



Charlotte plays a Beethoven piece at the Carol Service



End of Term
Newsletter
20th December 2019



Y4 perform a poem at one of yesterday's poetry recitals

Headteacher's News

This is the last newsletter of the year before we head into a new decade. Given the number of sniffles and coughs around the school at the moment, from both children and staff, the holiday is coming at a good time. We have had some fantastic events this week to send us off to the break in style: two **poetry recitals** entertained us all yesterday with classes reciting diverse poems from narrative to metaphorical, and comic to seasonal; three YRec and Y1 **nativities** drew great applause at the church; and the **Christmas carols** event on Wednesday in the hall demonstrated what incredibly talented and confident children we are fortunate to have at St Mary's.

By the end of the day you will have received a **yeargroup newsletter** with key information for the term ahead, including matters relating to homework, PE, and the wider curriculum to be studied. You will also receive the **extended holiday optional homework project letter** which will give families, for those that want to participate, the chance to immerse themselves in the topic to be studied from January onwards - in September many children came back with stories of where they had visited, or armed with research or creative items they had made in the summer holidays, and in the first Friday assembly back after Christmas we will once again celebrate some of their new topic-linked creations.

This Christmas period will be my last at St Mary's as, at the end of May, I will be taking up a new headship at another school a great deal closer to where I live. It has been a wonderful pleasure to be the headteacher at St Mary's and I look forward to the next five months being equally as enjoyable and productive. The governors will be advertising this week for a new headteacher and seek to appoint early in the new year. As five months is a very long time in the life of a young child, we will talk to the children about it much later in 2020.

All that remains to say is, from all the staff at St Mary's, we wish all our children and parents a very merry Christmas and a happy and very prosperous new year.

M O'Brien

Houses of Parliament Trip

The picture on the right captures some of our Y5 and 6 children stood beside the enormous Christmas tree in the **Great Hall** at parliament. They also stood on the steps of the Great Hall at the spot where Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama both spoke, before the children then had a look at a copy of the bill of rights. The children were guided around the famous home of British democracy and learnt a great deal about how laws are made and voted on.

Mr Pitchford



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.

2019 League Tables

Attainment at St Mary's remains very high. In the Waltham Forest SATs League Table just recently published for 2019, St Mary's is in the **top 12%** of the 66 primary schools in the borough for children meeting the expected standard in Y6 in all three core subjects, while we are in the **top 6%** of schools for children exceeding the standard in all 3 subjects. Our current crop of children are looking fabulous too!

Star of the Term



We were proud to present the award for Stars of the Term during our Nativity Services in Church this week. Very well done to the following children who have all been excellent role models and ambassadors for our school.

R Attlee	Thea & Rafe	R Morris	Liv & Douglas	R Wilson	Olivia & Samson
1 Attlee	Dylan & Frida	1 Morris	Elsa & Lewis	1 Wilson	Matilda & Sebastian
2 Attlee	Sumayyah & Charis	2 Morris	Christian & Edith	2 Wilson	Keir & Bluebelle
3 Attlee	Dominik & Clara	3 Morris	Shade & Toby	3 Wilson	Elsie & Gabriel
4 Attlee	Alex & Denzell	4 Attlee	Zion & Hilal	4 Wilson	Aaron & Diana
5 Attlee	Martha & Brian	5 Morris	Jermaine & Alice	5 Wilson	Lillian & Rudy
6 Attlee	Jasmine & Taegan	6 Morris	Gabriel & Mya	6 Wilson	Aaron & Zaiyyah

Well done everyone!

Finance Matters

Please could we ask that you take some time over this Christmas break to have a look at your ParentPay account and pay any outstanding balances. If you have still not paid for your child's Panto (£2.50 for Infants and £20 for Juniors, or for your child's book deposit (£10 for years 3 to 6), please could you clear those items if at all possible. 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, including coats, are labelled with your child's name and class.

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 etc via ParentMail. Please remember that it is very important that you keep us updated as to changes in phone numbers, e mail addresses etc.

Reception Intake September 2020

Children born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 will need to apply this year by 15th January 2020 for admission in September 2020. We just one Open Evening remaining on Monday 13th January at 10am. Please share with any interested parties. Application must be made to the to the Borough AND by submitting one of our own supplementary application forms.

Attendance Certificates

We usually present attendance certificates at the end of the summer term. The criteria is that children need to have 100% attendance and no late marks. A whole year is quite a big achievement so to encourage good attendance and punctuality, we will be presenting certificates on a termly basis. 87 children have been presented with this award this term.

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 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
Tuesday 28 th April	Sharing Age Related Expectations
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

Dates for your Diary

Friday 20 th December	<i>School Closes at 2pm – NO TEA TIME CLUB TODAY</i>
Tuesday 7 th January	<i>Children return to school</i>
15 th January	<i>Year 4 trip to GO APE – further details to follow</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 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

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.