



Dear Parents,

What a very busy first week we've had! The children have enjoyed an exciting and fun-filled Roald Dahl day and looked fantastic in their costumes. There have also been many exciting learning opportunities across the school including turnip racing in Year 1 and Roman rhymes in Year 3/4! Please find below some key dates and information for the coming weeks. Thank you for your continued support.

St Mary's team

Upcoming dates:

Monday 18th September	School Photographer visit—individual and sibling photographs
Tuesday 19th September	PTA AGM 5.30pm
Friday 22nd September	'Jeans for Genes' charity non uniform day (£1 donation)
Friday 29th September	Macmillan coffee afternoon—info to follow
Friday 29th September— Wednesday 3rd October 3.15—4.15	Scholastic Book Fair at St. Mary's— information to follow.
Tuesday 3rd October	Parents' Evening 3.30—6.00 pm
Friday 6th October 9.30am	Harvest Festival Service at St. Mary's Church, parents welcome. Pupils will walk from school.
Friday 20th October	Last day of half term—Non Uniform Day (£1 do- nation to the School Fund)
Monday 30th October	Return to school

Clubs:

Football Yrs 2,3 & 4	Thursdays 3.15—4.15; starts Thu 21st Sept
Multi Sports Yrs 1, 2,3 & 4	Mondays 3.15—4.15; starts Monday 18th Sept
EKO Yrs 2,3 & 4	Wednesdays 3.15—4.45, starts 13th Sept
J-Team Yrs 2,3 & 4	Tuesdays 3.15—4.30; starts 26th Sept

Our School Council

We are delighted to announce our School Council members who have been voted to represent their class. Well done to the following children:

Reception—Polly Deakin, Dylan Smith

Year 1—Sam Shield, Ruby Smith

Year 2—May Arthrell-Sweet, William Guy

Year 3—April Harvey, William Swift

Year 4—Faustas Serapinavicius, Mia O'Neill





Good to be Green Behaviour System

For consistency and clarity the school has introduced the *Good to be Green Behaviour System*. The 'Good to be Green' system is an effective way of promoting positive behaviour by rewarding those pupils who consistently behave appropriately and tracking those pupils who find it harder to meet the school's expected behaviour code. The scheme is very visual, which allow our pupils to easily see how they are doing in class. We believe that it is important to promote a positive message regarding behaviour management at all times- 'Good to be Green' is a means of promoting our high expectations of positive behaviour. **If a child has had a bad day, they can start afresh the following day.**

Every child starts their day on a positive note with a green card displayed in their pocket of the Class Chart. **If they are still on Green by the end of the day, the child is awarded a House Point.**

If, during the day, in lessons, at break times or before or after school, a child has to be warned of inappropriate behaviour, or has broken a school rule, then a they may be given a reminder ('Thinking cloud time') and their card will stay green. Should they continue to need reminding, then a yellow warning card will be displayed over the top of the green card. The warning gives the child the opportunity to reflect, consider and review their behaviour. Unfortunately they will not be awarded a house point at the end of the day and this will be recorded by the class teacher. Persistently inappropriate or a serious behavioural incident will lead to a red card which would then have a consequence of loss of play-time or lunchtime. This will be recorded and parents will be informed.

We recognise that so many children at St Mary's will remain green throughout the year and those children will be rewarded each half term. Likewise, children who show consistently good or exemplary behaviour will be moved to the sun symbol by their teacher during the day. Those children will receive a note home and will also be rewarded with a raffle ticket and the chance to win a weekly prize.

Should you have any queries please speak to a member of staff who will be happy to help. We thank you for your continued support.

Roald Dahl Competition—open until Monday 18th September!!

As part of our Roald Dahl celebrations, this year we are hosting two competitions. Children in EYFS or KS1 are invited to take part in a party hat colouring competition and children in KS2 will have the opportunity to complete a book quiz, naming characters from different stories.

Please pick up your competition entry from the main entrance. All entries will be judged and the winners will receive their very own Wonka Bar prize.

Good luck!

News from the Nursery

Nursery have been very busy over the past week. We have been participating in lots of activities linked to our topic *Ourselves*.

The children particularly liked using the mirrors to look at their faces, thinking about similarities and differences in each other.

We then painted self portraits for our display and we are going to write name labels for our portraits.

The home-corner has been enjoyed by all, helping us to play and work alongside our peers and develop an understanding of taking turns.

Over the summer Nursery and Reception have been very lucky as we have had new toilets and partitions, new sinks, floor, tiles and a hand dryer. All the children have made lots of visits to the toilets just to try out the new facilities!



Cold Boxes – Please can parents be made aware that there are no cold boxes available from the Canteen from now.

Bags and Trainers—We have provided a book bag for all children in St. Mary's, so unless they have a packed lunch and PE Kit, they do not need additional backpacks. Children are permitted to bring in a spare pair of old trainers to play football with at lunch.

Important Parent Pay update

Please check your Parent Pay account and ensure that all balances are cleared. Failure to clear balances will mean that we will not be able to honour bookings for clubs, Nursery, Breakfast and after school club in September. All sessions will need to be confirmed and paid with 24h notice by either childcare vouchers or on Parent Pay. This enables us to plan our staff to child ratios.

The Birthday Table payment item - From September, any Birthday Table payments should be made to your child's school dinner payment item. Please check in advance with the office to confirm how much the Birthday Table will be prior to paying.

Dinner payments—from September, parents will be asked to bring in a packed lunch for their child when dinners are in debit over £10.75 until the debt is cleared, as all payments should be made in advance.

Governor News

" On behalf of the Governing body I would like to welcome all of our pupils, teachers, staff and parents to their new school year. We are excited about the learning opportunities for our pupils over the next year with improvements in their curriculum, school environment with the planning/design of new science classrooms at Brewood and new toilets (Nursery) and classrooms being refurbished at St Mary's.



There have also been some exciting new appointments within both schools and I hope that both pupils and parents take the time to meet their new teachers to discuss their child's progress and form new relationships so we can ensure your child can be the best they can be.

Like many parents I believed that teaching was an enviable profession especially with the numerous holidays including the long summer vacation. How wrong could I have been. Perhaps it's the privileged position of being your chair of Governors but I have seen the personal commitment of our staff over this summer holiday, which I can only describe as being outstanding. Our staff have been working tirelessly, in their own time at both schools to ensure class rooms are clean, suitable to reflect the appropriate learning environment for your children. They have ensured timetables, curriculum and your child's development is at the forefront of everything they do.

Peter Haywood, Chair of Governors

As you know, Mr. Thorne is unwell at the moment and will not be in school for the first few weeks of term. If you have any general concerns please see your child's class teacher. If it is more serious, please make an appointment to see Mrs. C. Stanford, our senior teacher on site or myself.

Best wishes,

Mr. D.I.Swift, Executive Headteacher

Mrs. C.Stanford, Senior Teacher