



Weekly Newsletter
11th December 2018

Headteacher's News



Today our fantastic **school orchestra** performed for pupils and parents in the gym. They treated us all to two Christmas songs and helped us get in the festive mood. The children, some of whom have been playing for a while, and others who have only recently begun learning their instrument, performed with great confidence and clearly enjoyed having such a receptive audience. Many of the children in the audience said that they would like to learn an instrument having seen the orchestra in action, and so the assembly served two purposes: to give an opportunity for the orchestra to show what they could do, and for those watching to become inspired in order that the next generation of St Mary's musicians are as impressive as the current one. In the next two weeks the **school choir** will have two outings and will, I am sure, be equally impressive as they use *their* instrument of choice, the voice, to entertain their audiences. On the subject of performance, remember that the **panto** comes to us this Thursday, and children perform their **poems** in the recitals as a whole class on Wednesday (Year 1-3) and Thursday (Years 4-6) next week at 9am. The three **nativities** are performed this coming Monday and Tuesday at St James' church.

This week, **Mrs Amy Fry** left St Mary's, having worked very hard and contributed a great deal to the school. I would like to thank her for contribution to St Mary's and we all wish her well for the future. Meanwhile **Mrs Maria Theoklitou** has left St Mary's to go on her maternity leave - we look forward to news of the birth in the coming weeks.

We are experiencing very high volumes of parents wanting to visit St Mary's with the **September 2019 Reception intake** in mind – maybe it is the new playground or maybe it is something else, but the recent open days have doubled in attendance by all accounts compared to previous years. If you already have a child at St Mary's and have another young child, please ensure that you complete the online application in good time as having an older sibling only makes a place available for you in Reception in 2019 if all the paperwork is completed in the normal way. Please ask the office if you need assistance with this.

Matt O'Brien - Headteacher

Whole school attendance and punctuality

Whole school attendance target - **96.5%**

Last week we achieved **95.7%**. There were 75 late marks in total last week.



Attendance and punctuality winner

Congratulations to Year **2W** and **3W** who had 100% attendance last week!

Runners up with 99% was **Reception-Attlee**. Keep up the good work, Attlee!

Well done to **1W, 2W** and **6W** who had no late marks!

Class Corner – 6 Morris

Year 6 Morris have had a fantastic first term of their final year at St. Mary's. Over the last few weeks, we have been learning about World War II and are enjoying exploring a variety of aspects to do with mid-twentieth century history. As a conclusion to this topic, this week we will begin to create statues of soldiers out of Modroc and wire. This Tuesday, we will be visiting **Vestry House** to learn more about the history of Walthamstow and how World War II affected the local area. In Science, we have been looking at the particle properties of solids, liquids and gases and really enjoyed pretending to be evaporating and condensing particles. It has been an amazing start to the school year and I can't wait to see where the rest of the year takes us.

Mr O'Driscoll

Assemblies

Parents are welcome to join us for our Monday and Friday assemblies – Friday is followed by a coffee morning. We are splitting assemblies – **Morris and Wilson** are in the gym (parents should enter via the playground) on Fridays, and **Attlee** in the main school hall. Class assemblies are on a Thursday morning, running throughout the year. You are more than welcome to come along to those as well. Dates will be published in our date's section.

Poetry Recitals Next Week

Come along and see some poetry recitals by our very talented poets.

Years 1-3 recital is on Wednesday 19th December at 9:00am

Years 4-6 recital on Thursday 20th December at 9:00am



Stars of the Week

Each week, class teachers nominate their Star of the Week. Nominees will be reported here.



Y1A – Gifty

Y2A- Sophie

Y3A- Scott

Y4A- Grace

Y5A- Caspar

Y6A- Alina

Y1M- Shaunda

Y2M- Evie McGrath

Y3M- Olivia

Y4M- Peter

Y5M- Holly

Y6M- Andreas

Y1W- Rufus

Y2W- Violet

Y3W- Love

Y4W- Aina

Y5W- Zahayyiah

Y6W- Isadora



Notice Board

Christmas Jumper Day

As in previous years, we will be participating in this year's National Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 14th December. Please do not go and buy anything special –hand-decorated jumpers that the children have decorated themselves are always very effective! Children may wear their Christmas jumper for a donation of £1.

Parents' Prayer Club

It was good to see some of you at our Parents' Prayer Club this last Thursday. Parent Prayer Club happens every other Thursday so our next meeting will be this Thursday the 13th December. Meet at the school office at 9.05. We aim to finish by 9.25am.

Donations for the Homeless

On the 25th of November, one of our parents participated in a project to support the homeless. Her team provided food, drinks, clothing and free haircuts to the homeless. They reached out to hundreds of homeless people in need. They are now holding another event on **the 16th of December** and have provided the school with a list of items that they are hoping some of our school community can donate.

If you are able to donate any of the following items, please bring them to the school office by 8th December 2018.

The project is asking for items such as the following;

Jeans ,Joggers, Hoodies ,Coats/waterproof coats, Belts ,Underwear, Sleeping bags, Thermal mats, Tents, Hats



Eat and Heat

St Mary's have teamed up with a parent who acts as a volunteer for a scheme called Eat or Heat. Eat or Heat provides families within Waltham Forest food over the Christmas period. Last year they were able to help 60 families. Please can we request food donations to support this scheme. We ask that donations are of dry food supplies with long sell by dates rather than fresh produce (much like Harvest). Please drop all donations off at the main office or give to class teachers.



Diary Dates

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

<i>Tuesday 11th December</i>	<i>9.05 – Performance by School Orchestra Y6A and Y6M Trip to Vestry House - Postponed – new date to follow</i>
<i>Thursday 13th December</i>	<i>9.05 – Parents' Prayer Club Christmas Panto in school (details to follow) 3.30 – Reception Attlee parents to meet Ms Crawford</i>
<i>Friday 14th December</i>	<i>Christmas Jumper Day Year 3 visiting the Hindu Temple</i>
<i>Monday 17th December</i>	<i>9.30 – Attlee Houses to Church for Christmas Assembly Star of the term announcements 2pm – Morris Houses to Church for Christmas Assembly Star of the term announcements</i>
<i>Tuesday 18th December</i>	<i>9.30 – Wilson Houses to Church for Christmas Assembly Star of the term announcements</i>
<i>Wednesday 19th December</i>	<i>9:00am- Years 1-3 Poetry recital</i>
<i>Thursday 20th December</i>	<i>9:00am-Years 4-6 Poetry recital School Closes for Christmas Break at 2pm</i>
<i>Monday 7th January 2019</i>	<i>10am – PROSPECTIVE RECEPTION PARENT VISITS</i>
<i>Tuesday 8th January 2019</i>	<i>RETURN TO SCHOOL</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

Address: Brooke Road, Walthamstow, E17 9HJ; **Phone:** 020 8521 1066; **Website:** www.stmaryscofe.org; **Email:** school@st-marys-coe.waltham.sch.uk; **Teatime Club:** 07759 978 824; **Nursery:** stmarysnursery.net; **Church:** www.walthamstowchurch.org.uk