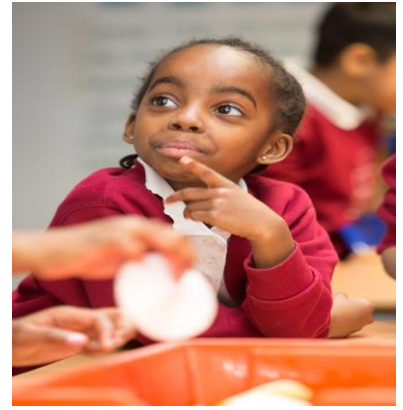




**Weekly Newsletter**  
**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018**



### **Head's Message**

Last week saw St Mary's get into full swing after the Christmas break. The children, as reported by their class teachers in Friday assemblies, have returned to school with renewed energy and have made great starts to the new year. It was wonderful to see so many parents attending assemblies on Friday, hearing how so many children have impressed their teachers with their attitude and achievements in the first few days of the year.

At the end of last week the staff added the finishing touches to shared-space displays linked to the new topics for the spring term. There are some wonderful three-dimensional and multi-media displays (or installations in some cases!) dotted around the corridors of the school and the children have been responding excellently to them, proud of the work they have produced and delighted to enter into the world of the display and be transported in time and space. Among my favourites are the Ancient Egypt display on the Y6 corridor, and the Hansel and Gretel cottage scene outside Y1. The importance of the learning environment cannot be understated and, at St Mary's, we think that a rich and stimulating visual environment gives everyone a lift and inspires imaginations. It is a big part of what makes St Mary's an exciting place to be. Furthering the children's immersion in the new topic for the spring term,

many children chose to dress up on the first Friday as part of Wow Day: there were seventeenth century plague doctors passing fairy tale characters in corridors, whilst pharaohs descended the stairs. A wonderful sight!

An opportunity to view some of the new topic-based displays in corridors will be on offer this week on Wednesday and Thursday when teacher/parent interviews take place. Please do take the chance to meet with your child's class teacher so that communication between home-school remains effective and so that you can view your child's workbooks which will be full of all their autumn-term achievements.

This week in assemblies, the Christian theme will be 'truth' – what it means, whether we are always truthful, and why Jesus said that he is 'the truth'. Parents are reminded that they are very welcome to attend Monday assemblies at 9.10am where the Christian theme for the week is launched either by Reverend Vanessa Conant from St Mary's church or her curate.

Best wishes,

Mr O'Brien  
Headteacher

### **After School Activity Clubs**

Please note that activity clubs restart today. You will have received an e-mail advising you of which club your child has been allocated.

### **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.

### **Meet our Head**

Mr O'Brien would very much like to meet as many of you as possible and would love you to join him at the coffee morning following Friday morning's assembly. We will also be arranging another after school meeting and will advise of date in due course.

Mr O'Brien will also be available to meet parents on a 1:1 basis every Tuesday from 9.30 to 10.30am. Any concerns that you have should first be addressed to the class teacher, and then head of phase, before being brought to Mr O'Brien.

If you wish to make an appointment, please contact the school office. Thank you.

### Stars of the Week

A great first week back for everyone. Well done to our Stars of the Week for last week:

- 1 Attlee: Angeline and Bosley
- 1 Morris: Loriah and Brodie
- 1 Wilson: Whole Class
- 2 Attlee: Zahra and Alex
- 2 Morris: Grace A and Elizabeth
- 2 Wilson: Tate and Ruby
- 3 Attlee: Abiola and Imogen D
- 3 Morris: Coco and Natty
- 3 Wilson: Lily and Ellis
- 4 Attlee: Tia and Kiera
- 4 Morris: Aless and Tomos
- 4 Wilson: Nico and Chole S
- 5 Attlee: Rafael and Monife
- 5 Morris: De'Andre and Andreas
- 5 Wilson: Christian and Saoirse
- 6 Attlee: Kacper and Stefanie
- 6 Morris: Marquez and Noah
- 6 Wilson: Leticia and Daniella

Well done to each and every one of you. Keep up the good work!



### Parent workshops

Our parent workshops for this term will be as follows:

- 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan - Art
- 29th Jan - FGM
- 5th Feb - RE
- 5th March- ICT

You would be very welcome to join us. Sessions start at 4pm and last between half an hour and 45 minutes.

### Whole School Attendance and punctuality.

The whole school attendance target is 96.5%. Last week, attendance exceeded that target at 97.95 and from 6th September 2017 remains above the target at 96.91%. There have been 759 late marks to date.

### Attendance and Punctuality

No class achieved 100% attendance last week, but well done to 1 Morris, 2 Morris and 3 Wilson who came very close with 99.33% Punctuality continues to be good with children in 1W and 6W here on time every day and children in 2W, RW and RM all in on time every day for the second week running! There were 50 late marks across the school.

Please do try to make every effort to get to school on time and please try to ensure that you contact the school if your child is off sick or absent for any reason.

### Finance Matters

Dinner money for this first half term will be £58.32, which pay for lunches to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. For those of you who prefer to pay for a term at a time, amount due until Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March, when we finish for Easter would be £120.96.

### NSPCC PANTS CAMPAIGN

Over the past month, many of you may have seen a TV advert for the new NSPCC campaign. This campaign is also linked to a video for parents talking about the importance of having the PANTS chat with 4-8 year old children. The aim is to reach as many children as possible in order to try to prevent sexual abuse. The video also reinforces the NSPCC talk that the children had last year.

You might be interested to have a look on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SrDagmoZyo&feature=youtu.be>

### Class Corner

This week is going to be really exciting for Year 2 Morris. We have been learning all about the Great Fire of London during Topic. We've been working extremely hard in preparation for our showcase this Friday. We are ready to wow our parents with the amazing facts of the Great fire of London that we've researched during lessons. We can't wait to perform our song to teach all our parents about the events of the Great Fire too! Prepare to be amazed!

### Miss Gerald and 2M

### SHINE

SHINE and Achievement School are both now back again.

<b>SHINE SPRING TERM</b>
<b>St Mary's 9am – 2pm</b>
<b>BACK AT ST MARY'S</b>
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> January
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> January
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February
<b>SPRING HALF TERM</b>

Achievement school also continues for Year 6 here at St Mary's

### Open Evening

Our first open evenings of 2018 will be on this week on Wednesday and Thursday. You should by now have received your appointment time from your child's class teacher.

### Useful Contacts

Address: Brooke Road,  
Walthamstow, E17 9HJ  
Phone: 020 8521 1066  
Website: [www.stmaryscofe.org](http://www.stmaryscofe.org)  
Email: [school@st-marys-coe.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:school@st-marys-coe.waltham.sch.uk)  
Teatime Club: 07542 193499  
Nursery: [stmarysnursery.net](http://stmarysnursery.net)  
Church: [www.walthamstowchurch.org.uk](http://www.walthamstowchurch.org.uk)

### Key dates and times for the Spring Term 2018

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 Project Viewing – 3-3.20pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5 Project Viewing – 3-3.20pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3 Project Viewing – 3-3.20pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Parents Evening – 4-7pm
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 4 Project Viewing – 3-3.20pm Parents Evening 3.30 to 5.30
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2 Project Viewing – 3-3.20pm
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Year 1 Project Viewing -3-3.20pm Parent Workshop – 4-4.30 – Art
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3 to Science Museum
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Parent Workshop – 4-4.30 – FGM
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Class Assemblies: 3W and 6W
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Workshop – 4-4.30 – RE
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for Half Term Holiday
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>HALF TERM BREAK</b>
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Workshop – 4-4.30 – ICT

### Term Dates 2018

#### Spring Term 2018 – First Half (26 Days)

Start – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018

End – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

**Half Term:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018

#### Second Half (29 Days)

Start – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018

End – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Holidays: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018

#### Summer Term 2018 – First Half (30 Days)

Start – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018

End – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**Half Term:** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018

Holidays May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (during Half Term)

#### Second Half (35 Days)

Start – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

End – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

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