

SUMMER 2018

St Mary's

Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Summer Term Updates

This academic year is flying by; it would be easier to list the things we haven't done this term, rather than those we have. This week has been a really busy and exciting week in particular.

We started the week by celebrating with the children from across the school and parishes that had, for the first time, made their first Holy Communion. Fr Terry celebrated mass in the school hall and complimented all children on their responses, reflections, prayers and singing.

EYFS encourage me to join in their learning every time I visit them, they are doing an amazing job of teaching me phonics and make me join in every song!

Key Stage 1 have started their walks around Worthing to inspire their planning for the Superhero adventure taking place in Worthing.

Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) visited Tilgate park on Tuesday and had a wonderful time learning how to classify animals. They took part in a workshop and classified real animals including an owl and a snake which they got to hold.

On Wednesday twenty two children represented St Mary's at the Good Shepherd Mass. This is a celebration which all schools in the Deanery are invited to. The children carried our school banner proudly and shared some beautiful artwork which demonstrated how we use our hands to do 'good things'.

As a school we were offered a bursary to take some of our children to experience 'The Life of Christ' at the Wintershall estate on Thursday. This involved a dramatic portrayal of Jesus' life with over 100 actors and live animals performing the story.

Year 6 children had a week of adventures and opportunities. Some of the children have had an amazing time at Windmill Hill trying new activities and conquering a few fears; other children from Year 6 have taken part in a "Junior Apprentice" style challenge and have rebranded our after-school provision; keep an eye on our website to see the new name and ideas as set up by the Winning Team.

And last Saturday I had the pleasure of joining Year 5, and what felt like the whole of Worthing, at the Children's Parade. It was great to see the town community sharing such excitement, enthusiasm and love of art and literature.

School Updates

TRANSITION:

As a school we have looked at how we prepare ourselves for the next stage of our learning journey, whether that is moving to a new class or venturing onto a new school.



In order to make this transition as smooth as possible there will be additional transition sessions this year.

We will be taking part in the County Transition Day on Wednesday 4th July, when most of our Year 6 will experience their new secondary school for a day. This gives us an opportunity to spend the morning in our new classes with our new teachers, meeting our new class mates and exploring what the next stage in our learning journey will be. Year 6 children transferring to Chatsmore will also spend Thursday 5th and Friday 6th at Chatsmore; Following consultation and requests we have added in additional transition sessions within school. There will be four sessions after Transition Morning where the children will work in their new classes on "Working Together" activities, enabling them to get to know each other as a class prior to September.

As the Summer Term dates list advised, you will receive a letter informing you of your child's new class and teacher on Tuesday 3rd July.

On Wednesday 4th July teachers will, from 8:20 a.m., stand at their new classroom doors. The teachers' names and photographs will be displayed as you enter the playground so you can say an informal 'hello' to your child's new teacher. At school bell time (8:40 a.m.) the teachers will return to their current classes, where children will register as usual.

STAFFING UPDATE:

The end of each academic year brings about many changes. As we say goodbye to our Year 6's we will also be saying goodbye to some of our staff.

Mrs Whittaker, Acting Assistant Headteacher and Year 6 teacher (amongst many other roles) will be leaving us as she has secured a substantive Assistant Headteacher role at Goring C of E Primary School. Mrs Whittaker has worked at St Marys for 12 years and has loved every minute of her time here but feels she is ready to share her knowledge and skill-set with another school. We will miss her hugely but know she will be an great asset to Goring, and we are sure she will keep in touch with us.

Miss Martin, who has worked for the summer term as part of the inclusion team, will also leave us at the end of term. She is moving to London in the summer to carry on her own learning journey and personal adventures in the big city.

Mrs Forsythe, who has worked in EYFS for most of this year as a supply Learning Assistant, will also be leaving us to move on to life in different schools.

Mrs Edwards joins us the EYFS team in September and you will get to meet her on Transition Day. The structure of classes and the teachers will be shared with you before Transition Day.

Mr Calcutt, our Premises Officer, is retiring at the end of July.

We want to wish all of the above every happiness in the next step of their own personal journeys.



School Reminders

GENERAL:

School Uniform:

The **school uniform** during the summer term is the same as throughout the year for boys and girls. The children may, of course, take off their sweatshirt when it is hot.



Please do not send your child to school in coloured or patterned **socks**. Socks should be plain grey or white, and worn with black school shoes not trainers.

Sandals may be worn, with socks, provided toes are covered and the sandal is not backless/strapless.

Water bottles must be in school every day; we will continue to encourage the children to keep drinking throughout the day.

Sun cream should be applied before children come to school. They may also bring a *named* bottle of sun cream which will be looked after by their class teacher, and which they can apply themselves before going out in the afternoon.



Whilst any pupil with hair long enough to be tied back must do so, "**Jojo**" and **similar bows** are not to be worn in school; please use less flamboyant hair ties for school days.

The Childcare Club at St Mary's

Now that P.L.A.Y. is no longer using the playground and hall, The Childcare Club is able to provide a wider range of activities, including using the 'Trim Trail'. There are plenty of places available before school, and some in the afternoons. If you require childcare it is worth asking - and if the demand is there they can employ another staff member and increase availability further. Currently they are able to offer a total of 30 places, between Heene and St Mary's.

Parent Forum

The next meeting is more of a social event, to review the year and discuss potential things we may want to look at for the next academic year. All parents/carers are welcome.

SPORTS WEEK:

Each morning during sports week we will start the day with "**wakey wakey shakey shakey**". This will be a simple keep-fit routine to music, on the playground, just before the bell goes for the start of the day. You are encouraged to join in with your child.

Daily Mile

The Daily Mile is a worldwide initiative which is designed to make children fitter, healthier and happier and to have a positive impact on behaviour and concentration levels. As part of sports week we will introduce the Daily Mile. Every class will jog or run one mile each day around the school playground. Each class will complete this at different times during the day and the teacher will choose the time that will have the biggest impact for the class.



Sports Day

Sports day will take place on Wednesday 27th June. Key Stage 1 will start at 9.15 and Key Stage 2 at 10.15. It will finish at approximately 11.15 with the finals of our relay races and the presentation. Children will compete in their house teams and we ask that they wear a t-shirt of that colour. If they do not have a t-shirt, a band or sash of the correct colour can be worn over their usual PE kit. If you are unsure of your child's house colour please check with your child's class teacher or the office staff.

Fundraising

We will be completing a "skipathon" to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. We will also be completing our own Primary School "Race for Life" for Cancer Research. We realise this may be an emotional morning for some members of the school and will ensure support that could be needed is available. Please donate £2 or more per family to send to these worthwhile causes.



Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2018 ends at 2:55 p.m. on Friday 20th July, as Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th July are In-Service Training (INSET) days.

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TERM DATES 2018 - 2019

Autumn Term 2018 :

starts on Wednesday 5th September for pupils, and ends **at 1pm** on Friday 21st December.

Half Term Break : Monday 22nd - Friday 26th October.

The school will be closed for pupils on
Monday 3rd September
Tuesday 4th September
Friday 21st September
Monday 3rd December

The school will be closed on Friday 30th November.

Spring Term 2019 :

starts on Monday 7th January for pupils, and ends on Friday 5th April at 2:55 p.m.

Half Term Break : Monday 18th - Friday 22nd February inclusive.

Summer Term 2019

starts on Tuesday 23rd April and ends **at 1pm** on Friday 19th July.

Half Term Break: Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May inclusive.

The school will be closed for pupils on
Friday 21st June
Monday 24th June

