



Newsletter
14th January 2020



Headteacher's News

I hope you had a restful Christmas holiday and new year and welcome you back to another term at St. Mary's. Many of our children were busy working on **creative projects** in the holiday linked to their new spring term yeargroup topics, and some of them are included on this page and over – there were some truly amazing creations! We will have another optional project-based homework at Easter.

As you will read below we are once again changing **caterers**. While many aspects of the work that Aspens has been doing for us have been good, we still feel that we can and should expect more from an experienced catering company, so with that in mind we start with a new company early next month. The new caterers are going to have a stall throughout both of the upcoming **parent/teacher conference evenings** on 22nd and 23rd January, so do please chat to them about what they will be offering as you wait to see your child's teacher in the gym. If you have not already booked an appointment with your teacher please do so using the electronic booking system (check your email for the link). The spring term is a crucial one in the life of a child – it is where the seeds that have been sewn in the long autumn term begin to bear fruit, and it would aid your child's progress if you could meet with their teacher in a couple of weeks' time.

M O'Brien
Head Teacher



School Meals

As mentioned above we will be changing our school meals catering provider with effect from 3rd February. We will no longer be catered for by Aspens and instead by our new providers, called The Pantry. You will be receiving further information directly from the new company shortly, but we wanted to make you aware that all lunch money arrears will need to be cleared by Monday 27th January. Any child who still has arrears on their account by Monday 3rd February will need to bring a packed lunch to school as we will not be able to provide a meal with the new provider if there are arrears showing on your account. Thank you.

Coffee Mornings on Mondays at 8.40am

Parents are invited to join together and meet for a coffee every Monday, starting at 8.40am and ending at 9.00am. If you would like to join us, coffee will be served in the gym. Some parents may then like to stay at 9.00am to watch the Y1-3 gym assembly or Y4-6 hall one, both of which end at 9.25am.

Friday Assembly

This term, Attlee Houses will have their Friday assembly in the school hall and Wilson and Morris Houses will be in the gym. This is a change to the arrangement for last term.

Science Symposium

We are very excited about our forthcoming Science Symposium which will take place after school on **Friday 31st January** and hope that children are working on their science project at home. These projects will then be displayed on the day of the event and will be judged by a team of scientists. **Winners will receive amazing scientific prizes!** This competition was announced to the children before Christmas and a letter with instructions was sent home. A further copy of that letter has been sent home today as a reminder. **The deadline for the project is Tuesday 28th January 2020.** To display their project, we encourage you to take pictures of each step.



Please note – there will be NO AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS on Friday 31st due to the Symposium. Tea Time Club however continues as usual.

Finance Matters

Please could we ask that you take a look at your ParentPay account and pay any outstanding balances. If you have still not paid for your child's Panto (£2.50 for Infants and £20 for Juniors) or for your child's book deposit (£10 for years 3 to 6), please could you clear those items if at all possible. For those parents who prefer to pay for school lunches on a half termly basis, the amount due up to February half term would be £63.80.

School Uniform

We always have a large amount of lost property in school and where possible we always try to reunite items with their owners. However, most of the items are un-named, which makes it impossible to do this. Please could you ensure that every item of clothing, including coats, are **labelled with your child's forename and surname, and class** – at the moment a high % of uniform is not.

Parental Communication

We have just recently started to utilise a text messaging service, and will use it to send out any head-bump or general messages to the school community. Messages are limited to 160 characters so may often be short and sweet! You will still continue to receive messages, letters, newsletters via ParentMail. Please remember that it is very important that you keep us updated as to changes in phone numbers and email addresses etc.

Reception Intake September 2020

Children born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 will need to apply this year by TOMORROW - 15th January 2020 for admission in September 2020. Application must be made to the to the Borough AND by submitting one of our own supplementary application forms. Any applications received by Waltham Forest after this date will be considered as LATE applications and will not be considered until all places have been allocated to children who applied on time. If you already have a child at St Mary's, you still need to apply – places are not automatically offered.

Whole School Attendance

The whole school attendance target is 96.5% and last week for our first week back we were below that mark at 95.4%. There were no classes who achieved 100% attendance, but 3M had the best attendance with 99.5%. No classes had perfect punctuality last week but 3 Wilson had the best punctuality record with just one late mark each. Attendance overall this year has been **96.1%**.

Parent Workshops

During the course of the year we will be running a series of Parent Workshops on a number of subjects that parents may find useful. The workshop will begin at 3.45 and will last between 30 minutes and an hour. There will be a crèche for your child, should you wish to attend.

Tuesday 14 th January	Fabulous Phonics
Tuesday 21 st January	Magic Maths
Tuesday 28 th January	Calculation Workshop
Tuesday 4 th February	Free Online Learning
Tuesday 11 th February	Science
Tuesday 3 rd March	Gifted and Talented
Tuesday 10 th March	History Projects
Tuesday 17 th March	Handsome Handwriting
Tuesday 24 rd March	RE Curriculum
Tuesday 28 th April	Sharing Age Related Expectations
Tuesday 12 th May	Writing
Tuesday 19 th May	Developing Your Child's Creativity
Tuesday 2 nd June	SRE Workshop
Tuesday 9 th June	Creative Curriculum
Tuesday 16 th June	SEND (By Invitation only)
Tuesday 23 rd June	Values and Growth Mindset

Dates for your Diary

15 th January	<i>Year 4 trip to GO APE</i>
16 th January	<i>3 Morris Class Assembly</i>
22 nd January	<i>Year 6 trip to Tower of London Parent consultation Evening 3.45 to 7pm (NOT FOR 6 MORRIS)</i>
23 rd January	<i>3 Wilson Class Assembly Parent Consultation Evening 3.45 to 6pm – ALL CLASSES</i>
28 th January	<i>Year 6 Fashion show – 2-3pm – Parents very welcome</i>
29 th January	<i>Parent Consultation Evening <u>for 6-Morris only</u> 3.45 to 7pm</i>
30 th January	<i>4 Wilson Class Assembly</i>
31 st January	<i>Science Symposium in Gym – all parents invited. No after school activity clubs on this day – Tea time Club continues as usual</i>
Monday 3 rd February	<i>New Caterers “The Pantry” to start</i>
6 th February	<i>4 Morris Class Assembly</i>
10 th February	<i>9.30am – Morris House to Church for Candlemas Service 2pm – Attlee House to Church for Candlemas Service</i>
11 th February	<i>9.30am – Wilson House to Church for Candlemas Service</i>
13 th February	<i>4 Wilson Class Assembly</i>
Friday 14 th February	<i>School Closes for Half Term break – usual finish time – <u>not 2pm</u></i>

Our term dates follow on the last page of this newsletter. Please be aware that the early May Bank Holiday has changed, and has not been particularly well publicised. The Bank Holiday is no longer [Monday 4th May](#) and has been changed to [Friday 8th May](#).

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

General Data Protection Act (GDPR)

The new GDPR is now in force. The Data Protection Officer (DPO) is responsible for overseeing this policy and developing data-related policies and guidelines. 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

Dates for 2019-2020

Spring Term 2020

First half (29 days)

INSET - Monday 6th January 2020

Start – Tuesday 7th January 2020

End – Friday 14th February 2020

Half Term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2020

Second Half (30 days)

Start – Monday 24th February 2020

End – Friday 3d April 2020

Easter Holiday Monday 6th April 2020 to Friday 17th April 2020

Summer Term 2020

First Half (24 days)

Start - Monday 20 April 2020

End Friday 22nd May

Bank Holidays Friday 8th May and Monday 25th May (during half term)

Half Term: Tuesday 26 May 2020 to Friday 29 May 2020

NB: THE EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY HAS CHANGED FROM MONDAY 4TH TO FRIDAY 8TH MAY

Second Half (35days)

Start – Monday 1st June

Finish Friday 17th July

This calendar gives a total of 195 days. Four Inset Days and one further day made up by staff from Twilight sessions gives 190 school days.