



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

# NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Autumn Term Issue 1  
6th September 2024

I think that the most memorable moment of this week was seeing the eager faces as we opened the gate on Wednesday morning and the children came running in to start the new school year! It has been lovely to have all the children back and to welcome new children at St Mary's this week and we have made a really positive start to the new term.

We have spent a great deal of time going through the rules and expectations with the children as they settle into their new classes, with their new teachers. At the beginning of this term we welcomed several new members of staff: Miss Cocks in Reception, Ms Carter in Year 1, Mrs Egerton in Year 4 and Mrs Pegrum, who is working with Mrs Bartlett, in Year 5. Mr Bailey, who was working with us last term as a supply teacher, now joins us as a permanent member of staff in Year 2. They are all very welcome and we hope that they will enjoy a long and happy association with St Mary's.

I would like to thank all those parents who have responded so positively to the letter we sent out about expectations at the end of last term and who have ensured that the children are looking so smart in their uniform as the new term begins.

As I do at the beginning of every term, I have included the Attendance information sheet that I send out at the beginning of every term. Attendance remains a priority for us and, whilst we have improved our attendance, there was still a significant percentage of children who were persistently absent - below 90% - last term. I would remind you that arriving at school late, after the register has closed, counts as an absence. High levels of attendance are so very important for positive academic and social outcomes and missing school is incredibly damaging to a child's progress. I would, in particular, draw your attention to the new rules which came into effect in August in relation to the Fixed Penalty Notices for periods of absence of five days or more. For your information I have included the information sheet from Hertfordshire County Council.

No school ever stands still and as we begin the new school year our aim is to continue our improvement journey. Over the next couple of weeks we are holding our usual 'Meet the Teacher' sessions for parents and carers to come in and meet with their child's class teacher and I would encourage as many of you as possible to attend those sessions which help strengthen the links between home and school and improve the outcomes for the children, which is the primary focus for us all.

Our half termly value is hope. In Collective Worship on Wednesday, I asked the children to think about what they hoped they might achieve at St Mary's this year: various suggestions were offered and one pupil said that they hoped "to be the best that I can be" and that has to be the aim for us all.

As part of Collective Worship I shared the following words about hope with the children: "*Hope is the belief that the future is bright and that you have the power to make it so.*"

Have a good weekend.

**Adrian Petty**

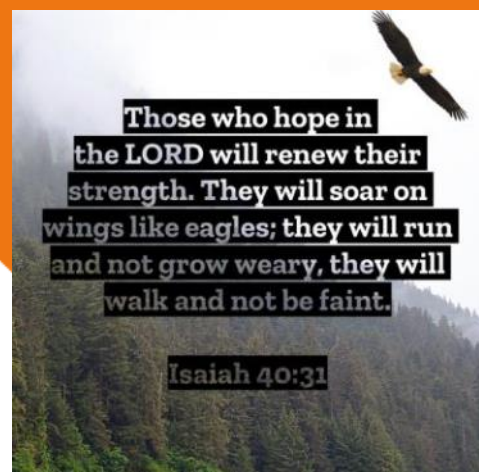
**Headteacher**



*Flourish for the future*

Our value this half term is:

# Hope



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

# SCHOOL DIARY



Date	Event
Monday 9th September	Reception Class Starts—8:40am
Monday 9th September	Year 1 Parents' Meeting 2:45pm
Tuesday 10th September	Year 6 Parents' Meeting 8:45am
Tuesday 10th September	Year 5 Parents' Meeting 2:45pm
Thursday 12th September	Year 4 Parents' Meeting 2:45pm
Friday 13th September	Year 3 Parents' Meeting 2:45pm
Monday 16th September	Year 2 Parents' Meeting 2:45pm
Thursday 19th September	Year 4 trip to Verulamium
Wednesday 2nd October	Individual School Photos
Tuesday 8th October	Parents' Evening - 3:30pm—5:30pm School Hall
Wednesday 9th October	Parents' Evening - 4:30pm-7pm Remote
Tuesday 22nd October	Harvest Festival—St Mary's Church 1:15pm
Wednesday 23rd October	Inset Day—School Closed
Thursday 24th October	Inset Day—School Closed
Friday 25th October	Inset Day—School Closed
28th October—1st November	Half Term
Monday 11th November	Remembrance Day Commemoration
Wednesday 20th November	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 22nd November	Arts Afternoon—3:30pm
Thursday 5th December	Teddy Bears Concert 2pm
Thursday 12th December	Reception Christmas Nativity 2pm
Friday 13th December	PTA Christmas Fayre 2:30pm
Tuesday 17th December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Production 10am and 2pm
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day
Thursday 19th December	Carol Service - 10am St Mary's Church

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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.

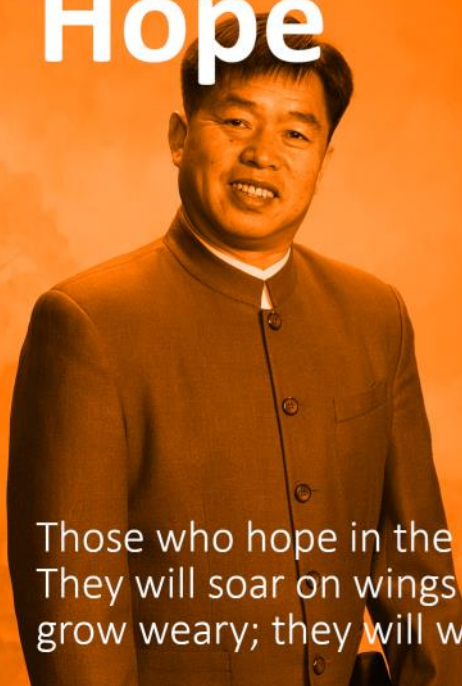
We're thankful for all that God has provided; proud of where He has placed us; and excited at the potential to come.

”



The Brother Yun Award for

# Hope



*"Overflowing with thankfulness,  
inspiration and joy"*

Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not  
grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.(Isaiah 40:31)

## Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

The holidays are over and we return to school for a new year.

May it be for us all a new start: a chance to surprise ourselves at what we can achieve, a new opportunity to make friends and to make this school a community where everyone can feel at home.

Amen

Do you have any spare fencing?

Do you have any spare Perspex plastic?

Our Reception garden needs some TLC and we would be very grateful if anybody could donate either of these.

Please speak to Miss Cocks.



### Packed Lunch

At St Mary's we encourage our children to have a healthy, balanced diet. This helps to improve concentration, increase energy levels and is also good for mental health and self image. Each child's lunch should have the following:

- 1) A portion of bread (or similar), rice, potatoes or pasta.
- 2) Plenty of fruit and vegetables.
- 3) A portion of dairy or a calcium rich alternative.
- 4) Some protein in the form of beans, pulses, fish, egg, meat.
- 5) A healthy drink / water

There are some great ideas on the NHS website if you follow this link <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

As always, packed lunches are not to have nuts, sweets, chocolate or fizzy/energy drinks. Do not fill your child's packed lunch with biscuits, crisps, or cakes. These are not filling and contain too much sugar and saturated fat.

If your child would like to bring a snack for break time, this needs to be a piece of fruit or vegetable. This is to be in line with the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme (SFVS) which is a government programme that entitles every child in England, aged 4-6 in fully state-funded schools to a piece of fruit or vegetable each school day.




Do you shop in Asda?

Sign up for <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

Asda's new Cashpot for Schools initiative has raised almost £1million raised for UK primary schools in its first 72 hours.

The industry first campaign sees Asda donate 0.5% of the value of its customers shopping to a primary school of their choice – every time they shop using Asda Rewards.



**Thank you for choosing a school!**

**St Mary's Church of England VA Primary School, Welham Green** ✓

Dellsome Lane North Mymms, Hatfield, AL9 7NE

When you shop with Asda Rewards, we'll donate 0.5% of your total spend every time to your selected primary school. This is additional to your own earnings and doesn't take anything out of your Cashpot.

You'll be able to track your school's Cashpot in the next 24 hours. Keep an eye on your selected Cashpot to track their progress and see how much they've earned!

**Done**



# **North Mymms Book Swap**

**North Mymms Memorial Hall**

**10am-12 Midday**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2024**

Organised by North Mymms Book Swap and supported by North Mymms Parish Council.

