

Our Vision:

At St Mary's, inspired by gospel values we are excited about our learning, proud of our achievements, determined to be the best we can be and caring of all God's creations.

We hope your half term break went well.

The half term is well underway and we have a very busy and exciting schedule up to Christmas!

Curriculum letters:

The curriculum letters for each class have been emailed and are on the website under Curriculum > Teaching and Learning. In addition, curriculum maps were emailed before half term outlining the learning taking place across the whole school year. Please use this information to support learning and home learning this term and beyond.

Parent Governor Elections:

**A message from Keith Reynolds,
Chair of Governors**

We would like to thank all the candidates for their recent applications to become Parent Governors of St. Mary's School. Following elections before half term, the Governors are pleased to announce that Mrs Angela Johnson and Mr Stefan Grzesiczek have been appointed as Parent Governors for a 3-year term of office with immediate effect.

We very much look forward to working with them on the Governing Body.

Macbeth

Years 3,4,5 and 6 are looking forward to their visit to Wyllyotts Theatre next week to see the play. This follows the excellent workshops before half term. The play will be an important part of their studies in Literacy this half term. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND A PACKED LUNCH. PUPILS WILL RETURN FROM THE THEATRE BY 1.15 AND EAT THEN.**

Focus Week Open Evening:

A huge WELL DONE to all the children for a fantastic celebration of 'Caring for all of God's Creation' before half term. Thanks to all the parents, carers and children who made comments in their evaluation of the event:

"It's brilliant that the school have taken the time to help children to understand such important issues – young children knowing about recycling and plastic use is so important for all our futures. Thank you."

"My mum is now taking a big interest in plastic and recycling because of our song." (Year 6 child)

Courageous advocacy

It is wonderful that children throughout the school are talking about such important national and international issues. We have introduced them to the term 'courageous advocacy' ... standing up for what is right on behalf of others. This can be in our daily lives, or when considering broader matters. This is linked to our current value of **JUSTICE**, justice for the environment and justice for people. This is very much in keeping with the theme of caring for all of God's creation.



Our thinking about courageous advocacy continues with plans to invite students from East Barnet School's 'Green Team' to come and speak to the children at St. Mary's.

Consultations

Thank you to all who have attended parent consultations this week. These meetings will have updated you on your child's progress so far this term, and how you can support them in taking their next steps in learning. If you need to speak to class teachers about learning or other matters they will be happy to have a quick chat after school, or make an appointment if a longer time is needed. Attached is the list of people you may wish to speak with about any concerns.

Lincolnsfields school journey years 5 and 6.

Alternate years, year 5 and 6 visit Lincolnsfields as part of their studies in history. They will enjoy a 'children at war' experience of evacuation, meeting veterans, visiting a 1930's home and tasting some world war 2 food including meat and 2 veg and Spam! This visit will extend and deepen children's' understanding as they immerse themselves in the activities.

The centre is based on the site of an American air base and has numerous artefacts. The museums are open to the public on some weekends. Do look on the website if you would like more information.

Christmas ahead!

The Property Studio have asked if we'd like to take part in their annual Christmas drawing competition again:

- The pupils who wish to participate should produce an **A4 portrait drawing** about Christmas using pencils, pen or crayon (no paint)
- They or an adult must write their **full name on the back of the picture**.
- They should return drawings to the box outside the office **by Wednesday 20th November**.
- There will be one winner in each class but everyone will receive a treat for taking part!
- The Property Studio will come in to school once all entries are in to announce the winners and present prizes!
- Pictures will be displayed in the window of The Property Studio in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Friends Christmas Fayre:

Saturday 30 November 12pm—3pm.

Please book in the date, and come along and enjoy. If you are able to help for even for short time, please let your class rep know. All help gratefully accepted, thank you!

School @ Church

We continue to enjoy our weekly services with the Rector, Dr Rev Alec Corio. Thank you to all parents who have walked up with classes. Class teachers would be very grateful for any offers of help from 9-10.15 on a Thursday. The services are lovely and can be great fun!

As always we will be rehearsing over coming weeks for the Infant and Junior productions

Dates for the performances are:

Infant Production—Reception, Y1 and Y2

Thursday 12th December at 2.pm and 7.pm,
MANGER MOUSE by Dave Corbett

Junior production—Years 3,4,5 and 6

ROCK AROUND CHRISTMAS, by Dave Corbett

on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th December @ 7pm

These productions tell the story of the first Christmas, with the characters from the story supported by fictional characters, with singing, dance and drama. They are very entertaining, and give every child in the school the opportunity to perform, as well as celebrating the coming of Christ into the world as a tiny baby.

Just a few reminders:

- ⇒ If you have any concerns, please speak to a class teacher in the first instance, but remember that if you need a discussion, it shouldn't be when the children are lining up in the morning. Staff will be happy to make a time, just ask.
- ⇒ Safety before school; Please remind children who come on scooters not to ride them once they come through the Church Hill gate. This includes pre-school children. The playground is very crowded at that time and there have been some near misses.
- ⇒ When the children arrive at school they must go straight to their class lines. There is no space to play safely and they must stay in line. Your support would be greatly appreciated in reminding them please.
- ⇒ Coats, water bottles are needed. Children need to stay warm and hydrated. For some reason they seem to stop bringing water bottle when the weather gets cooler
- ⇒ BREAKFAST CLUB—if your child attends breakfast club, please escort them to the hall and register them with the breakfast club staff. Please DO NOT leave children at the gate or front door.
- ⇒ SCHOOL MONEY (eduspot.co.uk) have advised they have recently released an update relating to login passwords. Parents' daily use of SchoolMoney will not be affected. When a parent logs in, if they have not yet changed their temporary password they will be prompted to do so before they continue. Their new password will have to conform to their minimum password requirements: at least 8 characters long, containing at least one number, and containing at least one uppercase letter. If the parent does not wish to change their password at this time, they may log out. However, they will be required to change their password if they wish to continue and use their account to make payments, bookings, etc. If you have any problems logging in please speak to the school office staff.

Dates for your diaries:

[Click here](#) to link to website calendar for more dates

Wednesday 4th December

Flu Spray Day

Tuesday 10th December

Height & Weight checks for children in Y6 & YR

Friday 13th December

Christmas Jumper Day—in support of Save the Children

Wednesday 18th December

Christmas lunch which is open to all children including those who normally have packed lunch

Followed by Pantomime Cinderella – thanks to the Friends for funding this

Thursday 19th December

Christingle service in school.

TBC

3.00 school closes for Christmas

Class Christmas parties

Thank you for all your ongoing support.

Mel Adams & Maria Constantinou Headteachers

Please refer to the following list to help direct you to the right person to speak to in school:

Class teachers:

- Day to day matters, routines, learning, absences, friendships.
- Please see teachers briefly before or after school, but please note that staff have a meeting before school on a Wednesday. Teachers will be happy to make an appointment with you should you need a longer discussion.

School Administrative Staff: Mrs Debby Stevenson and Mrs Michelle Rawl

- Online payments and permissions, letters, appointments, uniform, exceptional leave of absence and general enquiries.
- Office staff are available **from 8.45am to 3.30pm to discuss medication.**

SENCO: Miss Caroline Goringe

- Children with identified Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and those you may have unidentified learning or behaviour needs.

PASTORAL CONCERNS.

Deputy Head - EYFS and KS1 Curriculum: Mrs Eileen Beechey

- Early Years Foundation Stage, and Curriculum in Year 1 and 2.
- Any other matters not covered by staff above.

Deputy Head - KS2 Curriculum: Mrs Lucy Richardson

- Curriculum from Year 3 to Year 6.
- Any other matters not covered by staff above.

Headteacher: Mrs Mel Adams

- Curriculum and other matters not covered by staff above.
- Concerns or complaints.

Headteacher: Mrs Maria Constantinou

- Curriculum and other matters not covered by staff above.
- Concerns or complaints.
- Children with medical needs.
- Attendance and punctuality.

Chair of Governors: Mr Keith Reynolds

- The Chair of Governors is happy to speak to parents/carers about school related matters which may not have been resolved by the staff above.

Rector: Dr. Rev. Alec Corio

- Prayer, pastoral support and advice about anything to do with the Church such as preparation for communion, serving and taking part in services.