



Weekly Newsletter

3rd October 2019

It has been lovely to see so many parents joining us for the **harvest festival services** this week at St Mary's church - it has been terrific as well to see our school community giving so generously. Donated food will be going to a local children's home and we know that the recipients of it will be very grateful. Thanks are due to Year 2 & 3 for entertaining the congregation at the church with their enthusiastic and uplifting food-related performances.

We have had a lot of positive feedback about the proposed '**Soft Start**' at the beginning of the day that we aim to launch soon (this was addressed in a newsletter a couple of weeks ago). When we do have a specific date in mind to start the new approach to the school day we will obviously give you advance notice concerning it.

The first half-term of the year is very often a blur of activity and this half-term has been no exception. The **clubs** list was well received, and activities have started this week. The range and quality of the clubs has stepped up a notch and it is pleasing to see the children so keen to get started with them. We are currently finalising the **trips** for the various year groups for this year and have equally exciting plans for that area of school enrichment: there will be termly whole year group curriculum trips; a sports-related trip for each year group at some stage in the year funded by Sports Premium; and occasional trips for specific children who received additional funding through Pupil Premium.

The **Y3-6 core texts** have been well received by children and parents - please do pay the deposit of £10 if you have not already done so, so that we can continue this new approach in future terms. If the book is in good condition when returned each time, then of course the deposit will be returned when the project ultimately ends. There has been a slight delay to the Y3 books going home but these will now be issued within the next two days.

Over the course of the year, there will be a programme of Thursday **Class Assemblies**, and we will let you know of the dates for these shortly; parents are invited to these and they are usually very well attended. On *other* Thursdays, classes take their turn at leading an **RE assembly**, as a Y5 class did this morning for example; parents do not attend these RE assemblies.

The **parent teacher conferences** are fast approaching so please do check the dates at the back of this newsletter so that you can clear a space in your diary. The conferences, lasting 10 minutes per pupil/parent, take place over two evenings, one of which ends at 7pm, with the other at 6pm. Other events on the horizon include our celebration of **Black History Month** and **Anti-Bullying Week**, about which there will be more information to follow.

Matt O'Brien
Headteacher

School Photos

Apologies for the cancellation of our individual photos this week. We have now re-booked, and the photographers will be returning on 7th November. We are unable to take pictures with younger or older siblings who do not attend St Marys.

School Uniform

School uniform can be bought from the Victoria 2 School shop (near McDonald's on Hoe Street) or ordered on line via Mapac. If you order on line, uniform is delivered to school.

Whole School Attendance

The whole school attendance target is 96.5%. Last week we achieved 96.4 and since September, attendance has been 96.1%

Attendance and Punctuality Winner

Well done to 1 Attlee who had a perfect 100% attendance last week. Wilson houses were the early birds of the school with both 1W and 3W having everyone here on time every day. Well done. Keep it up!

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following children who were presented with Star of the Week last week:

1 Attlee	Nyah	4 Attlee	Denzell
1 Morris	Lena	4 Morris	Mia
1 Wilson	Holly	4 Wilson	Destinee
2 Attlee	Sophie	5 Attlee	Grace
2 Morris	Rafferty	5 Morris	Nathaniel
2 Wilson	Bluebelle	5 Wison	Marissa
3 Attlee	Emily	6 Attlee	Taegan
3 Morris	Shade	6 Morris	Renucci
3 Wilson	Arlo	6 Wilson	Jonny

Entitlement to Free School Meals

A final call out for everyone regarding the free school meals entitlement. **Families who return their form to school will be entered into a prize draw to win £100.** Please return completed forms to the school office by this Friday, 4th October. The draw will be made at 4pm and the winner announced in next week's newsletter. Paper copies may also be obtained from the office if you are unable to print them off.

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 this medication into school as soon as possible, clearly marked with your child's name/yeargroup 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.

Reception Intake September 2020

Children born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 will need to apply this year between October and 15th January 2020 for admission in September 2020. We have a series of Open Days/Evenings as follows:

Monday 14th October at 10am
Saturday 16th November at 9.30am
Monday 9th December at 6pm
Monday 13th January 2020 at 10am.

Please share with any interested parties.

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 £70.40 - 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.

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 3.45pm and will last between 30 minutes and an hour. There will be a crèche for your child, should you wish to attend. Workshops start tomorrow and we hope to see you there.

Tuesday 8 th October	Toe by Toe (By invitation only)
Tuesday 15 th October	A guide to Ruth Miskin Literacy (RML) – an approach we use in YR and Y1 to ensure high levels of literacy
Wednesday 30 th October	Phonics and Early Reading EYFS
Wednesday 13 th November	SEND (By Invitation only)
Tuesday 19 th November	Cyber Safety
Tuesday 26 th November	EYFS Homework
Tuesday 3 rd December	Homework
Tuesday 10 th December	Christmas Stories
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
Wednesday 7 th April	Sharing Age Related Expectations
Wednesday 28 th April	Computing
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

Diary Dates

<i>Monday 7th October</i>	<i>4W Start swimming – Daily until Friday 18th</i>
<i>Friday 11th October</i>	<i>6A and 6M to Imperial War Museum 3.30 to 6.30 – PFA Welcome Event at ‘Made in Portugal’ Cafe</i>
<i>Monday 14th October</i>	<i>10am – Prospective Parent Meeting</i>
<i>Wednesday 16th October</i>	<i>Year 5 to William Morris Gallery 3.45pm – 7.00 pm – Parent/Teacher Conferences Evening – details to follow</i>
<i>Thursday 17th October</i>	<i>3.45pm – 6.00 pm – Parent/Teacher Conferences Evening – details to follow</i>
<i>Friday 18th October</i>	<i>6W to Imperial War Museum School closes for half term break (usual time)</i>
<i>Monday 28th October</i>	<i>Return to School</i>
<i>Thursday 7th November</i>	<i>School Photographs – Individuals and siblings</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 2nd 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

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 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