

# ST MARY'S CE(C) FIRST SCHOOL & NURSERY

Helping Each Other To Do Our Best

Newsletter 07

20th October 2017



Dear Parents,

What a brilliant but busy half term we've had. So much to celebrate across the school. May we take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. St Mary's is a fantastic place to learn and have fun and the school ethos and community spirit really shines through. We hope that you all enjoy a relaxing half term and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 30th October.

St Mary's team

## Upcoming dates:

Monday 30th October	Return to school.
Thursday 2nd November	Open evening for online booking and support for pupil Art Projects for Schools Christmas cards. <b>3:30pm—4:30pm</b> Join us to order your cards—please bring your unique reference number
Friday 3rd November	Pantomime payment and forms deadline—please hand to the office.
Friday 3rd November	PTA Bag 2 school drop-off deadline.
Thursday 16th November	Flu Immunisations (if you have returned the consent form).
Week Commencing 4th December	Last week of clubs (Inspired, J Team) * EKO club will take place on Wed 13th due to Panto trip on 6th December
Wednesday 6th December	Whole School Panto Visit to Oakengates Theatre.
Thursday 7th December	PTA Christmas Disco 6-7.30pm info to follow.
Tuesday 19th December	Last day of half term—back on Wednesday 3rd January
Christmas Dates 	Christmas Disco—Thursday 7th December Christmas Fayre—Friday 8th December pm EYFS/KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal—Monday 11th December pm Celebration Day—Church Service (am) and special visitor pm — Thursday 14th December EYFS/KS1 Nativity performance —Friday 15th December am Song by Candlelight (including Year 3/4 performance) - Tuesday 19th December pm <b>All times will be finalised in the coming weeks</b> <b>Check the newsletter for further information</b>

## Clubs:

<b>Football</b> Yrs 2,3 & 4	Thursdays 3.15—4.15; starts Thu 21st Sept
<b>Multi Sports</b> Yrs 1, 2,3 & 4	Mondays 3.15—4.15; starts Monday 18th Sept
<b>EKO</b> Yrs 2,3 & 4	Wednesdays 3.15—4.45, starts 13th Sept
<b>J-Team</b> Yrs 3 & 4—age 7 and up	Tuesdays 3.15—4.30; Oct 31st; Nov 7, 14, 28; Dec 5th

Unfortunately we have to say goodbye to Mrs Pitchford, who is taking a prolonged leave of absence due to family illness. Office cover will be provided temporarily by Mrs Janet Cox. Please bear with us whilst we await the appointment of the new Office Manager. We wish Mrs Pitchford all the best and look forward to welcome her back in the near future. We would all like to thank Mrs Pitchford for all her hard work and commitment to St Mary's and wish her and her family well. Mr Swift.

## Health and Safety

Remember, remember to celebrate safely **Have fun, stay safe and attend an organised display.** Bonfire night can be great fun for all the family but it is important that you celebrate safely.

We are appealing to everyone to take great care this bonfire night. We recommend that you visit an organised display. If you are having a display at home please make sure you follow the firework code. You'll find lots of information and links at

<http://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk>



# ST. MARY'S SUPERSTARS!



Congratulations to all our St. Mary's Superstars! We are very proud of you!

Executive Headteacher's Award: Beth Hyde

Nursery Awards: Alfie Stanford (Reader); Abi Holmes (Writer)

## Star Writers

Cian L'Estrange (Rec)

Skye Small (Y1)

Codi Wilde (Y2)

Oscar Crossfield (Y4)

## Star Mathematicians

Faith Morton-Smith (Y1)

Alice Quine (Y2)

## Star Readers

Silas Wilton (Rec)

Madeline Thomas (Y1)

Jensen Dainty (Y2)

Jenna Holmes (Y4)



## Our rock stars

Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved 'rock star' status

Peter Dallow—Rock Legend

William Swift—Rock Legend

Noah Hodson—Rock Legend

Jake Glover—Rock Legend

Jayden Scarlett—Rock Star



We are really enjoying practising our times tables and we are quickly becoming more accurate and faster! We are even practising at lunchtimes!



## We love reading at St Mary's

Reading is one of our top priorities, so much so that some of our children just can't stop! We've been catching children reading all over the place!

Look at our Year 3 and 4 pupils reading on the playground!



We have also recently introduced a reading buddy scheme. As part of this, some of our Year 3 and 4 pupils have been visiting our younger reception pupils to read with them on a Monday afternoon. Well done and a big thank you to our buddies so far.



## Christmas Card ordering

Your child has created a piece of artwork, which can be made into cards, gift tags and wrapping paper for you to purchase. The process is:-  
The original artwork has been sent to a company called APFS (Art Projects for School) for them to scan the artwork. Until the artwork is scanned and 'live' you can't place an order.

APFS will scan the artwork during half term and will post the artwork back to the school on 27<sup>th</sup> October.

As soon as the original artwork is received in school it will be sent home with your child.

On the reverse of the artwork is a sticker with the ordering instructions on it.

The ordering instructions are:-

Visit the website [www.apfsorders.co.uk](http://www.apfsorders.co.uk)

Input the unique code (found on the sticker) and surname

Check that the picture orientation (landscape or portrait) is correct and amend if necessary

Check that the school name is correct

Fill in your child's name as you would like it to appear on the back of the card (Don't forget to use capital where required)

Choose what items you require (e.g. cards, tags, paper)

Select a greeting form a list or type your own greeting

Preview the card

Proceed to payment OR enter another unique code if you have siblings

APFS will create the cards based on your orders.

**Deadline for placing an order online is Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.** All items ordered will be sent to school with an estimated dispatch date of 13<sup>th</sup> November. Once received in school the orders will be sent home.

### **Governor News**

Well I cannot believe we have already completed a term so quickly – it must be that I am getting older as when I was a child the school terms seemed to go on forever but now I am older they pass so quickly.

It is only right that we thank all of our pupils, staff, parents and Governors for their support over the last term. We would like to send our best wishes to Mrs Pitchford, her last day today, while she spends time with her family. We cannot thank you enough for your support, professionalism and continued outlook on life which has made all of our lives better at St Marys and please remember you will always be part of our school family.

This week the Governing body has been involved in interviews for the administration position at St Marys, a Full Governing body meeting to discuss the role of Trustees over the Brewood CE Middle School charity trusts with the Diocese prior to moving towards the Academy. We have a possible date for the conversion to Academy status being 1st December 2017 but again this will be subject to completion of legal documents. For St Mary's we hope to convert on 1st January 2018.

The board would also like to thank the administration team at BMS for their hard work behind the scenes to support the process of our move to St Chads Academy. The additional hours out of school have not gone unnoticed and your support as always is appreciated.

Kind Regards, Peter Haywood, Chair of Governors



### **Parents—Use of Social Media**

Please may I remind all our families to observe respect for school staff, other children and their families whilst participating in social media, such as Facebook. Unfortunately, there are comments made and images shared in the public domain from time to time, that can bring our school and our families into disrepute. I very kindly ask that should you have a situation with your child that you are concerned about, you discuss this with us in person, rather than present a viewpoint on social media that may well not be reflective of the full facts.

Thank you for your understanding with this sensitive issue.

Many schools across the country are struggling with issues relating to social media, and I really hope that we will not become one of them. All of our staff are approachable and I would welcome a conversation with you in school, rather than see a public online discussion. Many thanks in anticipation of your understanding with this request.

We wish all of our families an enjoyable half term break and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 30th October.

Best wishes,

*C Stanford*

Mr. D.I.Swift, Executive Headteacher

Mrs. C. Stanford, Senior Teacher