



Dear Families and Friends of St Mary's

SPORTING NEWS

The football team played High Littleton (last year's winners) in a very tough opening game to this year's league. The team played incredibly well and won the match 5-2. They scored some amazing individual and team goals. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to the parents who came along to watch. Onto our next match!



A group of Year 5 and 6 girls went along to their first **Netball** tournament this week. This was the first time the girls had actually played together as a team and they worked together so well. They were extremely encouraging and supportive of each other and they played some wonderful netball. Several teachers from other schools commented on what good sports women they were: they really did St Mary's proud. Well done! Thank you to Miss Morris and Mr Finlay for leading and developing these teams.

HARVEST

Thank you to Badgers and Bees (and all the adults that work with them) for a special Harvest Celebration at St Mary's Church. Your harvest offerings will be much appreciated too.

AWARDS

Our AWARDS event is a chance for the school community to come together to collectively celebrate the achievements of our children. All parents and friends are invited – you simply come to the school hall via the main entrance, immediately after you have dropped your child to school. We ask that any pre-school siblings (babies/toddlers) you need to bring with you, are left in the crèche during AWARDS, which is staffed by a couple of our teaching assistants and usually runs in the KS2 classroom nearest the hall (Year 4). We expect AWARDS to last for about 30-40 minutes this year.

AWARDS gives classes an opportunity to share a small part of their learning, to perform to an appreciative audience and build confidence. Ducklings lead one performance during the year, but all other classes lead two. The whole school also shares a couple of the songs they have been learning in singing – usually these are connected to our value for the term, but not always. We also present certificates and cups; and this is the element we have changed for this academic year.

This will be the new format:

Class teachers will decide on 6 certificate winners for their class, taking into account any nominations received from other members of staff. The new certificate categories are:

Curriculum Certificates – for demonstrating **Curiosity, Citizenship, Enterprise** (you might recall these are the same as the curriculum divers we identified and shared with you in the last newsletter).

Values Certificates – for **Determination** and **Friendship**; and a Christian Value Certificate which has been the focus for the term - in term 1, this is for **Responsibility**.

Teachers will write a short message to children on the back of these certificates to explain why they have been awarded, but these will not be read out during the event.

Twice a year (December and July) teachers will give nominations for Curriculum Cups, such as for Music, Art and Mathematics. All those nominated will receive a certificate and one child will be awarded the Cup for that subject. The cup winner gets to keep that cup at home, until the next time the presentation is made. In July, there is also a special award for one child in EYFS – **The Wood Star** – which is specifically to recognise the progress that is made in this important phase of schooling.

After AWARDS, your child will bring their certificates home immediately; and we will display a photograph of each winning child in the foyer on our new AWARDS board.. until the next event!

FRIDAY CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Every week the school has a celebration assembly. Teachers award certificates to children who have been working extra hard during the week or achieved something particularly special; and the team point cup is also awarded. Any children that have been given a Learning Star (and a special sticker from the Headteacher) are mentioned during this assembly too; as are any children who have participated in school events. We also encourage children to bring in items from home e.g. swimming certificates, running awards, ballet certificates and then we present these to them to say well done. Please encourage them to bring these celebrations in on a Friday morning as we LOVE learning about the wide variety of activities our children take part in. PS It helps if all items are named, please!

“SAVE THE DATES” for your diary:

PTA BINGO – All welcome – Hall – Thursday 25th October. Doors open at 5.15pm. Eyes down at 5.30pm. £3.00 per book per person and £1.00 for each additional book. Pay on the door.

PTA AGM – All Welcome – Year 6 Classroom – Wednesday 7th November 6pm

PTA MUFTI TOMBOLA DAY and HOT DOGS AND SPARKLER SALE – School Hall immediately after school – Friday 9th November

PTA WINTER FAIR – Saturday 24th November 11am - 1pm? Times TBC

GOVERNOR MEETING for Parents (with the Local Authority) re OFSTED progress – WEDNESDAY 21st NOVEMBER

PARENT CONSULTATIONS – NEXT WEEK

We are looking forward to meeting you all next week. Please could you all be aware of the following arrangements for Parent Consultation Meetings next week:

Entrance/Exit is through the Junior Entrance (by the Year 3 classroom) – not the main school entrance or other side doors.

If you need to leave your child in the **Crèche** while you attend an appointment, Miss Brown will be in the **Year 3 classroom** with a film for everyone to watch. If your child wants to bring their own book to read instead, this is acceptable.

Mr Daniels (Y6), Mrs Daone/Mrs Munro (Y3) and Miss Riddell (Y2) will be based in the **Year 4 classroom**. **Miss Morris (Y5), Mr Finlay (Y4), Miss Humphries (Y1) and Miss Smith (EYFS)** will be based in the **Year 2 classroom**.

Each teacher will leave your child's work outside of the meeting classroom, for you to look through prior to the meeting. We will put chairs outside each of these classrooms so that you have somewhere to sit while you are waiting. Please bring the work with you into the appointment.

Teachers will come into the corridor and invite you into the meeting classroom when it is time for your appointment.

All appointments are for ten minutes.

Teachers will endeavour to keep to time; and your support with this is much appreciated. If you need longer to discuss a particular issue, please make an additional appointment, so that teachers do not overrun and keep other families waiting.

We have made the decision to base teachers in two rooms (rather than being alone in their individual classes) in a bid to avoid cancelling after school clubs, to enable appointments to run more efficiently, and to ensure that staff are not working late in isolated classrooms (for their own safety). Thank you for your understanding.



SOMETHING RED?

Immediately after half term we will be completing some special art work to mark the **100 year Armistice Day**. To do this, we need lots of red wool (and some black/brown), red fabrics, red paper, red cellophane, red ribbon etc. (The things we need don't have to be *plain* red – just *predominantly* red. Old T-shirts, dresses, wrapping paper etc would all be helpful). If you have any spare items that you think would be suitable and you are willing to donate to us, please can you send it to school for the attention of **Miss Morris**, before the October break? Thank you.

A note about safeguarding

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our pupils please contact the school to speak to **Miss Alice Brown** (Designated Safeguarding Lead). In her absence, please speak to **Mrs Purnell or Mr Finlay** (Deputy DSLs). The safety of our young people is the responsibility of us all.

REMINDER: CHANGE TO FIRST AID PROCEDURES

In an effort to improve communication about minor bumps (and reduce paper wastage) we will no longer send home a letter for every **minor** injury/scrape that your child may have during their active playtimes. Your child will still have first aid (on the playground) and be given a notification sticker instead of a paper letter – hopefully this is more likely to remain attached to your child. Anything that requires more comprehensive first aid will still be managed at the designated First Aid Station. We will continue to notify you of **ANY** bumped head incidents by telephone and also direct you to a website where you can find advice on how to manage this.

DIARY DATES 2017-2018

Tuesday 16 th October	Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30-5.40pm
Thursday 18 th October	Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30-7pm
Friday 19 th October	Term 1 AWARDS. 9.05am – all welcome. Please use crèche for non-school age siblings
Tuesday 23 rd October	Lions Lead collective worship – Y5 parents welcome 9.05am
Thursday 25 th October	Term 1 Ends PTA BINGO
Friday 26 th October	INSET DAY 2 – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
OCTOBER BREAK	
Monday 5 th November	Term 2 starts
Tuesday 6 th November	Otters begin Swimming Lessons
Wednesday 7 th November	PTA AGM – All Welcome – Year 6 Classroom 6pm
Friday 9 th November	PTA Mufti Tombola Day; Hot Dogs and Sparklers
Wednesday 21 st November	Governor Meeting for Parents, with the Local Authority, re OFTSED update 6pm
Saturday 24 th November	PTA Winter Fair 11am - 1pm? Times TBC
Thursday 29 th November	Otters Lead collective worship – Y4 parents welcome 9.05am
Sunday 2 nd December	Year 5/6 Royal Albert Hall Trip
Thursday 13 th December	Ducklings (EYFS) and Rabbits (Y1) - Nativity
Wednesday 19 th December	Term 2 AWARDS. 9.05am – all welcome. Please use Crèche for non-school age siblings.
Thursday 20 th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Jumper Day – donation to school fund Term 2 ends at 2pm

Thankyou to **Chloe Bean** for establishing a clothes recycling bin at The Conygre Hall, in aid of St Mary's PTA. If you have a big sort out over the October break, please consider taking your clothes there rather than adding them to the usual recycling bin! Thank you.

TERM DATES 2018-2019

*** One INSET day still to be set ***

	INSET DAYS (School Closed to Pupils)	Start for pupils	Finish for pupils
Term 1	Monday 3 rd September Friday 26 th October	Tuesday 4 th September 2018	Thursday 25 th October 2018
Term 2		Monday 5 th November 2018	Friday 21 st December 2018
Term 3		Monday 7 th January 2019	Friday 15 th February 2019
Term 4	Monday 25 th February	Tuesday 26 th February 2019	Friday 5 th April 2019
Term 5		Tuesday 23 rd April 2019	Friday 24 th May 2019
Term 6	Friday 28 th June	Monday 3 rd June 2019	Tuesday 23 rd July

Raise Money for the PTA just by shopping online!

Users of Easyfundraising have raised £1200 for the PTA so far.
Can you help get us to £1500 before Christmas? It doesn't cost
you ANYTHING extra – and just involves a few extra clicks!



The website: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

How?

Click on the Green "Support a Good Cause"; type in Timsbury in the search box; chose St Mary's Primary (at the bottom of the list); Click 'Find' then "Support this Cause". This takes you to a registration page. When you then access online shopping sites via EasyFundraising to make a purchase, the PTA receive a donation. It doesn't cost you a penny more, your purchase details are not shared with anyone, and the PTA receives a monthly donation to spend in school on children!