



Weekly Newsletter

17th September 2018



Headteacher's News

Parent Meetings

This week and next we are holding '**Meet The Teacher**' meetings in the hall (besides the main school office) giving parents the chance to hear about what their children will be studying this year; what the home reading and homework expectations are; and what trips are on the horizon, amongst many other things. We understand that it is not possible for all parents to attend the meetings for various reasons, including work commitments, but we look forward to as many parents coming along as possible. We acknowledge that more notice could have been given for some of these introductory meetings, and we will make sure we provide more in future.

New Leadership Team for 2018-19

At St Mary's this term we have a couple of **new senior staff** joining the Senior Leadership Team. Mrs **Amy Fry** has joined us as Deputy Headteacher, having fulfilled this role excellently for a number of years at her previous school. Mr **Joe Pitchford** is our other senior arrival for 2018-19 - Mr Pitchford is the new Years 3&4 Phase Leader and Maths Leader across the whole school. Both Mrs Fry and Mr Pitchford will make an excellent contribution to life at St Mary's and have really enjoyed getting to know children and parents alike. Mr **Amir Lehmouchi** has a change of title to Associate Headteacher reflecting the wider role he now has across the whole trust. Mr **David Ogle**, also an Associate Headteacher, remains with us too. The **phase leaders** at St Mary's are Mrs **Jess Elliott** for YRec; **Mrs Fry** for Years 1&2; as mentioned above, **Mr Pitchford** for Years 3&4; and, as with last year, **Mrs Zaman** for Years 5&6. We have a very experienced and talented leadership team and, in partnership with our school community, look forward to using our collective skills to ensure we have another happy and successful year.



Classroom Door Project

In the first few days back after the summer holidays, the various classes immersed themselves in a **project to decorate their classroom door** using whichever theme they chose. As you will see from the pictures above and on the left, the characters and settings are linked to classic children's fiction and provide inspiration to the children as they enter their classrooms, helping to create an exciting buzz as they first approach the room. If there is a child reading this newsletter that would like to tell me which four books inspired the four doors on this page I would love to hear from them!

New Playground



The children have continued to enjoy the **playground**, especially in the unusually warm weather! The music station is nearly ready to be used and hopefully children will be able to explore it in the next few days; until that point it will remain a no-go area. We are still rotating classes/yeargroups across the various playground locations, but hope to go off-timetable very soon so that a free-flow system is in operation - the children will have got used to the new attractions soon so that a more fluid system ought to be feasible in the coming days/weeks.

Curriculum letters are being emailed home today detailing the nature of the topics being studied this autumn term. We hope you find these letters useful.

Mr O'Brien, Headteacher

Cycles in the playground

Please could we just remind everyone that no bicycles should be left in the playground – only scooters should be left there please. We now have a large number of bicycle storage spaces at the front of the school in Brooke Road. If you are going to use them, remember to bring a strong chain and padlock, or even two chains for extra security.

Contact Information

May we remind parents that it is your responsibility to ensure we are kept up to date with any changes in your own personal details – home address, relevant phone numbers and e-mails etc. It is so important that we have correct details in case we need to contact you at any point. Thank you.

School Day Reminders

We would like to remind parents that Chestnut Avenue North and South entrances are for Children from Years 1 to 6. The entrance in Brooke Road is for Reception children only. If you wish to speak to a member of the office staff, please do not walk through the school, but go round and enter through the main school entrance.

Whole School Attendance

The whole school attendance target is 96.5%. Each week we will advise you of the percentage we achieved. It is difficult to give an accurate whole school attendance for last week, as our reception children were settling in and not all were attending for a full day.

Attendance and Punctuality Winner

To encourage good attendance, each week we present an attendance certificate to the class with the highest attendance for that week. Well done to **Class 4 Attlee** who were the first class to achieve 100% attendance this school year!

Punctuality is very important, not only for school, but in life generally. Children who are regularly late for school miss vital morning information and a late start often sets the tone for the day. We will also let you know each week the class achieving the best punctuality. **Year 3** are clearly the early birds of the school with all three Year 3 classes having everyone here on time every day, which is amazing! Well done. They were joined by **5W** and **2W** who also had perfect punctuality.

Assemblies

Parents are welcome to join us for our Monday and Friday assemblies – Friday is followed by a coffee morning. We will be splitting assemblies – **Morris and Wilson** will be 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 too. Dates will be published in our date's section.

Stars of the Week

Each week, class teachers nominate their Star of the Week. Nominees will be reported here. Parents are notified a week in advance when their child has won Star of the Week.

Finance Matters

All payments to school must be made via ParentPay. Reception parents will be issued with an activation letter in due course.

Items such as trips, music lessons etc will be added as appropriate. Please note that breakfast and tea time clubs must be kept in credit at all times. We have a waiting list for both these clubs so failure to keep your account in credit may lead to your child being removed from the club and the space offered to another child.

Similarly, dinner money accounts should please be kept up to date. Failure to do so could mean you are asked to provide a packed lunch until your child's account is back in credit.

School Lunches

Just a quick reminder, school meals are now £2.20 per day, which is £11.00 per week. For those parents who prefer to pay half termly, the cost of dinner money for this half term will be £72.60 - or for the full term, until Christmas, will be £158.40. Payment may be made on ParentPay at any time and accounts should be kept in credit at all times.

If your child has packed lunch, please remember that we are a healthy school and packed lunches should not include cakes, sweets, biscuits. No glass bottles or fizzy drinks either please. Thank you.

Diary Dates

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

Class Corner

We've settled really well into our first full week at school of the academic year. As theologians, we've been discussing who made the world. As scientists, we've explored our local habitat for things that are living, dead or have never lived. We've also had a lively debate discussing the attributes of a good person and who we view in our lives as a role model.

Miss Gerald and 2W

Medical Needs

May we remind you that if your child suffers from Asthma, we need to have two asthma pumps in school at all times. Similarly, if your child has an epi-pen or any other medication that needs to be taken on a regular basis (not antibiotics), please could you send that medication into school as soon as possible, clearly marked with your child's name and any instructions. Please note that we are not able to administer any other medication such as antibiotics but you are welcome to come in to school to administer as necessary.

Parents and Friends of St Marys (PFA) News

Our wonderful PFA will send news and information via their newsletter on a regular basis. You should have already received the first newsletter of this term alongside an invitation to attend their **first event of the year** which is this week – **Wednesday 19th at 8pm** in the Queens Arms in Walthamstow village. Please do come along and join us!

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

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

Monday 10 th September- Friday 21 st September	Y4 Attlee 2 Week Swimming Sessions
Wednesday 19 th September	9am – Meet the Year Group Team – Year 2 8pm – PFA Event in the Queens Arms, Orford Road, Walthamstow Village.
Thursday 20 th September	9am – Meet the Year Group Team – Year 6
Monday 24 th September	9am – Meet the Year Group Team – Year 5 10am – PROSPECTIVE RECEPTION PARENT VISITS
Friday 21 st September	Year 2 Anasi Story Teller Workshop Year 6 Attlee Imperial War Museum Trip
Monday 24 th September- Friday 5 th October	Y4 Morris 2 Week Swimming Sessions
Monday 25 th September	9am – Meet the Year Group Team – Year 1
Friday 28 th September	Year 1 Freshwater Toy from the Past Workshop Year 6 Morris Imperial War Museum Trip
Saturday 29 th September	SHINE to begin at St Saviours
Friday 5 th October	Year 3 Freshwater Greek Workshop Year 5 Attlee/ Morris William Morris Gallery Year 6 Wilson Imperial War Museum Trip
Friday 12 th October	Year 4 School Church Workshop Year 5 Wilson William Morris Gallery
Monday 15 th October	6pm – PROSPECTIVE RECEPTION PARENT VISITS
Thursday 18 th October	Last Day of School- School finishes at 3.30pm
Friday 19 th October	INSET DAY
Monday 29 th October	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL Y4 Wilson 2 Week Swimming Sessions
Saturday 17 th November	9.30am – PROSPECTIVE RECEPTION PARENT VISITS
Monday 10 th December	10am – PROSPECTIVE RECEPTION PARENT VISITS
Monday 7 th January 2019	10am – PROSPECTIVE RECEPTION PARENT VISITS

St Mary's Term Dates 2018-2019

Autumn Term 2018

First Half (32 Days)

INSET – Monday 3rd September, Tuesday 4th September 2018

Start – Wednesday 5th September 2018

End – Thursday 18th October 2018

INSET – Friday 19th October 2018

Half Term: Monday 22nd October 2018 - Friday 26th October 2018

Second Half (39 Days)

Start – Monday 29th October 2018

End – Thursday 20th December 2018

Holidays: Friday 21st December 2018 to Friday 4th January 2018

Spring Term 2019

First Half (29 Days)

INSET – Monday 7th January 2019

Start – Tuesday 8th January 2019

End - Friday 15th February 2019

Half Term: Monday 18th February 2019 – Friday 22nd February 2019

Second Half (30 Days)

Start - Monday 25th February 2019

End – Friday 5th April 2019

Holidays: Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April 2019

Summer Term 2019

First Half (23 Days)

Start – Tuesday 23rd April 2019

End - Friday 24th May 2019

Half Term: Monday 27th May 2019 - Friday 31st May 2019

Holidays May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May 2019

Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 27th May 2019 (during Half Term)

Second Half (37 Days)

Start - Monday 3rd June 2019

End – Tuesday 23rd July 2019