



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I think the beat of the Rock Steady bands could be heard in Brookmans Park, as our pupils performed this morning! It is so good to see how much our children have achieved with Rock Steady during the course of this term: whilst there are clear musical benefits, the growth in their confidence and resilience was also very evident. It was also lovely that so many of the parents and carers, as well as our Chair of Governors, Mrs Hoile, were able to join us.

This week has been another busy one as we continue in the run up to Christmas, although the amount of illness in Reception did mean that we had to postpone the Reception Nativity until next Monday and we look forward to welcoming the parents and carers then.

This week, we had our Key Stage 2 Carol Service at St Mary's Church, after school on Tuesday afternoon. Although it wasn't that well attended, I would like to thank Rev Ruth for leading our worship, the choir who did really well in performing four carols during the service and those pupils who gave readings.

This afternoon we had a PTA cake sale and I would like to thank those parents who gave up their time to organise the sale and run the stall after school.

As we move into next week and the final few days before we break up for Christmas, in addition to the Reception Nativity on Monday, we have the Key Stage 1 Production on Tuesday and then on Wednesday we have our Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day. On Thursday morning, we head to St Mary's Church for our End of Term Carol Service and we hope that as many parents and carers will be able to join us as possible for that service.

As many of you may be aware from your children, we are saying goodbye to Miss Hazell at the end of this term, as she relocates to another part of the country. She has been a dedicated member of the St Mary's team since 2021 and she has made a tremendous difference to the lives of so many of our children during that time. We are going to greatly miss her and we wish her well in the future.

There is a definite Christmas spirit evident at St Mary's now and all the classroom and office doors have been decorated to reflect different Christmas songs. Mrs Hoile had the unenviable task of judging the winner earlier today!

There is a great deal of fun, enjoyment and celebration to be had at this time of year, but never let us forget the true meaning of Christmas. As Pope Francis said:

"Advent increases our hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down."

Have a good weekend.

Adrian Petty

Headteacher

Autumn Term Issue 13
13th December 2024



Flourish for the future

Our value this half term is:

Peace

'Glory to God in the
highest heaven, and
on earth peace to
those on whom his
favour rests.'
Luke 2:14

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



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Dellsome Lane, Welham Green, AL9 7NE

HOUSEPOINTS



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

79

93

122

92



Well done Rabbits!

911

958

950

931

STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Reception - Luca

Year 1 - Isla

Year 2 - Nneka

Year 3 - Valerie

Year 4 - Lily

Year 5 - Olivia

Year 6 - Chloe

Congratulations to all these children.

ATTENDANCE STARS

Elizabeth

95%



SCHOOL DIARY



Date	Event
Friday 13th December	PTA Cake Sale 3:00pm
Monday 16th December	Reception Christmas Nativity 2pm
Tuesday 17th December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Production 10am and 2pm
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day
Wednesday 18th December	Class Christmas Parties 1pm
Thursday 19th December	Carol Service - 10am St Mary's Church
Thursday 19th December	Term ends - 1:45pm
Friday 20th December	Occasional Day - School Closed
Monday 6th January 2025	Term Starts - 8:40am
17th - 21st February	Half Term
Friday 4th April	Term ends - 1:45pm

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 & Fridays

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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 St Francis of Assisi Award for

Peace



*"Overflowing with thankfulness,
inspiration and joy"*

The peace that Christ gives is to guide you in the decisions you make; for it is to this peace that God has called you together in the one body. (Colossians 3:15)

Prayer of the Week

Let us travel to Christmas
by the light of a star.

Let us go to the hillside
right where the shepherds are.

Let us see shining angels
singing from heaven above.

Let us see Mary cradling,
God's holy child with love.

Amen

Reception - Donaldson

It's definitely been a quiet week in Donaldson class, I hope all the children that are unwell get better soon. However, this week in Maths, we have been looking at and drawing 2D shapes which were square, rectangle, circle and a triangle inside and outside the classroom environment. In English, we have been continuing our book called 'Halibut Jackson'. In the book the character Halibut gets invited to the palace. We then had a discussion around invitations and what they are. The children then were able to draw their own palace picture which were fantastic! In PE, the children enjoyed cosmic yoga where they were doing different poses and stretching their legs and arms. I hope to see a full and healthy class return next week!



Year 1 - Elizabeth

This week in Elizabeth Class we have started thinking more about Christmas and have had great fun decorating our classroom door with our very own personalised snowmen. In RE, we have learnt more about the Christmas story and the children are able to retell the main events in order and with confidence. In Maths, we have completed our unit focussing on 2D and 3D shapes and repeating patterns. The children have worked so hard to name all the shapes correctly and are growing in confidence when continuing increasingly difficult shape pattern sequences. In English, we have designed our own Superheroes and written a character description, describing our superpowers and how we will defeat the villains Vacuum and Filth! We have continued practising our Nativity and are so excited to share it with the school tomorrow. Thank-you for all your support with helping the children to learn their lines. Well done Year 1!



Year 2 - Curie

This week, Curie class have been busy practising for the Nativity play and have really flourished with learning the songs and memorising their lines. Amazing effort!

In Maths, we have started learning about 2D and 3D shapes. They have been learning about the sides, vertices and how to count these with irregular shapes. Really good work and engagement. They have also been drawing various 2D shapes on graph paper. Keep practising drawing on the grid lines.

In English, the class were relieved that the mysterious creature was a dodo bird. Our focus this week discussed extinct animals. They were provided with information on a few of these animals and had to create a fact file on when they were last seen, described their appearance and explained how they became extinct. There were some great discussions about extinct animals being hunted and the disappearance of their habitats due to climate change. Well done!

In PE, we have continued with invasion games. The class had lots of fun playing rollerball football. The focus of the lesson was to develop passing skills, moving into suitable positions to create goal scoring opportunities and defensive strategies. Great effort Curie class. For the children to flourish further, please can you ensure that Mathematics and spelling sheets are being practised regularly at home. Thank you.



Year 3 - Hawking

On Monday, we did a whole day of English and it was so fun. We also played tag rugby where we learned how to dodge each other. On Tuesday, we learnt geography about counties and districts. On Wednesday, we learnt Religious Education about knowing God's different names. We looked at the Trinity and how God is one and all three altogether. On Thursday, we learnt how to play tag rugby in PE and learn how to give a band back properly. On Friday, we are going to be watching Rock Steady and year one and two are doing their play. We're going to buy goodies from the PTA Cake shop later.

This weeks newsletter was written by Hayden and Valerie



Year 4 - Mandela

This week in Mandela class we have begun to write our own narratives about a mysterious metal creature who visits earth. We have been using noun phrases, superlatives, similes and direct speech to bring it to life. We also continued making our volcanoes, this time we were adding realistic detail to the outside with different materials. We have continued our learning of the times table and even learnt a special way to remember the 9 times table. We look forward to our last week of Autumn term and some Christmas festivities.



Year 5 - Attenborough

Year 5 have had a jam-packed week! On Monday, we shared our Mini Police presentations with Years 3, 4 and 6. Our presentations were the final product of many weeks of Mini Police sessions. We discussed some incredibly important topics including road safety, online safety, vapes, hate crime and anti-social behaviour. We were very proud of how we communicated our learning and we received certificates (and sweets!) from Sam and Jo for our hard work.

We also began our DT unit, learning all about bread. We thought about which food group bread fits into, what bread products we have in our diets and then we made a basic bread recipe. Once it had risen, we split our dough into sixths to create bread rolls. After they had been baked in the oven (thank you Mrs McGeady!) we sampled them- they were delicious! We have designed our own bread product which we look forward to making and trying next week.

In Science, we have been thinking about the life cycle of birds. We enjoyed exploring the anatomy of an egg (even though cracking it was a little messy) and then comparing the life cycle of a bird with that of mammals, insects, amphibians and flowering plants



Year 6 - Luther King

On Monday we had two new classmates join us called Ben and Ezer Maria. We hope they enjoyed their first week. On Tuesday in Science we were sorting living things with Mrs Smyth. On Wednesday we had our rounding recap in Maths. It was a bit tricky for some people and a bit easier for others but in the end we all managed it. In English, we have been reading about Anne Frank and learning more about her and her life story. We've been decorating our classroom door for Christmas. Our theme is The 12 Days of Christmas. It's been really fun but kind of frustrating as it's taken a lot of effort to make it look so good. It looks really nice now it's completed. It has lights and the classes are having a contest: the best door wins. On Thursday in Geography we've been researching South America and investigating the significance of The Amazon Rainforest. We also created leaflets about the Amazon Rainforest. We've also been having fun doing our Christmas cards with Mrs Hutchinson, Mrs Brooks and Mrs Smyth.

Did you know? The Amazon Rainforest is considered the 'Lungs of the Earth'

By Chloe and Taylor



PTA

Winners of the next 5 Christmas raffle prizes are:

Christmas Gifts Hamper - Sarah Smith

Pamper Hamper - Maisie

Sweet Treats - Hayden & Evie Powell

Christmas Food Hamper - Janet Conway

Days Out Hamper - Emma Pomroy

There are 2 more prizes to be drawn!

We have a vacancy for a SEN TA. Take a look on the Teach in Herts website [Teacher Recruitment, Hertfordshire UK - Fixed Term SEN Teaching Assistant](#)



The school choir at St Mary's Church and the Rocksteady concert in school this week!

