hard! In English, the children have been writing about the characters feelings and the progress they are making in their writing is so lovely to see. This afternoon in Art, we have been creating our final piece, sculptures, which we have designed, practised and evaluated in preparation. Have a lovely weekend!



## Year 3 - Mandela

This week in Maths we have finished our topic on worded equations, and I have set some homework on Purple Mash to continue practising these equations.

In English we have started our new topic on Fairytales with a twist. This is where we look at different perspectives of a story, and we can put ourselves in the shoes of a journalist and start using inverted commas to create speech in our writing.

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 an Art afternoon where we have combined our architectural and creative knowledge to create some interesting art work. Please enjoy some of these below.

Please also note, I have 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

It has been a busy week in Attenborough class. In English, we have been using drama techniques such as hot seating and conscious corridor to help us understand our book better. In Maths, we have moved onto to interpreting data. We looked at bar charts and line graphs, we even had a go at drawing our own. In Science, we looked at the functions of the digestive system, we had a go at labelling a diagram and explaining the job of each part. In History, we looked at Anglo-Saxons and how Christianity was introduced. We also looked at Safer Internet Day, we had a discussion and how to stay safe online. In Computing, we are looking at logos. In PE, during gymnastics we looked at different types of rolls, and gave them all a try. It has been a very busy and exciting week and I look forward to another busy week before half term.



## Year 5 - Luther King

This week in Luther King class we have been very busy writing our own chapters for our book 'The boy in the water tower'. We combined all our learning in English, like creating suspense, using powerful adjectives for description, and thinking about the choices we make as authors to make our readers understand the story. Year 5 have some budding authors. Creativity was key and all our pupils have written an excellent chapter.

In Maths we have moved on to fractions. We are looking at equivalent fractions, improper fractions, and mixed number fractions. Lots of new learning but some great work achieved by all.

We are promoting reading in class as much as we can and are reminding our pupils that reading regularly at home will make their understanding increase and opens their minds to the world around them. Please encourage your child to read as much as possible and to record this in their reading diary that gets checked every Friday. We would love everyone in Luther King class to get really excited about the books they are reading and there are opportunities to share book recommendations with the other children in the class. What could be better on a cold dark afternoon but to snuggle up with a good book. Happy reading Luther King class!



## Year 6 - Goodall

Year 6 have had a very busy week! They have been focussing on division in Maths and have persevered through some tricky calculations! The children have been very imaginative in Art, creating some beautiful collages with acrylic paints and various other materials to show their identity.





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.

**SUPER STAR SPORT** Ofsted

# FEBRUARY HALF-TERM CAMP

**The Holy Family Catholic Primary School**  
Crookhams, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 1PG

**PENALTY SHOOTOUT** **FOOTBALL** **MEDALS AND PRIZES** **SHOOT LIKE RONALDO** **INFLATABLE GOAL** **FUN FOOTBALL GAMES**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb & Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb**

**FULL DAY:**  
**£25** per day  
**£50** for 2 days  
Year 1 - 6 children  
9AM-3PM

**HALF DAY:**  
**£14** per half day  
**£28** for 2 half days  
Reception children  
9AM-12:45PM

**SCAN HERE!**

### To Book:

Visit [www.superstarsport.co.uk](http://www.superstarsport.co.uk) 'Book Now'  
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