

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CEP SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

'Learning with love, strength and faith following the example of Jesus'

**Dear St Mary's families**

Well - it really was a 'stunning start' over on The Croft today as your 93 amazing children, listened, helped one another, were endlessly kind, patient and not to mention; rather excited! The wonderful Mr D had devised the most amazing way for them to work in teams and use a scavenger hunt to build their own dens. The pure joy and pride the children clearly felt as they collected nature's resources to take to the 'shop' and exchange for den building resources was evident throughout the day. Every child had a role to play - designer, scavenger, builder or security guard - and they could probably have taught us how to do these roles as they were rather expert! Every den was unique and it was great to see the children taking the lead so well. Well done one and all and thank you to the army of helpers and to Mr Dalton for his organisation!

**Mrs F Taylor****Acting Head of School****Learners, Attendance & Sports Stars of The Week****LEARNERS OF THE WEEK :  
ENDING 05/01/18**

MAPLE: OLIVER  
CHERRY: ANNA  
WILLOW: ROMA  
LILAC: ELLIE

**ATTENDANCE:**

MAPLE: 100%  
CHERRY: 88.7%  
WILLOW: 100%  
LILAC: 89.3%

**TOTAL: 92.9%****ATTENDANCE  
(W/E 12/01):**

MAPLE: 98.7%  
CHERRY: 99.2%  
WILLOW: 98.8%  
LILAC: 90.4%

**TOTAL: 96.6%****SPORTS STAR  
(W/E 05/01):**

MAPLE: CHLOE  
CHERRY: GRACE  
WILLOW: DARCY  
LILAC: ESHAN



## Open the Book – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January

Every month the 'Open the Book' team from the church bring the Bible to life with a re-enactment of stories linked to our Christian values for the term. How wonderful to welcome the team into the school this week as they gave us all lots to think about in response to their story of Joseph. The children were thrilled to take part as actors and even camels!





## Mrs L Sanders - Lilac Class – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Due to the recent wet weather and high winds Lilac class had their Forest School session in the school grounds this week.



We learned about fire safety and how to start a fire with flint and steels.

The children experimented with using cotton wool, Vaseline, silver birch bark, char cloth and King Alfred's cake.

They showed great 'Growth Mindset' approaches to this and persevered with the task (it was extremely windy, so they had to work together to use their bodies to provide shelter), creating lots of small fires, so are ready to put this into practice next time we go to the woods!



Using the hazel they had cut last time, the children perfected their whittling skills, using the new amphitheatre in the playground, to continue to develop their arrows. They worked sensibly, safely and with increasing independence.



### Maple Class visit from a Fire fighter

On the playground we learned to roll out and roll up the fire hoses. We estimated how long they were and then measured them with our steps and feet.



The children all tried on the Fire fighters safety gear and raced each other to get ready first. Then Mrs Sanders had a race to get ready against Chris....the gloves were a bit tricky!



Then the children read a story about 'Frances the Firefly' and fire safety and then designed our own fire safety posters. What a great start to our topic! Thank you so much to Chris for his enthusiasm on our visit.

## Additional funding - Registering for free school meals

If you are in receipt of any of the following:

- [Income Support](#)
- Income-based [Jobseekers Allowance](#)
- Income-related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)
- Support under [Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#)
- The Guaranteed element of State [Pension Credit](#)
- **Child Tax Credit only**, if your annual household income (assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) isn't over £16,190. **Anyone getting Credit won't get free meals regardless of income**
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- [Universal Credit](#)

You could help the school to receive extra funding (**even if your child is in Reception or Ks1 and receives free school meals already, or doesn't even take up school meals**). Please consider if you might be one of these families and if so register using the East Sussex website or the link below:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/school-life/meals/free/>

If you are able to apply by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January, that would be really helpful in enabling us to secure greater funding for the school in April. If you need any help to investigate this or access to the internet please come and ask at the school office.

Many thanks

Sian Leahy  
Inclusion Manager and DSL



We had a rather important visitor pop in to see us after school on Friday. We managed to sneak a quick cuddle with 3 day old Lucy Eleanor Slack! Congratulations Mrs Slack - she is BEAUTIFUL!



## School Office Update

If your child has a medical condition, we will be contacting you shortly to update our details and ensure that we have the correct and up to date information. Please look out for letters in book bags in the next two weeks.

Just a reminder that if your child requires medication during the school day, then this must be prescribed by a doctor and come in via the school office in its original container.

We still have a large amount of unclaimed lost property at school. You are welcome to have a look through after drop off or before collection, but via the school office. Any items left over after next week will be donated to classrooms for spare clothing and then the PTFA.

## Staffing News



It's official! Mrs Sue Parsons, who you will have seen at school over the last few months, is now officially our new School Bursar & Business Manager.

Mrs Parsons is in school on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, but can be contacted via the school office email address.

Also, a very warm welcome back to Sara Prendergast, who has returned in a TA role with us, for the remainder of this term.



## Nut Free Zone

Please remember that we are a nut free school and that we do have children with severe food allergies. Please do not send in any nut related food items in your child's packed lunch or for snacks at school. Thank you.



## PTFA News & Jumble Sale

We are really pleased to report that our fundraising last term went really well and we are well on track for reaching our goal of £3000 this year! The Christmas Fair raised £1442 and the Comedy Night raised £668! Thank you everyone for all your support.

This term we kick off the New Year with our annual jumble sale on Saturday 27th January between 11-12. If you are able to provide anything tasty for the cafe please speak to one of the PTFA. We will also be welcoming all jumble sale donations at School from 9-3 on Friday 26th. A good excuse to de-clutter perhaps?!

Later on in the term we are hosting a Chinese New Year disco extravaganza at the Hartfield Village Hall on Friday 9th February starting at 3.45pm. Further details to follow but put it in the diary if your children enjoy this type of thing!

The PTFA x



## Pause Day & Jam Jars

Our Pause Day is coming up on Thursday 18th January and we would be grateful for any unwanted jam jars, with labels removed please. Also... any unwanted cd discs please. Thank you.

## December Parent Forum Meeting

Many thanks to all the parents who came along to the parent forum last month - we really appreciate your feedback. Parents asked about the setting of Mathematics as homework and talked about having some open ended tasks linked to the topics as homework. Staff will be meeting to talk this through next week.

Parents also explained that it would be useful to have information about the reading bands and schemes used in the school. Mrs Norris will be writing to parents in the next school newsletter to clarify this.

We understand you would also find it useful to have future parent forum meetings linked to the school calculation policy and the language used in the teaching of grammar and punctuation. As well as understanding the kind of resources used to teach maths. We plan to run parent forum meetings later in the year linked to these areas.

The next Parent Forum is on Monday 5th February at 2.45pm, when we will be covering Church Developments.

## Triple P workshop: 'Raising confident competent children'

Following the last successful and interesting workshop in September Sam Mills returns to lead a free workshop investigating how we can encourage our children to become confident and competent. Do please come along on January 22nd between 1.45-3.15pm - sign up in the playground or via the school office. (Please see the attached flyer for more details). Looking forward to seeing lots of you there.

Sian Leahy  
Inclusion Manager and DSL



**FREE PARENTING PRESENTATION FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 2-12 YEARS**

Triple P – a positive parenting programme strengthens families by promoting positive relationships

**RAISING CONFIDENT COMPETENT CHILDREN**

Monday 22nd January from 1.45pm – 3.15pm at  
St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School  
High Street, Hartfield TN7 4AA

To book your FREE place:  
Call or text: 01424 725800  
Email: [tripleteam@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:tripleteam@eastsussex.gov.uk)  
Ask: [s.leahy@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:s.leahy@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk)  
Or leave your name with the school office



## Catering Staff - Recruitment

Chartwells are looking to recruit a permanent catering assistant here at Hartfield. If you are interested or know anyone locally that might be, please contact: Louise Jones on 07825 734690 or email [louise.jones2@compass-group.co.uk](mailto:louise.jones2@compass-group.co.uk).

Further details will be on our playground board from next week.

DATES FOR DIARIES		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
14/1/2018	09:30 – 10:30	<i>Family Praise at St Mary's Church</i>
18/1/2018	09.30 – 12.00	Pause Day
21/1/2018	09:30 – 10:30	<i>Family Communion at St Mary's Church</i>
22/1/2018	13.45 – 15.15	Tripe P Workshop – Raising Confident Children
23/1/2018	09.15 – 15.00	Maple & Lilac Class to Drusilla
25/1/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Willow Forest School
27/1/2018	11:00 – 12:00	PTFA Jumble Sale
1/2/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Lilac Forest School
5/2/2018	14.45 – 15.15	Parent Forum – Church School Developments
8/2/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Maple Forest School
12/2/2018 – 16/2/2018		<b>FEBRUARY HOLIDAY</b>
<b>TERM 4</b>		
22/2/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Cherry Forest School
1/3/2018		World Book Day
1/3/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Willow Forest School
8/3/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Lilac Forest School
9/3/2018	09:30 – 10:30	Bring an adult to school and share our learning
14/3/2018	15:30 – 18:00	Parent Consultations
15/3/2018	15:30 – 18:00	Parent Consultations
15/3/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Maple Forest School
22/3/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Cherry Forest School
22/3/2018	14.45 – 15.15	Parent Forum – Growth Mindset Parent Consultation Format
29/3/2018	09:15 – 10:30	<i>End of term Easter service at St Mary's Church</i>
29/3/2018	13:00 – 15:00	Willow Forest School
30/3/2018 – 13/4/2018		<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>