

Dear Parents, I would like to thank you for supporting the smooth transition over to Parent Pay, your positive response has helped us enormously. We were pleased with the uptake of attendance at the parents' consultations and hope you found the new format valuable. I hope you have a restful Half Term Break and remind you that school reopens on Monday 27th February.

## Upcoming dates:

Thur 16 Feb	School closes for half term
Thursday 2nd March (am)	Wolgarston Dance Show rehearsal
Thursday 2nd March	World Book Day—come to school dressed as a book character
Tuesday 7th March	Wolgarston Dance Show—2 shows

## Half term focus: Nursery

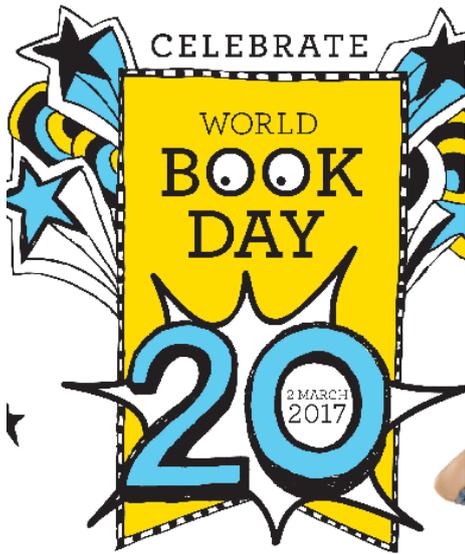
This half term Nursery have been looking at the topic 'Winter'. We explored outside looking at frost, the hard ground and breathing smoke like a dragon. In anticipation for snow, we painted our own snowman, and made our own ice, looking at melting and change over time.

Our favourite activities have been throwing and counting snowballs, looking after the Penguin's egg and measuring penguins using cubes.



We celebrated Chinese New Year by being introduced to Chinese music, Dragon making and dancing. We also tried Chinese food using chop sticks. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support over the past half term.





It's the 20th anniversary of World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March. Schools around the UK are taking part in the celebrations and we would like the St Mary's children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

There will also be a special lunch menu on the day consisting of the following:

*Tweedle dum & Tweedle dee Meatball Bake or Mad Hatters Beany Crunch with Alice's Tomato and Herb Bread Wedge on the side. For dessert there will be Queen of Hearts Jam Tart with Custard or homemade biscuits from the cook.*

The Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success, taking just over £400 across 4 nights and generating commission for St Mary's to buy more books. Thanks to all the families and staff who supported this event.



### Gatehouse Theatre Visit 13th February

Year 3 and 4 had a fantastic day at The Gatehouse theatre, they enjoyed joining other schools in rehearsals and live performance with some very talented musicians and composers. The children composed their own song to contribute to the retelling of Macbeth using song. They have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and haven't stopped talking about it since coming back to school. We have received lots of positive feedback, the children were a credit to the school, behaving impeccably and parents that were able to attend the performance really enjoyed watching their children perform.





# ST. MARY'S SUPERSTARS!



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

**Deputy Headteachers' Award** Jayden Scarlett (Y3)

**Gold Award** William Swift (Y2)

## Star Writers

Tiger-Lily Lewis (R)

Lotti Evans-Bowen (Y1)

Abbie Potter (Y4)

## Star Mathematician

Isaac Diffey (Y3)

Joseph Partridge (Y4)

## Star Reader

Oscar Crossfield (Y3)

## Silver Award

William Swift (Y2)

## Teachers' Tea Party

Mr Thorne and Mrs Stanford will be meeting with a selection of children on a weekly basis to talk to them about their learning. Thank you to the children who have already shared some of their thoughts about what they enjoy about their lessons and how they would improve them.



Years 3 and 4 need YOU!

Children in Years 3 and 4 are taking part in a World War One Art project after half term. We need your old newspapers, if you have any spare please can you donate them to school.

### Upcoming visit payment deadlines:

Y4 Shugborough Residential Visit 2nd payment due

Friday 24th February

Y1 & 2 Sea Life Centre Visit payment due

Monday 27th February

### Nursery and Out of School Club

Please can parents check with the nursery staff prior to paying online for your child's session places due to staffing ratios and availability.



Sainsbury's

**Active Kids 2017**

Eat well • Move well • Live well

Active Kids is back and with your support now's the time to help even more kids to eat well, move well and live well. With your help collecting vouchers in 2016, St. Mary's purchased playground equipment, so let's see how well we can do this year!