



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Yesterday we had 98% attendance and our attendance for the week overall is 95% and Year 4 are on 100% for this week, Year 2 are on 99.3% and Year 1 on 98.6%! These are fantastic numbers! So I would like to begin my newsletter contribution this week by thanking all the parents and carers who have made such a tremendous effort to ensure that not only the pupils are in school, they are on time. It is important to remind you that if a child is late, after the register closes at 9am, that is recorded as an absence for that morning session, which in turn affects our figures and the child's attendance record. I often write about attendance when it is not going as well, so it is really positive to be writing when things are going well! As we have started the term so well, it is important to remind you that the pupils who did best in their SATs last summer, were those who were here regularly and they were also the ones who had the fewest peer group issues. So as the year progresses, let's keep the number of Attendance Heros - Here Everyday Ready and On time - as high as we can, which will lead to the best academic and social outcomes too. I would also remind you that holidays being taken in term time are at risk of fines, as well as being disruptive to the pupils' education.

Thank you to all those of you who attended the 'Meet the Teacher' meetings for Years 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 this week: the Year 2 meeting is next week and Reception parents have had the home visits from our teachers. These meetings are a really valuable way of ensuring strong, positive links between home and school, which leads to the best outcomes for our pupils.

I have often written in the newsletter about behaviour and I am so pleased to be able to report how good the behaviour has been so far this term, both during lessons and on the playground. In every classroom pupils can be found engaging with their learning and we have made a really positive start to the year in terms of routines.

Our playground has developed and the children are very much enjoying the new climbing frame and we have also installed the new outdoor reading shed this week.

As we continue to focus on our half termly value of hope, in Collective Worship on Monday, I focused on the Paralympic Games and how much those athletes have achieved when there will have been times when they have questioned how much they were able to do. The Paralympics were a wonderful celebration not just of sport, but of inclusivity and diversity too.

So as this week where we have much to celebrate as a school, I will leave you with a quote from the former Archbishop of Cape Town, Desmond Tutu:

"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."

Adrian Petty

Headteacher

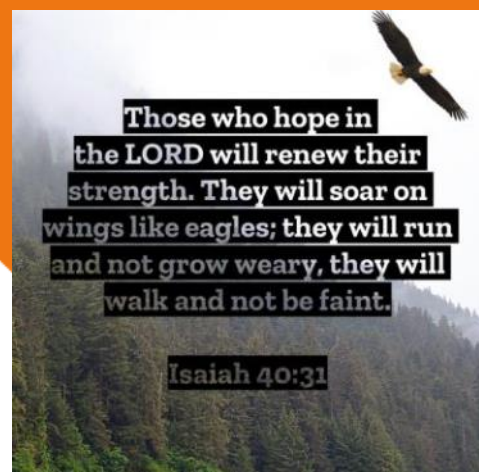
Autumn Term Issue 2
13th September 2024



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

HOUSEPOINTS



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

232

180

198

182



Well done Badgers!

232

180

198

182

STARS OF THE WEEK

The following children were nominated and joined Mr Petty on the Star Table at lunchtime today.

Reception - All of the class

Year 1 - Polly

Year 2 - Peony

Year 3 - Reynard

Year 4 - Rishika

Year 5 - JoJo

Year 6 - Bozhidara

Congratulations to all these children.

ATTENDANCE STARS

Mandela	100%	
Curie	99.3%	
Elizabeth	98.6%	
Hawking	96.5%	
Luther King	93.5%	
Donaldson	93.3%	

SCHOOL DIARY



Date	Event
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

CLASS PE DAYS

Elizabeth - Year 1	Tuesdays & Fridays
Curie - Year 2	Wednesdays & Thursdays
Hawking - Year 3	Mondays & Thursdays
Mandela - Year 4	Tuesdays & Thursdays
Attenborough - Year 5	Mondays & Wednesdays
Luther King - Year 6	Mondays & Wednesdays

“

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.

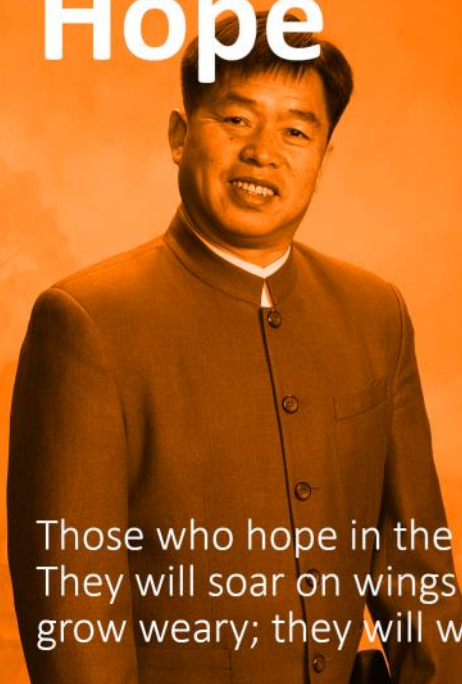
We're thankful for all that God has provided; proud of where He has placed us; and excited at the potential to come.

”



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

Reception - Donaldson

We just wanted to say how fantastic Donaldson class have been on their first week at school. We have been impressed by how well they have all adapted very quickly to the school routine and expectations. This week has been very busy but it has been a fun week. In maths the children have been learning about matching, sorting and comparing different objects. In phonics we have been focusing on the sounds M, A, S, D and T and have been learning how to write these letters correctly. All the children have loved story time where we have been reading Julia Donaldson books and singing their favourite songs at snack time. The children have loved exploring their senses in the inside and outside environments and have been able to tell each other what they have seen, heard and touched. Most importantly, the children have enjoyed their first week at school and we shall look forward to welcoming them back to the second week.



Year 1 - Elizabeth

In Year 1 we have had a fantastic week and have been so motivated to start our year full of hope and ambition! We have enjoyed reading 'Change Sings' by Amanda Gorman and have been inspired to write some sentences about how we can make a change in our world. The children wrote about how they could share more with their friends and ask others to join in if they are feeling lonely. In Art we have looked at the artist Piet Mondrian and used primary colours to make our own masterpieces inspired by his work. In science we went on a material hunt and discovered that there are so many different materials used in our classroom. We used adjectives to describe what we found and labelled them.



Year 2 - Curie

A warm welcome to all the parents and carers of Curie class. I want to start by thanking you all for ensuring an amazing attendance this week. The children have settled in well and have engaged with their learning and classroom routines.

In Maths, our first topic is on place value. The class have been completing number tracks and filling in missing values. They have also been looking at picture representations to write numbers using numerals and words. Number beads, tens frames and a Rekenrek have been used to calculate the value of numbers and then progressed to counting in tens and ones using tens frames representations. They have worked so hard on this, so well done Curie!

In English, our unit is studying the book called 'Change Sings' written by the poet Amanda Gorman. The class have been studying various poems and have discussed her performance and delivery. We also watched her poem 'The hill we climb' which was read at Joe Biden's inauguration.

They have practised constructing sentences about changing the world using suffixes, questions, adjectives, and pronouns. I have been impressed with how they have confidently contributed ideas to the class tasks.

In general, it has been a fantastic first week and I am looking forward to working with you throughout the school year.



Year 3 - Hawking

The two weeks of school have been great in Year 3. We have learnt a lot lately and it is amazing in a new class and in a new school team. I love how Miss Garip teaches us hard things in a fun way, it makes it so much easier. I want to thank the school so much for the new climbing frame, I think it is brilliant, especially the orangutan because it is like a spiders web, only made out of rope and wood and a ladder to climb up and jump on and have fun.

By Lola H



Year 4 - Mandela

We have had a good start to the year in Mandela class. In English we have been reading the book *Change Sings* and learning about how we could change the world ourselves. As part of the unit we have written our own biographies, describing what we like and dislike. In maths we have been looking at numbers up to 10,000 and identifying different representations of these 4-digit numbers. Our favourite lessons this week were Science and Art. We played a life size game of *Guess Who* where we were learning what questions we could use to classify living creatures and were extremely excited in art when we learnt that the abstract art we were studying was actually of a football player. We are all looking forward to continuing our learning next week.



Year 5 - Attenborough

Welcome back Attenborough class and their families! We hope you enjoyed the Summer break. Year 5 have come back to school with enthusiasm and a positive attitude towards learning. Together, we have written our class rules and the children have been very good at following them. In English, we have been using a book called '*Change Sings*' to inspire our writing and the class have amazed us with their poetry and other ideas. In Maths, we have been exploring place value and numbers up to one million. In R.E., we have considered what we think God is like to us as individuals, we all have different beliefs, and this was shown in the children's work. In Science, we have started our topic about 'Space' and have found out information about the Solar System. We have had a positive start to the academic year and are looking forward to the rest of Year 5 with our class. Have a great weekend. The Year 5 teaching team.



Year 6 - Luther King

Everyone has made a great start in Year 6! There were a mixture of feelings - nerves and excitement. We have started by making a flag for our class bunting of our hopes and dreams and hanging our worries on the worry tree that will hopefully be blown away by the end of the school year. In Maths, we have been learning about place value and working with numbers up to 10,000,000. We have been enjoying the book '*Change Sings*' by Amanda Gorman, who is the youngest US laureate of all time. We have been exploring the themes of change, differences and diversity. We are currently writing our house captain speeches and hope to read these next week. Good luck!

By Qabid and Tomi Year 6



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.



PTA

The PTA are meeting in school with Mr Petty on Friday 20th September at 2:15pm. We hope to see as many parents and carers as possible there. Please come along if you are available.

Polite Notice

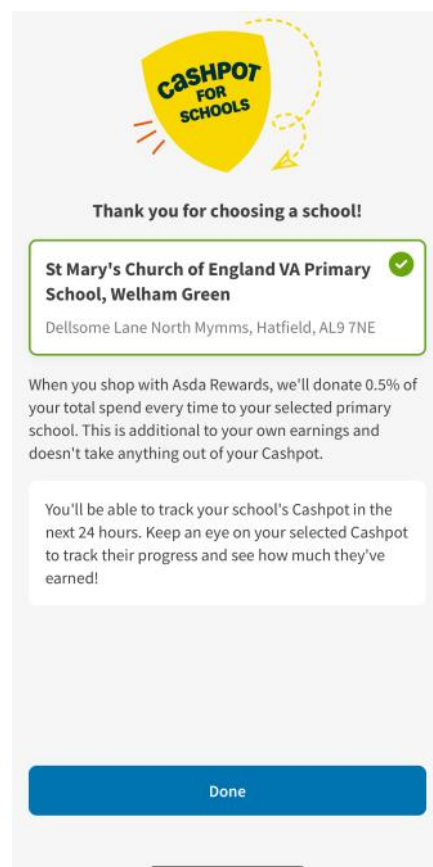
If you need to collect from Secondary school as well as Primary, please collect from here first as Secondary school children are able to wait.

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.



Picnic on the Green, Welham Green

Balloon Day Celebration

DJ

Hair

Braiding

Saturday 14th September

1pm – 4pm

Art & Craft

Tug of War

Bring your own picnic

Face

painting

@lesh cakes



Bar available – The Sibthorpe Arms

Paper Aeroplane competitions

Prizes for children