



Dates for your diary

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HALF TERM
17/02 - 21/02
SCHOOL CLOSED

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Ash Wednesday Worship in
School 26/02 10:25

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Book Week 02/03 - 06/03

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Mothering Sunday Worship
in School 18/03 10:25

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Parents evening
19/03 2:00 - 6:30

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END OF TERM 03/04
SCHOOL CLOSURES AT 1PM

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LOVE

1 Corinthians 13 'Love is patient and kind; love is not selfish nor quick tempered; love is always supportive, loyal, hopeful and trusting; love never fails; love doesn't keep a record of wrongs that others do.'

John 13:34 'As I have loved you, so you must love one another.'

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."
Martin Luther King, Jr.

St Mary's Newsletter

News for our families and friends

www.st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk

Friday 14th February 2020

Volume 38

Dear Parents & Carers,

It is hard to believe that we have approached half-term, already! We continue to be very proud of the effort and enthusiasm that our children bring to their learning. Our children have enjoyed their thematic curriculum and making links in their learning through their school trips and visits. We are proud to offer our children a wide variety of experiences to bring the curriculum to life. Our Annual Poetry Competition was a huge success and our children's performances were fabulous. Our KS1 children enjoyed learning about Healthy Eating in their Cookery workshops. We still have World Book Week to look forward to and a parents and carers breakfast.



We had the privilege of welcoming several Headteachers to our school recently. They were very impressed by the high standards of children's reading, writing and maths which are part of our Talk for Writing, Destination Reader and Maths Investigation and Reasoning initiatives. They commented on the children's enthusiasm for learning and their wonderful work on display.

I would like to thank our staff for their relentless hard work and commitment and also thank you, for your support. We are blessed to work in partnership with you as we grow our school together. Please check the diary dates and join us for the exciting events to come.

Message from Ms Bernard

School Values - Love

We have explored Love this half-term by reflecting on the words of Jesus 'Love the Lord your God and Love your neighbour as yourself'. Additionally, we have recognised that Love is more than just words, we have studied the life of Jesus to help us to share the Love that we are all filled with. As well as Love expressed through kindness and friendship, we have enjoyed the children's enthusiasm and Love of learning. We celebrated the festivals of Epiphany and Candlemas; when we return from our half-term break we will be preparing for Lent, a time of deep reflection.

Respect

Peace

Love

Forgiveness

Responsibility

Faith



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
EDUCATION OFFICE

St Mary's is an Excellent School



Nursery are Going on a Bear Hunt!

The learning has been focused around the story book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Nursery class have been learning to re-tell the story using their story maps. They thought about what they would need to pack in their bags if they were going to go on a bear hunt, they made binoculars to look for bears and they explored swishy-swashy grass in the sensory tray. They even found some bear tracks in the garden!



"I need wellies to get through the mud."
William, Nursery
"I think they belong to the big bear." Jayda, Nursery



"I haven't tried spinach before, but now I like it and I am going to ask my mum to buy some!" Andrei, Year 2



Year 2 learn about China

Year 2 went to the Victoria and Albert Museum as part of their history learning. Like real historians, they used statues, clothes, books, furniture and paintings to find out what China was like in the past.

Year 2 also enjoyed a morning of cookery linked to their topic of China. They created delicious salads including some traditional Chinese ingredients, as well as some other flavours from around the world.

Fossils, Volcanoes and Earthquakes at the Natural History Museum

Year 4 went to meet a character called Mary Anning who was a female scientist. She was an English fossil collector who became famous for her discovery of an ancient reptile called an ichthyosaur (which means 'fish lizard'). The children had a go at comparing modern day skeleton bones to a fossil and worked together to determine which type of creature it had similarities to. The children also went to visit the Red Zone Gallery to find out more about natural hazards. They looked at a map of the world and noticed that volcanoes and earthquakes occur along the plate boundaries – fault lines. They even experienced how it feels when the Earth starts to shake!



Year 5 explore Victorian Britain

Year 5 have been exploring how to use charcoal to create different effects. Linking to their topic of Victorian Britain, they have designed these skylines of Smoky Cities. They also enjoyed a step back in time when they visited a Victorian School for the day.



Chinese New Year

St. Mary's celebrated the Chinese New Year in style! The whole school was a sea of red as everyone wore a red piece of clothing – raising money for charity at the same time.

To start the day the parents had a magnificent shared breakfast in the Community Hub. A huge thank you to our Chinese families who made such delicious plates of food to share with us all including peanut fritters and mung bean biscuits. Then the parents helped with Chinese calligraphy in some of the classes.



Poetry Competition 2020

The children of St Mary's set a new standard this year in our best Poetry competition ever! Well done to ALL the children who learned and performed a poem in the class heats, they were all amazing. Our finalists performed confidently in front of the whole school as we enjoyed over 20 performances. Every poem was clearly articulated and there was lots of drama and actions to bring the poems to life.



Our Vision

To be a learning community that promotes the unique gifts, wellbeing and potential of every person. Our work is founded on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, building on His message of equality, peace and justice, guided by His words 'As I have loved you, so you must love one another' (John 13:34).



**ST MARY'S LEWISHAM
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Parents news

We welcome all parents to join the Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) and support the school with fundraising events and other ways to improve the school for our children. Email at the above address or speak to a member of staff to find out more!

There are many exciting and educational trips booked for each class, why not volunteer to join us on the visits?

We continue to welcome parents into the school to read with your child every morning at 8:45.



St Mary's Parents are Reading Champions!

Thank you to the parents that have become Reading Champions, volunteering to read with our children every week. They are doing a fantastic job in supporting learning at St Mary's and we hope that they have inspired other parents to join them and also become Reading Champions. Please speak to a member of staff to get involved!



SAFEGUARDING

Please ensure that all of your details and the children's medical details are updated on our school system. Please remember that the school gates open at 8:45 am and the children should come straight into class to read. It's really important that they arrive promptly every day so that they can maximise their learning. Please ensure that your child is collected on time, at the end of the school day at 3:15pm or at the end of their club at 4:15pm. **PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT COLLECTED BY 3:30, THE SCHOOL CHARGE £5 FOR EVERY 15 MINUTES IN ORDER TO COVER THE CHILDCARE COSTS.**

E - Safety - please continue to be aware of what your child is doing on-line - this could be on a mobile, tablet, laptop or computer. Many popular games that young children play on-line, such as Roblox and Minecraft, involve internet chat with other players and can potentially be used by abusive adults pretending to be children. Social media apps such as WhatsApp and Instagram should never be used by children.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Did you know that just by registering for free school meals, you could raise an extra £1,320 in Pupil Premium funding for the school - this is vital funding which will go directly to supporting the children's learning through extra activities and trips out, additional teaching staff and after school activities. To be eligible you will need to be in receipt of certain benefits and school staff will be happy to help you apply. All successful applicants will receive a free school jumper or bag!



TERM DATES

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January - Friday 14th February

HALF TERM - Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February

Monday 24th February - Friday 3rd April

EASTER HOLIDAYS - Monday 6th April - Friday 17th April

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April - Friday 22nd May

MAY DAY Bank Holiday - Friday 8th May

INSET DAY - Thursday 7th May

HALF TERM - Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June - Friday 17th July

Newsletter by email: If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, please email us and let us know at admin@st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk