



Weekly Newsletter 23/4/19

Headteacher's News

Welcome back to St Mary's! I hope you enjoyed the Easter holidays with your family. Over the holiday, as promised, the Sensory Garden has been repaired and improved, and children had the chance to play spot the difference this lunchtime, duly spotting the stronger path/bedding boundaries and additional bark and mulch in various locations. We talked in assembly today about the need to look after the garden, which I am sure the children will. Feedback from the children (in between sudden showers, of which there were quite a few today!) was very positive and they will enjoy spending the summer under the shade of the trees there, including the rapidly re-growing willow.

A number of the children chose to complete some kind of project over the Easter holidays and I am pleased that they have got a headstart on their new topics by finding out about them ahead of their lessons – a lot of children made visits over the holiday connected to their new topics and this was very pleasing to hear.

At St Mary's I am always delighted to hear and see that children are keen to come to school nice and early, though we are finding with the improved weather that a lot of older children are coming *too* early – I'd like to remind parents that the official gate opening time is 8.40am, 15 minutes before the start of the school day. Today, quite a few children came at 8.30, and so therefore had rather a long wait until the gates were opened; delaying the time of arrival by a few minutes will avoid older children having to wait outside the gates.

The month either side of Easter is often a busy one for recruitment with the next academic year in mind, though we have concluded our classteacher appointments for September already so we are ahead of schedule. Three teachers join us permanently this week – Ms Rhiannon Williams and Ms Raajmeen Nehaar, who will both take streams in the mornings and interventions in the afternoons (before being classteachers in September), and Jade Beech who is the new three day a week SENCO working from Wednesdays through to Fridays. They are all excellent additions to the St Mary's team.

Poetry Competition

Calling all young poets! We are entering a poetry competition which is taking place on 19th May.

There's no criteria for length or topic - it can be anything that your imagination allows!

Please hand in your poems to the office no later than Monday 13th May.

Mr Hill, Literacy Lead



Year 6 Gilwell Park- Residential Trip

The Y6 residential is fast approaching! Please ensure you are still regularly paying instalments off. Please also keep an eye out for Gilwell Park-related items in the Diary Dates section on the last page of this newsletter.



Messages to school office

Please could we respectfully ask that if you need alternative arrangements made for your child at the end of the school day, you contact the office **by 3pm** where possible. On one day just before Easter, we had 17 calls between 3.25 and 3.30 asking for children not to be taken to clubs, or not to go into the playground. With 600 children being dismissed it is often difficult for office staff to locate your child at the end of the day, so do please give us as much notice as possible.

Personal information

Please ensure that the school is kept up to date on any changes you make to your personal details. It is important that we have your correct home address and telephone contact numbers for you with at least two other emergency contacts.

We also need an up to date, relevant e-mail address. Please advise the office if you think you have not updated us with any recent changes.

After School Clubs

Clubs will commence on Monday 30th.

They will be from 3:30-4:20pm. Please be punctual in picking up your child at the end of the session, and please note the end time of 4.20, rather than 4.30.

Pick up is from the Reception entrance as before.

Time to choose clubs is now closed.

We will be emailing you very shortly if your child has been successful in receiving the club they requested. With demand high, unfortunately it is not always possible to give each child a club, while it is also possible that a child requesting a place on much less popular clubs might in some circumstances be offered two.

Please do not pay any money into Parent Pay as we have not put up a form for that yet.

We are working hard to give everyone either 1st or 2nd preference, and hopefully a very high % of children will again be happy with their offer.

Diary Dates

Dates for your diary will appear in the newsletter each week. Please keep an eye out for events relevant to you.

<i>Thursday 25th April</i>	<i>Parents' Prayer Club</i>
<i>Monday 29th April</i>	<i>Year 2 Natural History Museum trip</i>
<i>Thursday 2nd May</i>	<i>Year 1 Atlee Assembly</i>
<i>Wednesday 8th May</i>	<i>Dental Service in school for selected children from Reception and Year 1</i>
<i>Thursday 16th May</i>	<i>Year 4 Wilson Assembly</i>
<i>Wednesday 5th June</i>	<i>Year 6 Information session for Gilwell Park- 9:30am (come to main office)</i>
<i>Thursday 6th June</i>	<i>Year 6 Information session for Gilwell Park- 6:30pm (come to the main office)</i>
<i>Thursday 6th June</i>	<i>Year 5 Wilson Assembly</i>
<i>Thursday 13th June</i>	<i>Year 2 Atlee Assembly</i>
<i>Thursday 20th June</i>	<i>Year 2 Morris Assembly</i>
<i>24th, 25th & 26th June</i>	<i>Year 6 Gilwell Park Residential trip</i>
<i>Thursday 27th June</i>	<i>Year 2 Wilson Assembly</i>
<i>Thursday 4th July</i>	<i>Year 6 Atlee Assembly</i>
<i>Thursday 11th July</i>	<i>Year 6 Wilson Assembly</i>
<i>Thursday 18th July</i>	<i>Year 6 Morris Assembly</i>

General Data Protection Act (GDPR)

Please contact the DPO with any questions about the operation of this policy or the GDPR or if you have any concerns that this policy is not being or has not been followed.

The DPO's contact details are as follows: **Data Protection Officer:** Craig Stilwell, **Address:** Judicium Consulting Ltd, 72 Cannon Street, London, EC4N 6AE **Email:** dataservices@judicium

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