

SMV NEWSLETTER

Learning with strength, love and faith

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Dear St Mary's families

Mrs Taylor and I would like to welcome you back to Term 1! We hope you had a relaxing summer and your children have enjoyed their first 2 weeks back.

We have a new exciting curriculum this year and have had stunning start this week. Please see information below from teachers to get some more details of the work the children will be experiencing.

The website is being updated and will be launched very soon. We would love to hear your feedback on how effective this is for you to access information. As previously, there will be fortnightly newsletters, keeping you informed about school developments and celebrating the children's achievements.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and working with you to ensure that pupils at St Mary's have the best education they can. There will be a tea/coffee afternoon after school on **Thursday 21st September 3:15- 3:45**. This will be a chance to get to know me and ask questions and discuss school development ideas and plans for this year.

Mrs Taylor and I will be on the gates at the beginning and end of the day so please come and talk to us at any time.

Mr Procter & Mrs Taylor

Our first full week back



There has been lots of activity around the school during our first full week back including meeting Class Champions who helped with assembling a storage box for the playground and our Stunning Start involving the whole school travelling back in time in the tardis and landing at various points in history as the curriculum information below will tell you.

Welcome to Maple Class!

Welcome to your child's Reception year. We hope you have all had a wonderful summer and that the children are looking forward to an exciting year ahead. It was wonderful to meet you all during our home visits and we all can't wait to get started. The children will be involved in independent learning activities specifically resourced for their age and ability throughout the Reception year. They will also participate in various group

Learner of the week

LILAC – Clover

WILLOW - Bethan

CHERRY – Coco

MAPLE – Leo and Oliver

Attendance Ted

Lilac – 98.8%

Sports Star of the week

Week commencing 6/9/17

LILAC - Ziggy

WILLOW – Bethan

CHERRY - Verity

activities that are planned for groups and the whole class. During each half term we work on a different topic, starting with 'All About Me' for the first half of the Autumn term, along with traditional seasonal activities and moving onto Celebrations for the second half of the term.

Mrs Sanders & Miss Bews

All about Cherry Class



Firstly may I say hello and welcome to Cherry class! If there is anything you would like to discuss with me, please do come and see me at pick up time and we can find a time to arrange to meet. The children are settling in well and are all working very hard!

Cherry class's topic this term is the Victorians. We will be looking at this period particularly in Literacy and in DT/History. In Literacy we will be making a fact sheet about what life was like for Victorian children. In DT we will be making a Victorian cup and ball. In History we will be looking at how toys have changed over the years. We would be very interested to see how toys have changed since our parents' and grandparents' childhood, so if anyone can bring in any old toys that we can keep in the classroom for this term to look at and study- that would be great! In Science we are looking at the

differences between creatures that are living/ have lived or have never lived and we will also be looking at habitats and designing our own bug hotels! In PHSE we will be looking at new beginnings and in PE we are swimming! All in all a very busy and exciting term for Cherry Class.

Mrs Norris & Mrs Neville

Wonderful Willow Class



An exciting time awaits us in Willow as we journey back in time and encounter the Rampaging Romans! We will be exploring Roman army life, understanding why the Roman roads were so straight and where they led to and with the help of Google maps, even explore some famous roman cities. We will be looking at the world map and seeing where invasions occurred at the height of the Roman's power globally. This topic will continue into term 2 where we will look more closely at the life of the Roman citizens across the conquered world. In science in terms 1 and 2 we will be looking at Forces and magnets, but linking with our Design Technology by understanding gears and

CAM mechanisms. Art and Design lessons will let allow us to create Roman shields in which we can use drama to enact battle formations adopted by the Roman armies. We'll immerse ourselves in songs, role play and hot seating whilst learning how to write stories, diaries and letters as though characters from the past.

All this and learning about place value and roman numerals to aid our addition and subtraction. Our Monster Maths challenges will embed our times table knowledge as well as the inverse division facts – all in a fun, exciting and rampaging romp through history.

Teaching team, Mrs Palmer & Mrs Woods

Looney Lilac Class!



In Lilac class this term we are exploring Britain since 1945. In English, we will be focusing our work around *The Borrowers* by Mary Norton. First published in 1952, *The Borrowers* reveals what life was like for children in the Fifties, as well as adding a bit of magic and imagination to our classroom. In Science, we will be exploring the evolution of Electricity and investigate different circuit types. In Maths, there will be a focus on rounding and place value, moving into negative numbers and linear sequences. Music and Art will be based

on different culture movements whilst our Topic lessons will be spent learning about a new decade each week and establishing changes and trends over time.

Miss Banks & Mr Patry

Forest School

We will be offering a Forest School programme across the whole school starting later this term. Each class will have the opportunity to participate one afternoon a month for the remainder of the academic year. Full details will be sent out early next week.

Do you know a Caretaker?

We are currently looking for someone to look after our school for 10 hours a week and are asking for your help! Do you know anyone who would be interested in a caretaker role from 3-5pm each weekday? If so, please would they call the office on **01892 770221** or email office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk to find out more and request an application form. The deadline for receipt of applications is **26th September** with interviews to be held on **28th**.

Ground Force Day

As you will have seen, there has been a lot of work done around the outside of the school to smarten things up and we would like to say a huge thank you to those who turned up on a very wet day in the holidays to help. The next stage will be to move the old ship from the back to the front of the school and we would be very grateful for your assistance with this on **Thursday 28th September** at 3.30pm. There is also some bark to move so shovels would be a big help! 'Many hands make light work' as the saying goes, so the more the merrier!

Governor's Corner

Welcome back to a new Academic year and a huge welcome to all the families who have started at St Mary's in Reception class, and throughout the school. It is wonderful to see so many eager new faces at the gate each morning!

You may have noticed a few changes over the summer holidays. The amphitheatre has settled in over the summer and the second phase, which included the new fence, was completed before term started. There are further works planned over the coming months. Our collaboration with the Pioneer Federation has enabled us to benefit from some fantastic support in repairing the school grounds and you may have noticed how fresh the boat and front of school are looking. Inside the team were also busy throughout the summer preparing for the year ahead.

During the coming year governors will be working closely with Pioneer to see how all 3 schools can benefit from each other's strengths. The collaboration has already brought many advantages with support and inspiration being shared at all levels. We will continue to update you on the progress of the collaboration throughout the year.

PTFA

PTFA AGM is taking place at school on **Tuesday 26th September** at 2.45-3.30. We have childcare in place from 3.15-3.30 for once the school children are finished. There will be a brief report from the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Head Teacher. We then need to vote in the committee members which requires a minimum of 9 non-committee members. If anyone wants to join the committee we do this too but there is no pressure for people who attend to join the committee!! We would love as many people to be there as possible. Any questions please feel free to get in touch with Rachel (rachel@speechie.co.uk or 07971 979115).

Mrs Reid, PTFA Chair

Just a couple of reminders...

There is a lot happening at St Mary's over the next few weeks so please do take a look at the dates below and note them in your diary.

May we also remind you that if you arrive at school in the morning after the gate to the playground is locked, please come in the main entrance and report to the office in order that your child can be marked on the register and lunch order taken. Please **DO NOT** take them directly to classrooms as this can be unsettling for other children and is a safeguarding issue.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Term 1: 6th September – 21st October

W/c 18 th September	School clubs start this week
Thursday 21 st September	1.45-3.15pm – Raising Resilient Children workshop 3.15-3.45pm – Meet our new Executive Headteacher and the teachers over tea/coffee
Friday 22 nd September	9.30 – 10.45am - St Mary's Cross-Country on the Croft – details to follow
Monday 25 th September	9.30 – 12pm – School Photographer – individual pupil photos
Tuesday 26 th September	2.45-3.30pm – PTFA AGM
Thursday 28 th September	3.30-4pm – Ground Force Day – please come and help us move the boat
Wednesday 4 th October	Cross-country event at Beacon Academy – details to follow
Saturday 7 th October	Comedy Night at the Village Hall to raise funds for the school – please see PTFA members for tickets
Sunday 8 th October	9.30 – 11am – Kidz Praise and Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church
Saturday 14 th October	2-3pm – Open Afternoon for prospective parents
Sunday 15 th October	Family Communion at St Mary's Church
Wednesday 18 th October	12.30-1.30pm Village Harvest Lunch
Monday 23 rd -Friday 27 th October	Half-term week