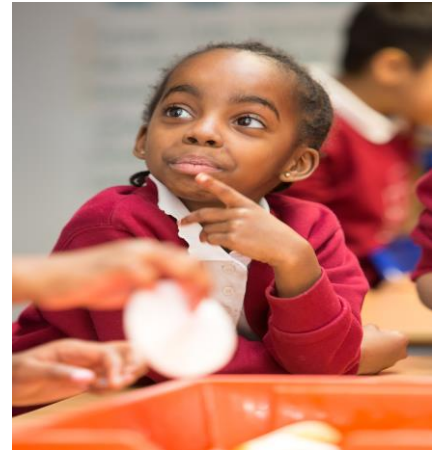




Weekly Newsletter
Monday 18th December 2017



Head's Message

This newsletter is dedicated to our wonderful Reception and Year 1 kids. They put on an incredible nativity performance in Church that was thoroughly enjoyed by all. From catchy songs, funky dance moves and impressive voices throughout the pupils certainly made us all proud.

Each house performance brought its own special gift. Year 1 Attlee wowed with their USA song with beautiful 'oohs' and 'ahs' from the backing singers. Year 1 Morris treated us to an impromptu speech from a group of very talented young ladies and Wilson brought the house down with their loud singing voices! It was fantastic to share this memorable experience with so many parents, carers and friends.

A special mention to Ms Boyce, Mr Ali, Ms Brown and Mr Gallagher for organising such a wonderful service. Plus a special mention for and thank you to Rev Vanessa who presented three services on the trot!

I need to mention that Mrs Haworth will be moving on to support our sister school St Margaret's for two terms. During this period, Ms Tolliday – deputy head at St Saviour's – will be covering her role and teaching responsibilities. Further details to follow in a separate letter. I know you'll join me in wishing Mrs Haworth good luck and in welcoming Ms Tolliday.

This is my final newsletter, before Mr O'Brien takes over and I return to my role across both St Mary's and St Saviour's. Thank you for your support.

Lastly I would like to wish all our pupils, staff, parents, carers and our wonderful staff a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mr Ogle, Head Teacher

After School Activity Clubs

Please note that activity clubs will restart w/c 15th January. Letters for new club allocation will come home in the first week of term.

Reception Intake 2018

We have one more meeting for parents applying for Reception places for the Sept 18 intake on **Fri 5th January 2018** 10-11am. Please help us pass the word around. The deadline for applying for places via the borough is 15th January.

Whole School Attendance and punctuality.

The whole school attendance target is 96.5%. Last week our attendance fell slightly below that target at 96.32% but from 6th September 2017 remains above the target at 97.04%. There have been 525 late marks to date.

Attendance and Punctuality

No class managed 100% attendance last week, but well done to 3M who had the best attendance with 99.63%. Punctuality was good with children in 5A, 4M, 1W, 1A and RW on time every day! There were 54 late marks across the school for the week.

Thank you and well done everyone who had a good record or is trying their best.

Finance Matters

As we close for the Christmas break, please ensure that all outstanding balances for clubs, trips, lunches, music, breakfast and after school club are all cleared before our return in January.

Please help our start of day

We now have close to 650 children attending St Mary's every day – and you will have seen that it's quite a job getting them all into school!

Please could we ask parents/carers to help us in three ways:

- Say goodbye to your children before their line heads into school – this will help us to keep class lines together and avoid the problem of class lines crossing over into each other.

- When leaving via either Chestnut Avenue gate, please try to exit by reaching the gates behind the lines as they move towards school, rather than walking through them.

- If you are able leave via either playground gate rather than the very tight passageway to Brooke Road, that would be hugely helpful.

- Please remember that teachers need to get pupils in to start the day promptly. If you could minimise messages in the morning – perhaps pass a note to the teacher or arrange a meeting at the end of the day – that would also help our logistics massively. At the end of the day, teachers are much more able to talk. However, please do not feel that you cannot pass on important messages.

Thank you for any help on this that you can afford.

Assemblies: change on Fridays

Parents are welcome to join us for our Monday and Friday assemblies. Monday assemblies are split by Year Groups, Fridays change to Morris House in the School Hall, with Attlee and Wilson in the Gym.

Stars of the Week

Well done to the following children who were nominated to be Stars of the Week and were presented with their award in assembly on Friday:

1 Attlee Freya + Emmanuel
1 Morris Mei + Lottie
1 Wilson Darcie + Kit
2 Attlee Noah + Nicole
2 Morris Ella + Olga
2 Wilson Natasha + Mateusz
3 Attlee Emili + Arthur
3 Morris Elliot + Scarlett
3 Wilson Whole Class
4 Attlee Treyvon + Doxa
4 Morris Gabriel + Emilia W
4 Wilson Ethan + Klaudia
5 Attlee Whole Class
5 Morris Phoenix + Finn
5 Wilson Whole Class
6 Attlee Joy, Ainsley + Sylvia
6 Morris Noah + Rhiley
6 Wilson Ben + Ella

Lines of the Week

Well done to the following classes who won our line of the week and get to keep their house cup all week:

Attlee: Year 4 **Morris:** Year 6
Wilson: Year 6

Nut Allergies

Please may we remind you all about awareness of children with allergies, particularly in the run up to Christmas – and class Christmas parties.

Please ensure that any snacks you buy for your children do not contain nuts as we have children with severe allergies.

For lunch and break time, we teach the children not to share snacks and lunch with others, to minimise the risk of any allergic reactions. Please could take time to speak to your child about this to back-up the message of how serious allergies can be.

SHINE

SHINE and Achievement School return on Saturday 6th January.

SHINE SPRING TERM
St Mary's 9am – 2pm
BACK AT ST MARY'S
Saturday 6 th January
Saturday 13 th January
Saturday 20 th January
Saturday 27 th January
Saturday 3 rd February
SPRING HALF TERM

Class of Corner

This term in Year 1 Attlee we have been exploring the topic of toys!

We started our topic at the Museum of Childhood, where we had the chance to explore different toys through the ages. In our topic lessons we investigated the differences and similarities between old toys and new toys. We then had the chance to design the perfect toy of the future! We came up with so many cool designs!

We have also been looking at toys in our literacy lessons; through the story of Old Bear! We used this story to explore new writing skills. Did you know Old Bear got stuck in an attic? We used our letter writing skills to ask Old Bear all about his time up there.

We also put on an amazing class assembly and the Nativity. The children are definitely stars in the making! Well done 1 Attlee!

Miss Brown and 1 Attlee

Community Production

Fancy joining the Walthamstow Community Production of The Wizard of Oz? No previous experience necessary. Lots of St Mary's children have enjoyed taking part in previous productions. Anyone who wants to be in the show must sign up between 2-3pm, Saturday 6 Jan at St Peter's in the Forest Church, Woodford New Rd.

Auditions for lead parts are on Sun 7 Jan 2-4pm at CentrE17, 1 Church Hill. Rehearsals will take place every weekend until the performances at St Peter's on 17/18 March.

www.wfcommunityproduction.com

Christmas Jumper Day Appeal

Thank you everyone for your amazing generosity for our Christmas Jumper Day appeal. We raised an amazing £650 between that and the cake sale, which will be matched pound for pound by the Government so that really is a tremendous effort from everyone. Thank you!

Throughout this year, we will be supporting Christian Aid, starting with our Christmas Jumper Day. The Christian Aid Christmas Appeal is called **"Enough for Everyone"**

"Every day, children in South Sudan and Burkina Faso are dying from hunger. They are bearing the brunt of ongoing conflict and climate change.

At Christmas, a time of plenty, when we come together with family and friends to celebrate, relax and often overindulge, it feels particularly unjust that so many families will go without food, security and hope."

See here for more details about the appeal in general:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christmas-appeal>



End of Term

Just a reminder that school closes at 2pm on Wednesday. There will be no After School/Teatime Club that day.

Useful Contacts

Address: Brooke Road,
Walthamstow, E17 9HJ

Phone: 020 8521 1066

Website: www.stmaryscofe.org

Email: school@st-marys-coe.waltham.sch.uk

Teatime Club: 07542 193499

Nursery: stmarysnursery.net

Church:

www.walthamstowchurch.org.uk

Key dates and times for the Autumn/SPring Term 2017

Wednesday 20 th December	School Closes for Christmas at 2pm
Thursday 4 th January 2018	Children back to school
Friday 5 th January 2018	10am-11am – Reception 2018 Open Morning
Wednesday 10 th January	First swimming for 4 Morris and 4 Wilson

Term Dates 2017-2018

Autumn Term Second Half (38 Days)

Start – Monday 30th October 2017

End – Wednesday 20th December 2017

Holidays: Thursday 21st December 2017 to Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Spring Term 2018 – First Half (26 Days)

INSET – Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Start – Thursday 4th January 2018

End – Friday 9th February 2018

Half Term: Monday 12th February 2017 – Friday 16th February 2018

Second Half (29 Days)

Start – Monday 19th February 2018

End – Thursday 29th March 2018

Holidays: Friday 30th March to Friday 13th April 2018

Summer Term 2018 – First Half (30 Days)

Start – Monday 16th April 2018

End – Friday 25th May 2018

Half Term: Monday 28th May 2018 – Friday 1st June 2018

Holidays May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 7th May 2018

Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 28th May 2018 (during Half Term)

Second Half (35 Days)

Start – Monday 4th June 2018

End – Friday 20th July 2018

This calendar gives a total of 195 days (190 pupil days plus 5 inset days).