



Newsletter  
21<sup>st</sup> January 2020

### Headteacher's News

This week **parent/teacher conferences** take place and I hope that all parents have taken the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher to discuss their ongoing progress. The teachers will be able to share the children's various exercise books with parents as well as giving information about targets and areas for development for the spring and summer term. In some recent parent/teacher conferences some timings have over-run and sometimes this has caused significant delays in parents meeting their child's teacher, so we will be endeavouring to keep to the 10-minute window for all appointments this week in order that everyone is seen on time.

Next week on Friday after school, St Mary's first **Science Symposium** takes place. This will be a real treat and I advise all parents to try to attend if at all possible. A range of scientific activities will be available for children to interact with courtesy of Empiribox and the school staff, who will all be in attendance. For more information, read overleaf.

Finally, every now and again we like to remind all of our parents that all schools have a duty to safeguard children and to pass on information to relevant agencies where we feel that it is necessary and in the best interests of the child. Following this sharing of information, we work very closely with relevant agencies in terms of how we respond to cases, as all schools are required to do. We tend to err on the side of caution when processing safeguarding information and refer on any concerns that *might* potentially affect the wellbeing of a child so that the concerns can be looked into by the relevant agencies. This is the approach of most schools and one that we also take in order to ensure the safety of the children.

*Mr O'Brien, Headteacher*

### School Meals

As you will be aware, we will be changing our school meals catering provider with effect from 3<sup>rd</sup> February. We will no longer be catered for by Aspens and instead by our new providers, called The Pantry. A representative from The **Pantry** will be available at our Parents' Evening tomorrow, but they are also holding two presentation sessions where they will explain to parents how their system works and to give you details of menus etc. These two sessions will take place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm and again later that day at 6.15pm. We hope that you can join us, as we think they will be very informative. Please be aware, all lunch money arrears will need to be cleared by next Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> January. Any child who still has arrears on their account by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.



### Clubs

Due to Parent Open Evenings this week, there will be NO after school activity clubs on Wednesday or Thursday, with the exception of Cherry Bees and Beartuza Drama. Tea Time Club continues as normal.

### 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.

### Science Symposium

Don't forget our forthcoming Science Symposium which will take place after school on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January**. We are excited about what is sure to be a great event, 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. **The deadline for the project is Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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. 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 is **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.

### Whole School Attendance

The whole school attendance target is 96.08% and last week, we were below that mark at 95.19%. There were no classes who achieved 100% attendance, but 1A were closest with 99.59%. No classes had perfect punctuality but Reception Wilson and 4 Morris had one late mark each.

## Stars of the Week



Well done to the following pupils who were presented with their Star of the Week award in assembly last Friday:

1 Attlee	Alysia	1 Morris	Lert	1 Wilson	Elliot
2 Attlee	Leo	2 Morris	Olivia S	2 Wilson	Toby
3 Attlee	Annabelle	3 Morris	Jada	3 Wilson	Esme
4 Attlee	Hailey	4 Morris	Shreya	4 Wilson	Diana
5 Attlee	Abiola	5 Morris	Alyssa	5 Wilson	Malachi
6 Attlee	Jacob	6 Morris	Alessandra	6 Wilson	Michael

Congratulations everyone!

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

## Dates for your Diary

22 <sup>nd</sup> January	<i>Year 6 trip to Tower of London Parent consultation Evening 3.45 to 7pm (NOT FOR 6 MORRIS)</i>
23 <sup>rd</sup> January	<i>3 Wilson Class Assembly Parent Consultation Evening 3.45 to 6pm – ALL CLASSES</i>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	<i>2pm to 3.15pm – Presentation to Parents by “The Pantry” Catering 6.15 to 7pm – Repeat of above presentation</i>
28 <sup>th</sup> January	<i>Year 6 Fashion show – 2-3pm – Parents very welcome</i>
29 <sup>th</sup> January	<i>Parent Consultation Evening <u>for 6-Morris and 4-Attlee only</u> 3.45 to 7pm</i>
31 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> February	<i>New Caterers “The Pantry” to start</i>
6 <sup>th</sup> February	<i>4 Morris Class Assembly</i>
10 <sup>th</sup> February	<i>9.30am – Morris House to Church for Candlemas Service 2pm – Attlee House to Church for Candlemas Service Class 2 Wilson Trip to Sutton House (Details to follow)</i>
11 <sup>th</sup> February	<i>9.30am – Wilson House to Church for Candlemas Service Class 2 Attlee Trip to Sutton House (Details to follow)</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> February	<i>Class 2 Morris Trip to Sutton House (Details to follow)</i>
13 <sup>th</sup> February	<i>4 Wilson Class Assembly</i>
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> 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](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)

#### **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](mailto: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 4<sup>TH</sup> TO FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> 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.