



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Autumn Term Issue 6

13th October 2023

Whenever I take prospective parents on a tour of the school, as I did this morning, I always talk about 'Parents as Partners', as we can only ever get the best outcomes for the pupils if home and school work closely together. There is no 'one size fits all' at St Mary's, as every child is unique and we work together to meet needs and fulfil potential in order that the pupils can achieve the best that they can. An important part of this working together is parent consultation evenings and I thank all those parents and carers who engaged with the teachers this week, either in person on Tuesday or on the telephone on Wednesday, so we can work together to develop the children to achieve their personal best and not just academically, but in all spheres of school life.

There will, of course, be times when parents have concerns and this is a natural part of school life and life as a whole, but again I would always ask you to work directly with the school in order to address those concerns. Whilst WhatsApp is a very useful tool to communicate with groups quickly, it can also be very unhelpful and opinions expressed within the chat start being presented as fact and these are often inaccurate. I am aware that, in the last few days, WhatsApp groups have been used to discuss school concerns and this has not helped the situation. However, I am very grateful to those parents who have come to see me or have spoken to other members of staff in order to address those issues. It is through direct communication that we can get things properly sorted out.

Sadly, it has not been the best week for behaviour this week and some children have fallen short of the standards that we expect at St Mary's, but again I thank those parents and carers who have worked with us as we have addressed those disappointing behaviours.

We had a visit this week from the Local Authority Attendance Officer who was very pleased to see how much we had achieved since her last visit in January. However, as we discussed our plans going forward, we agreed that there is still much to be done. In the first six weeks of this term, 46 of our children have already fallen below 90% attendance: that is heading towards one third of the total pupil body. We cannot get the best outcomes for the pupils if there is so much absence and we must work together to ensure that the children are in school for the maximum amount of time.

The children's potential and outcomes are harmed by not being in school. However, to conclude on a very positive note, for the first time since the pandemic, we had a school football team of Year 5s and Year 6s go and play in the Hatfield and District Primary Schools tournament. Whilst we did not win the tournament, the pupils did us proud as they showed tremendous team work and they did win a number of their matches. I would like to thank Miss Males and Mr Kilpatrick for organising and working with the team and to the parents who transported their children to the tournament and supported their matches.

As I look back over what I have written this week, there is a theme that comes through each paragraph and that is the one of partnership and working together, so I shall leave you with another quote from Henry Ford:

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

Have a good weekend.

Adrian Petty

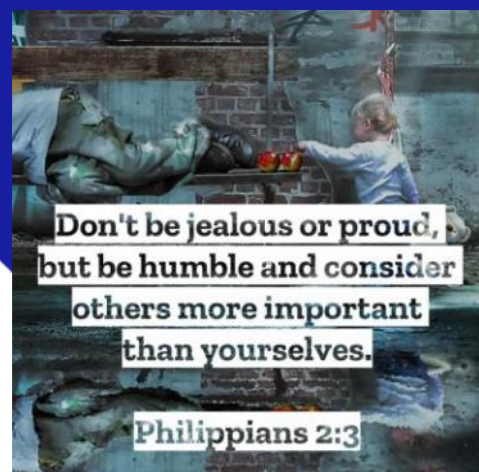
Headteacher



Flourish for the future

Our value this half term is:

Respect



**Don't be jealous or proud,
but be humble and consider
others more important
than yourselves.**

Philippians 2:3

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:

130



112



139



146



Well done Squirrels!

Running Totals:

870

796

822

796

STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Reception - Dylan

Year 1 - Peony

Year 2 - Lyla

Year 3 - James L

Year 4 - Peyton

Year 5 - Chloe

Year 6 - Cyrus

Weekly Teacher Nominations this week were:-

Reception - Jayden

Year 1 - Sofia

Year 2 - Toby

Year 3 - Aram

Year 4 - Timur

Year 5 - Jack

Year 6 - Moni

ATTENDANCE STARS

Hawking	96.7%	😊
Elizabeth	92.7%	😊
Goodall	91%	😊
Curie	90.7%	😊

SCHOOL DIARY



Date	Event
Friday 13th October	Arts Afternoon 3:30pm
Wednesday 18th October	Charterhouse Information Meeting - 2:55pm School Hall
Thursday 19th October	Reception, Year 1 & 2 Phonics Information Meeting—2:55pm School Hall
Friday 20th October	Occasional Day—School Closed
23rd October—27th October	Half Term
Monday 6th November	Year 6 Health Questionnaire
Friday 10th November	Remembrance Day Commemoration
Friday 17th November	Children in Need
Wednesday 22nd November	Year 6 NCMP height and weight
Wednesday 22nd November	Reception screening children born up to end of February
27th November—1st December	Year 5 & 6 Residential to Charterhouse
Wednesday 6th December	Flu vaccinations
Wednesday 13th December	Pantomime Whole School Trip
Wednesday 13th December	Key Stage 2 Carol Service 4pm St Mary's Church
Thursday 14th December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Production 10am & 2pm
Friday 15th December	PTA Christmas Sale
Monday 18th December	Class Christmas Parties in the afternoon
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 20th December	End of Term Church Service 10am
Wednesday 20th December	End of Term— School ends 1:45pm
Thursday 4th January 2024	Inset Day—School Closed
Friday 5th January	Inset Day—School Closed
Monday 8th January	Term Starts—Children back at 8:40am
19th February—23rd February	Half Term
Thursday 2nd May	Reception screening children born after 1st March

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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 Elizabeth Fry Award for

Respect



*"Overflowing with thankfulness,
inspiration and joy"*

Respect everyone, love your fellow-believers, honour God, and respect the authorities. (1 Peter 2:17)

Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

Thank you that you value each one of us. Please help us to treat others with respect.

Help us to embrace differences between us. Help us to love others, even if they are very different from us.

Help us to see the value in each individual person.

Amen.

Reception - Elizabeth

This week Elizabeth Class have been inspired by our class book 'Look Up!'. They have been considering what they would like to do when they grow up. We have had a variety of different ideas from the children ranging from chefs to werewolves and teachers to fashion designers.

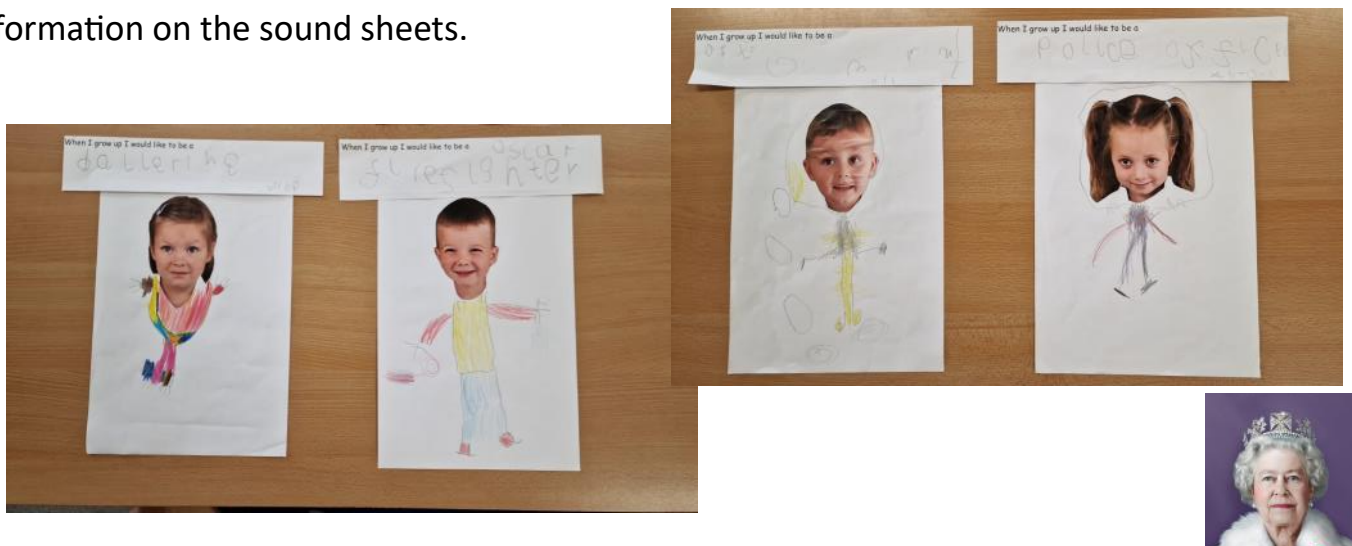
Polly wanted to be a ballerina because "I wanted to dance"

Oscar wanted to be a firefighter "To put fires out"

Casey wanted to be an astronaut because "I wanted to fly into space"

Antonia wanted to be a police officer because the car goes 'Weeehoooo'

Elizabeth class have also been busy learning all about our new sounds f, e, l, h and r. Please help your child progress by sharing the sound cards sent home and practising letter formation on the sound sheets.



Year 1 - Curie

As always, another busy week for Curie class with lots of wonderful learning taking place! In English we have been thinking of adventures that our special sticks can enjoy and have planned a story ready to make our own storybooks next week. In Maths we have been learning about the language of addition and have been applying this knowledge to practical activities. In R.E., we considered how the church is a special place for Christians and thought about special places in our lives. We watched a special video about 'toys from the Victorian era' and the majority of the class said they would prefer the toys from the past to their toys today! Now you know what to buy for Christmas! The children have also been busy exploring Mathletics, a Maths app that you can also explore at home. Please see inside their reading books for log in details. Have a lovely weekend and looking forward to seeing you all on Monday.



Year 2 - Hawking

This week in Hawking class we have had lots of fun learning about counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Singing songs and playing games to remind us of the numbers. We have been planning new beginnings to our story, Frog and the Stranger. It was lovely to speak with most of the parents and get to know you and the children a bit more. We have lots of performers in the Arts Afternoon today at 3.30pm and we are very excited to see what talent Hawking class has.



Year 3 - Mandela

Mandela class have worked extremely hard this week. Our Maths lessons have been challenging but we have been persevering and building grit to be able to understand how to problem solve. We have also been trying to problem solve within our relationships and PSHE. Showing kindness and respect have been a focus in the socialisation aspect in break and lunchtimes.

In English we have started our new book, 'Dr Xargle's Earth Hounds' where we have been practising describing using conjunctions. We have been exploring and predicting what the book can be about, using inference and details with what is exposed to us through the front page.

In Art we have been experimenting in brushstrokes and how different brushes can give us different textures and detail in our paintings.



Year 4 - Attenborough

We have had a productive and busy week in Year 4. In Maths, we have been focusing on formal written addition methods, the children have been working really hard. In English, we have been writing our own narratives based on the story 'Arthur and the Golden Rope'. We have now moved onto our new book 'The King Who Banned the Dark'. In Science, the children conducted an investigation exploring which factors affect the pitch of a sound. The children used elastic bands and different size boxes to test this. In our love reading unit the children have really been enjoying reading the book 'The accidental Prime Minister'. It has been a busy week and I look forward to the exciting learning we have planned for next week.



Year 5 - Luther King

We had another great week in Year 5. Everyone in Luther King class has worked really hard this week.

In Science we learned that although people used to believe Earth was the centre of our solar system, we now know that Earth orbits the sun. We also learned about the many great astronomers that devoted their lives to find out more about our great universe.

All of Year 5 impressed us with the stories they wrote in English and, like real authors we spent some time editing and reading back through our stories to improve them.

In Maths we have been multiplying whole numbers and decimal numbers by 10, 100 and 1000.

It was great to get to speak to so many parents/guardians and to hear about the positive start we have all made in Luther King class this half term. Knowing that so many of Year 5 love coming to school and enjoying their learning is what we aim for at St Mary's.



Year 6 - Goodall

It's been a great week for Year 6 who are having a real focus on adding descriptive detail into their writing. They've been doing this in their Wisp narratives and in today's Sky Ladders Friday Write. We also finished our first whole class read - Alex Rider:

Stormbreaker and Mr Gilder has set homework for half term to write our own short stories. In Science we've been classifying invertebrates including a biodiversity survey around the school and in RE we reflected on our favourite parts of the natural world and considered their origins.



Hatfield and District Primary Schools Tournament 2023

I would like to start by saying a massive thank you to the children and parents who attended our Year 5/6 football tournament on Thursday. Moni, Justin, Maxwell, Sebastian, Cyrus, David, Tomi, Jack, Oliver Wi and Oliver Wo really made the school proud. Every player worked incredibly hard on and off the pitch to improve their skills and how they worked together as a team. Our first match was against Hatfield Community Free School and despite our best efforts we lost 3-0. The second match we played was against De Havilland where there was a real switch up in how the team were playing. We were creating more opportunities for attacking play and defending the ball well. There was ball to hand in the box and a penalty was given against our team – the school scored, and we lost the match 1-0. Our third game was against Oak View, all the boys worked incredibly hard, and it was looking like we might score our first goal, Tomi, Moni, Oliver, Jack, Oliver and Justin worked well together to create great play attacking and driving the ball up field. David, Maxwell, Sebastian, and Cyrus were solid in defence and keeping the ball out of the box. Cyrus made some incredible saves in goal. There was ball to hand in the box and a penalty was given against our team – the school scored, and we lost the match 1-0. Our final match was against Green Lanes – all the team was motivated and had a positive mindset to win the match. The team communicated well and passed the ball smoothly to each other. The defensive players worked well together and made sure to kick the ball up field. By working together and creating space Moni scored our first goal. Later in the match we were awarded a penalty and Moni scored a great goal. The match ended 2-0, the team really improved, and we were so proud of them all. We look forward to competing in more matches and tournaments.

Miss Males and Mr Kilpatrick.





Despite erecting new signs, people are still blocking the emergency entrance. Please **do not** park in front of the double gates. Access is required for contractors and emergency vehicles. Thank you.

Traffic on Dellsome Lane

Have you considered car sharing with another family to reduce the traffic pressure?

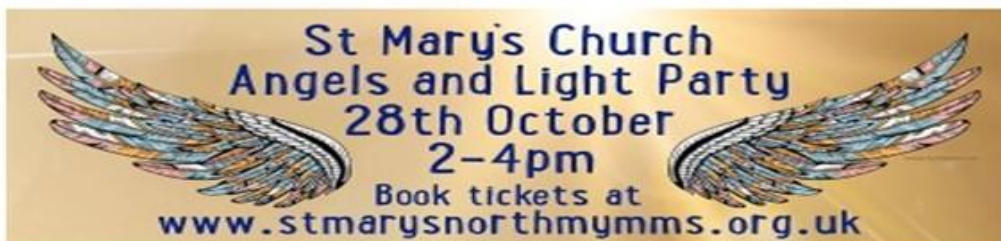
Please park considerately and safely

Please drive slowly as there may be children crossing the road who haven't looked before starting to cross

Please do not block the drives of local residents

Please do not stop on the yellow zig zag lines immediately outside the school gates

Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation: we must keep our children safe.



We will be making wooden angel lights, biscuit decorating, window decorations, and much more plus refreshments outside by the fire (or indoors if it is raining) Tickets are available via [ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) on our website;

But for now add the date to your diaries
Adult tickets £2 and children's tickets £4

<https://www.stmarysnorthmymms.org.uk>

or phone the office and leave a message on; 01727 825578
or email the church on; northmymmschurch@btinternet.com

Winter Warmer

All Ages Welcome

North Mymms Memorial Hall together with North Mymms Parish Council are pleased to announce the **return of the “Winter Warmer”** for the community of North Mymms



The “Winter Warmer” will offer a warm space and a warm welcome, with an opportunity to buy a mug of soup for £1.00, and a cup of tea or coffee for 50p

The Hall will be open from 12:30pm to 2:30pm on

Thursday 9th November

Thursday 16th November

Thursday 23rd November

There is no Winter Warmer on 30th November

Thursday 7th December

Thursday 14th December

Thursday 21st December