

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

Helping Each Other To Do Our Best

Newsletter 16

5th May 2017



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Summer Term. We have lots of activities planned for your children, so please make note of the dates below. The PTA have kindly given us a cheque for £1000 to spend on reading materials for children in all classes. Please continue to support their events as it helps the school enormously, thank you.

Mr Thorne

Year 4 Shugborough Assembly and Certificate Presentation

Children in Year 4 who attended the Shugborough Residential were presented with certificates in front of parents at assembly on Thursday.

Boys Archery—Thomas Swift

Girls Archery—Tashani Tuft

Girls Orienteering—Carrie Cochrane; Rebecca Du Plooy

Boys Orienteering—Parker Nolan

Best kept bed—Ben Cambridge; Carrie Cochrane

Winning Team—Molly Hammond, Martin Comyns, Lucy Hall, Joseph Partridge, Hannah Guy, George Peace

Above and Beyond

Aidan Ryan—confidence and peer work

Billy Pope—Independence Skills

Abbie Potter—Independence Skills

George Peace—facing his fears

Upcoming dates:

Thursday 11th May	PTA Fashion Evening 7.15pm start— TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE
Monday 15th May	Photograph order deadline
Tuesday 16th May	Y4 Sports Morning at Brewood Middle School — info to follow
Wednesday 17th May	J Team 3pm—4.30 pm
Thursday 18th May	Special Lunch menu - British theme; info to follow
Wednesday 24th May	J Team 3pm—4.30 pm
Tuesday 6th June	Y4 Taster session at Brewood 1—2.45 pm
Wednesday 7th June	Y4 Parents' Evening at Brewood Middle School 6.30pm
Monday 19th June	Y4 Transition Parents' meeting with Mr Swift and Mrs Priestley 9am at St Mary's
Saturday 24th June	Y4 'Rocket Day' at Brewood Middle School for Y4 pupils and parents
Friday 30th June	St Mary's Sports Day
Friday 7th July	Y4 Languages Morning at Wolgarston
Thursday July 13th	Y4 Induction Day at Brewood

NSPCC Assembly 8th May

The NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme is visiting our school to make sure our pupils have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse.

I'm pleased to tell you that we will be working with the NSPCC, the UK's leading children's charity, who'll be delivering their *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme on **Monday 8th May 2017**. This is a nationwide programme for every primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they'll be presenting an assembly and workshop to the children in our school.

"NSPCC has helped me to build the confidence to tell people about my worries and problems." Child's feedback.

What is the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme?

Through child-friendly, interactive assemblies and workshops their specially trained staff and volunteers will give our children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and sexual abuse, without using scary words or adult language.

We have studied the content of the materials and heard from other schools who have participated and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of their visit, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

"This service provides important information in a child-friendly way – it should be made mandatory in all schools. A brilliant service!" Teacher, Wistaston Primary, Crewe

If you would like any more information about the NSPCC *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme, including frequently asked questions, you can find it on the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/schools or please come into speak to me and I can provide more information.

Talking about the Underwear Rule with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe – and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'The Underwear Rule', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words or even mentioning sex.

The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/

Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers

Sainsbury's are no longer issuing Active Kids Vouchers, so please hand any remaining vouchers you may have in to school.



ST. MARY'S SUPERSTARS!



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

Deputy Headteacher Award—Parker Nolan

Star Writers

Madeline Thomas (Rec)
Tinkerbelle Lewis (y1)
Noah Glover (Y2)
Oscar Crossfield (Y3)
Hannah Guy (Y4)

Star Mathematicians

Anna Ibanga (Rec)
Codi Wilde (Y1)
Oliver Howe (Y2)
Bladenn Turner-March Y3
Parker Nolan (Y4)

Star Reader

Alice Quine (Y1)
Oliver Rowlands (Y3)

Nursery Award

Teddy Smedley—Tym

Governor News

Governors would like to thank those parents at St Mary's for attending the evening OFSTED briefing prior to the Easter holiday. We answered questions about our OFSTED inspection, our actions since and a range of other questions.

We have had a busy couple of weeks since Easter with meetings including a Finance and Premises, Standards and Curriculum and a Full Governing Body. We plan to conduct Learning Walks during this half term.

PTA Thanks

The PTA have kindly donated a cheque for £1000.00 which will go towards reading materials throughout the school. Thank you to all who have held and supported events to make this happen.

School Council News

The School Council were recently allocated a budget to buy books for the School Library.

The children enjoyed having the responsibility of choosing, and are pictured with some of their new purchases for all to enjoy!



Fizzy Drinks

Can parents please be reminded that fizzy drinks should not be brought into school, thanks.

Uniform reminder

Can parents please be aware that big hair bows and heavy boots are not part of school uniform, and a reminder that suitable PE kit should be brought in ready for summer term activities.



Late arrivals

Recently we have seen an increase in children arriving late for school. Arriving late for school on a regular basis impacts learning time, for example if your child is 10 minutes late per day, this equates to nearly an hour a week. Please ensure that your child is ready to start the school day at 8.55.



We have been really pleased with the uptake of parents using the cashless payment system ParentPay. The amount of cash coming to the school office has been drastically reduced, and school dinner uptake has increased by 20%. Please do check your Parent Pay accounts and ensure that all outstanding payments are cleared.

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. If your child is unable to attend Nursery please inform staff as soon as possible.

Birthday Table

At St Mary's we are pleased to host Birthday Tables for your child's special day. Please can parents be aware that the Birthday Table is for hot dinners only—if you'd like to book a Birthday Table, please inform the parents of those children who are invited so they are aware.