

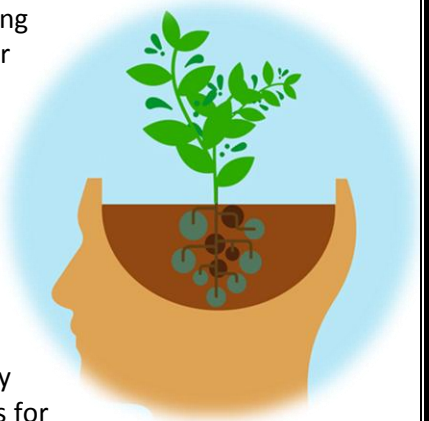


Weekly Newsletter 10th January 2018

Headteacher's News

Welcome back! I hope that you had a **wonderful Christmas** and **new year**. The children have settled back into the school routine very well this week with batteries evidently very well re-charged. I often find that the spring term is where the seeds sown in the autumn term begin to shoot and flourish so that at Easter when the teachers look back, the children's abilities are often utterly transformed from what they first assessed at the beginning of the school year.

We launch the new term with a **Growth Mindset Week**, with the children having lessons and assemblies themed around Carol Dweck's increasingly popular approach to self-improvement. In Friday's celebration assemblies, our cross-year 'Learning Council' will remind us of some of the key features of a Growth Mindset, which as you will know, emphasises the idea that ability is not purely natural and something you're born with, but instead something that can be developed through learning from mistakes, an openness to feedback and hard work. At St Mary's we seek to reward effort and a willingness to self-evaluate and make changes for improvement, rather than labelling a child's attainment as being the result of ability they were long ago 'gifted'. A person that has a Fixed Mindset would classically find it difficult to learn from mistakes, thinking that they just are or are not naturally good at something, and might look for external reasons for not achieving a goal rather than looking to evaluate where they went wrong in order to improve next time around. Staff at St Mary's strive to use language that rewards effort so that we would aim to say, 'You have tried so hard with your maths this term and are doing wonderfully as a result' rather than declaring, 'How do you do it!? You're a genius!' In lessons, children are very often asked to self-assess their work and to peer-assess so that they understand the value of receiving feedback from others, and staff are consciously letting the children know that they (the teachers) are not 'perfect' and frequently make and then learn from *their* mistakes - this is often quite powerful for young children to see.



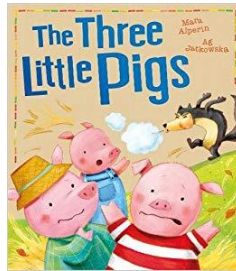
We have a new team of '**Leading Lights**' raring to go for this term. Children were invited to apply for the position of Leading Light, explaining, amongst other things, what their favourite quote from the bible was and what school value means the most to them. The applications were very impressive and it was a pleasure to meet with the new team - I think they'll do a great job assisting with the daily act of collective worship in assembly through helping to lead prayers and songs, setting up the worship table, and collecting written reflections on the day's assembly from those that wish to contribute them. They will get their badges soon and I'm sure will wear them with pride.



Mr O'Brien, Headteacher

Reception Class Corner- Reception Wilson, Miss John

In Reception Wilson this week we are starting our learning on 'Traditional Tales'. This week we are focusing on the tale of 'The Three Little Pigs'. We are going to do some communal storytelling to help us act this story out in class. We will also be making the different houses from the story using different materials from our outside area.



Whole school attendance and punctuality

Whole school attendance **target - 96.5%**

The whole school attendance, last week of half term was **89.39 %** which is significantly lower than the expected. There were 28 late marks in total last week.

Attendance and punctuality winner

Congratulations to **Year 5A and 6W** who unfortunately did not have 100% attendance but were very close with 99.1% and 99.5% last week!

Well done to **6W** again who had no late marks!



Enrichment Provision

We are so excited about the club offer we have for children this term. Our After-School provision includes a wide range of fantastic enrichment opportunities. We are looking forward to seeing children explore a range of themes including sculpture; catwalk design; KS1 choir; art; athletics; acting skills; jazz and street dancing; and yoga, amongst many other things.

Star of the Term

Each week, class teachers nominate their Star of the Week. Nominees will be reported here. We are doing our first spring Stars of the Week *next* Friday. Tomorrow's assemblies are on a Growth Mindset theme.

Parents' Prayer Club

It was good to see some of you at our Parents' Prayer Club this last Thursday. Parent Prayer Club happens every other Thursday so our next meeting will be next Thursday the 17th January (starting up again after the holidays). Meet at the school office at 9.05. We aim to finish by 9.25am.

Notice Board

Saturday plus- Dates for next term

SPRING TERM Venue: St Mary's 9.00am – 2.00pm	SUMMER TERM 2nd Half Venue: St Saviour's 9.00am – 2.00pm
19 th January 2019	HALF TERM
26 th January 2019	8 th June 2019
2 nd February 2019	15 th June 2019
9 th February 2019	22 nd June 2019
HALF TERM	29 th June 2019
2 nd March 2019	6 th July 2019
9 th March 2019	13 th July 2019
16 th March 2019	
23 rd March 2019	
30 th March 2019	
SUMMER TERM 1st Half	
27 th April 2019	
MAY DAY	
11 th May 2019	
18 th May 2019	

Diary Dates

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

<i>Tuesday 15th January 2019</i>	<i>Year 3 Atlee and Morris trip to Vestry House</i>
<i>Wednesday 16th January 2019</i>	<i>Year 3 Wilson trip to Vestry House</i>
<i>Thursday 17th January 2019</i>	<i>Year 4 Attlee Class Assembly</i>
<i>Thursday 24th January 2019</i>	<i>Year 3 Morris Class Assembly</i>
<i>Thursday 31st January 2019</i>	<i>Year 1 Morris Class Assembly</i>
<i>Thursday 2nd February 2019</i>	<i>Year 5 Attlee Class Assembly</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