



Weekly
Newsletter
29th March 2019

Headteacher's News



A found-material Mothers' Day
Card from YRec-W



Another YR-W Mother's Day card
made using mostly natural materials

Last week at St Mary's, we were privileged to host a curate from the local diocese of Chelmsford, **Fr Lee Taylor**. It was a pleasure to welcome him to our school, and we wish him well for the future. Before leaving, Fr Lee shared his thoughts with us following his 4-day visit...

"It's always a nerve-racking experience going to a new school for the first time; and no less so than when you're a trainee Priest (Curate) on a four day placement as part of your training. The Diocese of Chelmsford has, for some years, sent second year Curates to spend time working alongside staff, to experience daily life in a school and to give an understanding of the concerns, challenges and opportunities that face teachers, children and other staff. I was fortunate enough to be allocated to St Mary's and I needn't have had any nerves as the welcome I was given by both staff and pupils was very generous.

Spending time in the classroom I was privileged to watch the interactions with teachers and children, to see how the children were given the confidence to approach fresh problems either in maths or literacy or other subjects. And it was a joy to watch children and teachers alike celebrate when new learning was achieved or existing learning cemented, even getting a refresher on fractions myself! The children's inquisitiveness and openness in the playground, in assembly and at lunch time was refreshing, though some of their questions quite challenging, my favourite being, "Why do you HAVE to be a Priest?"

So, thank you to everyone who made my week such a great experience. I have come away with an admiration for both staff and students at the dedication that they put into their work in the fast pace that education operates at. But I've also learnt how a school's values are not just words on posters, but the attitudes that underpin how staff and pupils interact in a school that makes a difference".

Whole school attendance and punctuality

Whole school attendance target – **96.7%**

Last week we achieved 96.88%



Attendance and punctuality winner

Congratulations to **Year Rec W** who had the highest attendance last week with 98.2%.

Runners up were **1W** with 98.1%.

Well-done to **1A,3M,4W,5A,6M** who had only 1 late mark.

PFA Film Night Today!



Last few tickets left to see **The Greatest Showman** in the hall. Doors open 6.15pm and film starts at **7pm** today (Friday). Pop-corn and drinks etc. all available from the kitchen hatch!

Departures & Arrivals

This week Mr **Frank Crawford** *officially* ends his tenure as SENCO at St Mary's. He has worked two days a week with us over the last year and after Easter he will be working full-time at one of our sister schools in Barking, so we will still see him from time to time. We are very grateful for his excellent work on behalf of SEN pupils at St Mary's. After Easter, Ms **Jade Beech** will be the new SENCO at St Mary's, working three days a week from Wednesday onwards. She is looking forward to joining the team and will be contacting parents of SEN pupils to introduce herself after the Easter holidays. Mr Crawford will be working *unofficially* alongside Ms Beech for two weeks after Easter so that we have a smooth transition between SENCOs.

Mr **Matt Lapping**, our Learning Mentor, has left St Mary's and we thank him for his contribution to the pastoral side of the school's provision. We wish him well for the future in his new role. A new Learning Mentor is due to be appointed and will begin work in the summer term.

The front office has lost property over flowing!

Those of you who are regular visitors to the school may have noticed our large mountain of lost property outside the school office. We have everything from odd shoes, to un-named book bags, coats, PE kits, books, pencil cases – you name it, we probably have it! Most of the property is in really good condition and we know how expensive children's clothing can be, so we want to reunite goods and owners where we can! During the course of next week, everything will be out on tables in the playground from after school on Monday, until we finish next Friday. Please come along and have a look for anything that might be yours. Everything that is left by the end of next week will be disposed of as appropriate.

On the subject of property and uniform, most of the lost property is un-named which makes it extremely difficult to return to its owners. Please could we ask that you ensure all school uniform, books, bags, pencil cases etc are clearly named (with class name written too) and also that items that are special or precious to your child are not brought in as their loss can cause great distress. Thank you.

Important change to Easter Service Days

As we told you earlier this week, the Wilson Easter service is at 9.30am on Tuesday (and not 2pm)...

| | | |
|---------|--------|------------------------|
| Mon 1st | Attlee | 9.30am |
| Mon 1st | Morris | 2.00pm |
| Tue 2nd | Wilson | 9.30am (not at 2.00pm) |

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to this week's Stars of the Week. Awards will be handed out in Friday's assembly.

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Y1A - JJ | Y1M - Tahlia M | Y1W - Arthur W |
| Y2A - Sion | Y2M - Jessica | Y2W - Kit |
| Y3A - Kiki | Y3M - Grace L | Y3W - Maya |
| Y4A - Ada | Y4M - Sophie | Y4W - Dillion |
| Y5A - Bernice | Y5M - Mya | Y5W - Alfie |
| Y6A - Grace | Y6M - Mia | Y6W - Saoirse |



Parents' Prayer Club

Parent Prayer Club happens every other Thursday so our next meeting will be next **Thursday the 28th March**. Meet at the school office at 9.05. We aim to finish by 9.25am.

Personal information

Please ensure that the school is kept up to date on any changes you make to your personal details. It is important that we have your correct home address and telephone contact numbers for you with at least two other emergency contacts.

We also need an up to date, relevant e-mail address. Please advise the office if you think you have not updated us to any recent changes.

Street Angels

One of our parents at St Mary's would really appreciate some help for the charity they work for. Over the last couple of weeks, parents have been very generous and bought in dry food. We would like to say a big thank you! Street Angels UK have asked for your help again; they asked for any old sleeping bags, yoga mats or rucksacks that you no longer need. It is to help homeless people around the UK. If you would like to donate anything please leave at the front office. Thank you.

Kind Regards, St Mary's Office

End of term

How quickly this Spring term has passed! Don't forget, we finish for our Easter break next Friday, 5th April at 2.30pm. There will be NO Tea-Time club next Friday.

Parents/carers entering school unattended following after school clubs

Please note that, due to **safeguarding requirements**, we are not able to admit parents/carers to enter the school unsupervised.

Staff who take after school clubs, as well as class teachers, have been reminded to ensure that all children have packed lunches, coats and book bags before they are dismissed; these seem to be the problems which parents/carers are understandably trying to resolve at the end of the day.

If your child does still arrive for pick-up without any of these (or other) items, staff have been reminded that someone will need to accompany you to pick up missing items.

It would be most helpful, especially for older children, if you could remind children at the start of the day that they should make sure that they have everything when going to and leaving clubs.

Dental Survey

Children at St Mary's have been selected to take part in a nationwide NHS dental survey regarding the dental health of 5 years olds in England. A selection of children from Reception and Year 1 have been chosen to participate, and those children will be bringing letters home this week, containing full information about what the survey involves. Letters need to be returned to school by Wednesday 3rd April and the dental team will be visiting on Wednesday 8th May.

End of term finances

Please take some time over the course of the next week to have a look at your ParentPay account and ensure that all items are up to date by the time we return to school for the Summer Term on Tuesday 23rd April. May we remind you that breakfast and tea time clubs and school meals should be paid for in advance so that your account is always in credit. Any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

DATES FOR 2019-2020

Autumn Term 2019

First half (32 days)

INSET – Monday 2nd, Tuesday 3rd September, and Wednesday 4th

Start –Thursday 5th September

End - Friday 18th October

Half Term: Monday 21 October to Friday 25 October 2019

Second half (40 days)

Start - Monday 28th October

End – Friday 20th December

Christmas holiday: Monday 23rd December 2019 to Friday 3rd January 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 3rd 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 Monday 4th May and Monday 25th May (during half term)

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

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

Diary Dates

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

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Friday 29th March 2019</i> | <i>Year 3 British Museum trip</i> |
| <i>Monday 1st April 2019</i> | <i>Easter Service at the Church – Atlee 9:30am, Morris 2pm</i> |
| <i>Tuesday 2nd April 2019</i> | <i>Easter Service at the Church – Wilson at 9:30am</i> |
| <i>Thursday 4th April 2019</i> | <i>Year 1 Easter Experience- 1M & 1A at 1pm- 1W at 2pm</i> |
| <i>Monday 29th April 2019</i> | <i>Year 2 Natural History Museum trip</i> |

General Data Protection Act (GDPR)

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

Address: Brooke Road, Walthamstow, E17 9HJ; Phone: 020 8521 1066; Website: www.stmaryscofe.org; Email: school@st-marys-coe.waltham.sch.uk; Teatime Club: 07759 978 824; Nursery: stmarysnursery.net; Church: www.walthamstowchurch.org.uk