

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CEP SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

Dear St. Mary's families

As we come to the end of the term it has been an opportunity to reflect upon all that has happened at SMV recently. Your children never cease to amaze us and despite all the coughs and colds they have smiled through, continued to do their best as they have shown they learn with Love Strength and Faith in all that they do.

It's often the little things that make a difference to us and standing on the playground this morning, watching children joyously playing, singing and laughing we noticed how they support each other in the smallest but most meaningful ways; inviting each other to join in games, helping each other up after they slip over and picking up each other's coats and gloves that have got left behind- you should be very proud of the young people they are becoming.

What a pleasure to follow Miss Banks and the school choir up to the village Christmas lunch last week, where they were able to interact and entertain us all with their beautiful pure voices. Thank you to those of you who made it up to the Christmas service this morning. It was a beautiful service that reminded us all of the true meaning of Christmas as the reception children made a tableau at the front depicting the nativity scene, while some of the older children led us in prayer, Bible readings, songs and even an instrumental solo, combining to tell the Christmas story.

Mrs F Taylor



Katrina Thomas

Now we are at the end of term, all that is left to say is that I hope and pray that you have a wonderful and blessed Christmas- please come along and join in our Crib services on Christmas Eve at St Mary's, at 3:30 and 5:30pm if you are able, it is a relaxed and beautiful occasion.

See you all in the New Year!

Katrina Thomas

Children and Family Worker

St Mary's Hartfield

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Star of the Term: Autumn

LILAC – Louis
WILLOW – Daisy
CHERRY – Leon
MAPLE – Noah

Learner of the week:

Week ending 8th December
LILAC – William
WILLOW – Callum
CHERRY – Archie
MAPLE – Chloe & Daisy Swann

Attendance 15/12/2017

Week ending
LILAC – 86.4%
WILLOW – 83.6%
CHERRY – 95.6%
MAPLE – 94.9%
WHOLE SCHOOL – 89.6%

Week ending 19/12/2017

LILAC – 94.%
WILLOW – 89.3%
CHERRY – 87.3%
MAPLE – 87.5%
WHOLE SCHOOL – 89.7%

Sports Star of the week

Week ending 08/12/17
LILAC – Tia
WILLOW – Szabi
CHERRY – Kishi
MAPLE – Luca



Word of the week.....

Spangly

Definition: covered with or resembling spangles: glittering





Mrs L Sanders

Cherry – December 7th



It poured with rain on the way to the woods and we had so much fun in water and jumping off styles into puddles and cheering everyone on as they splashed! The rain came down so hard at one point that we couldn't hear each other talking! We saw the water flowing down the hill and then off into the river and talked about the water cycle and precipitation! Once we got to the woods we looked at some different trees and learned a bit about ivy, silver birch and oak trees. The children made some dens together and want to do some more of this next time. The children used loppers to cut up bamboo and then thread it onto strings to make some necklaces, it was harder work than it looked, but they were great at learning how to persevere and use tools safely. They also discovered they could make the bamboo into whistles by blowing through the holes!

Willow – 14th December



It was really cold, so we spent a long time wrapping up warm before we left. We sang our 'Christmas Candle' song from this year's Nativity play....what a lovely spot in the winter sunshine for a last minute rehearsal. We found some fungus called 'King Alfred's Cake' on a fallen log and collected it. We looked at the pattern inside of the fungus, which is like the rings of a tree. It is brilliant for holding an ember, so we saved it to help us light fires another time at Forest School. We found sticks to tap to sing an opening song before we chose what to do during our session in the woods. We then used a bit and brace drill to drill holes and make our rounds of hazel into necklaces and pendants. We are going to decorate them later. At the end of our session, we all shared what we had enjoyed, listening carefully to each other's ideas. And we talked about what we would like to do next time we are in the woods. The children mainly wanted to learn to use more tools and to continue to climb and balance on the slack line. They also want to have a go at playing recorders! A great end to the year in the woods, well done Willow class!



Wildlife Explorers Club – Mrs Rowberry

On the 6th of December our Wildlife Explorers club had a litter pick around school. We organised into five teams of 3 people. Each team was led by a young leader. We had tabards to show that we were litter pick volunteers and recyclable composting sacks to collect rubbish. Our routes took us all around the playground; front of school, car park and up the path to St Mary the Virgin Church. The worst bit was around the bins in the car park; where shredded paper had blown everywhere. We collected a lot of it but couldn't get it all. Last year the Explorers collected 12 kilos of litter. This year we collected less - just 5 Kilos, this was a big improvement but we think it would be great if we couldn't find any litter at all!



Wow - What a way to finish 2017!

We had a wildlife picture quiz and everyone in the club really knew about nature. There was one overall winner: Shabi, two second place winners and everyone else who took part were so knowledgeable they won runner up prizes.

It was exciting too because SMV is doing a huge amount to support the environment and sustainability. We have our wildlife club with RSPB Wild Challenge Awards, the Gardening Club and Forest School.

Now we have started a school Eco-Committee and are preparing our school Eco-Code of actions to help us "GO GREEN". We are doing so much already we are definitely on our way to Eco School status. If we continue, and complete all our actions, we can get to the top national Green Flag status. No more dripping taps or lights left on in empty rooms; composting becomes essential and every room will have containers for recycling.

Mrs Rowberry



Club member tips: Remember you can recycle your real Christmas tree by cutting it up and placing it in your brown bin or leaving it in manageable chunks (less than 4 feet tall) next to your brown bin. If you do not have a brown bin collection, then you, or friends, can take your tree to a Household Waste Recycling Site.

The East Sussex County Council's website has directions and opening times. All of your festive wrapping paper and cards (except foil/glitter) can be placed in your recycling bin as well but why not save as much wrapping paper as you can to reuse next year and cards can be cut and stuck to reuse as present labels!

Our 'Children of the World' Nativity



There was standing room only in church on Friday for the two nativity performances of 'Christmas around the World.'

We have had lots of positive feedback; the children had learnt their songs and lines so well, costumes looked incredible and all in all it was a joy to watch!

Performing in church also seemed like such a natural setting for the play; thank you to all involved for helping this come together.

As you know we have taken photos and a video of the play and a link to this will be emailed over to you shortly so that you can enjoy it all over again!

Staffing News.....

Goodbye:

We are saying a fond farewell to Mrs Palmer and Mrs Charman this term. Mrs Palmer, our wonderful Willow class teacher, has decided to move on from teaching. We wish her well and thank her for all she done for us. Mrs Charman, who has been on maternity leave, will be working as a supply teacher so that she can work fewer hours and spend some more time with her wonderful little boy Jake; again we wish her well - maybe she will even visit us as a supply teacher sometimes!

Welcome:

We welcome Miss Elisabeth Riddall onto the teaching staff team. Miss Riddall will be working in Willow class from Monday to Wednesdays. She has already been to visit us several times to get to know us and the children. We look forward to working with her in the New Year.





Partnership News

It has been a busy and productive 2 terms for the partnership schools. We have had a shared INSET and teachers have regularly planned, moderated and shared work with each other.

In the New Year we will write to parents explaining the benefits of being in the partnership for pupils and staff and address any frequently asked questions about partnership developments.

In Term 3 we plan for subject leaders to link together across the partnership schools and explore how this aspect of school improvement can be developed further.



10 mile mince pie race 10th December

Mr J Procter



School Office Notes

Apart from Mr D, clubs will be starting again during the second week of the new term. Mrs O'Dell our dance teacher has spaces for new students, so please let her know if anyone would like to join from January – www.inceptiondance.co.uk

A ring was found after the Christmas Fair, but so far no one has come forward to claim it.

If you have any outstanding dinner payments on Parent Pay, please could you bring these up to date before the end of the year. Thank you. Mrs Tufo.



News from the PTFA

Thank you to everyone who made the Christmas Fair a big success. There was a wonderfully festive atmosphere in school and we raised lots of money - final profit to be announced soon!

Our next event is our annual jumble sale on Saturday 27th January so start bagging up all that unwanted clutter!!

Thank you.

PTFA xx



| DATES FOR DIARIES | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---|
| DATE | TIME | EVENT |
| 20/12/2017 | 09:15 – 10:30 | End of term Christmas Service at St Mary's Church |
| 21/12/2017 – 1/1/2018 | | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY |
| TERM 3 | | |
| DATE | TIME | EVENT |
| 2/1/2018 | | INSET DAY |
| 4/1/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Lilac Forest School |
| 11/1/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Maple Forest School |
| 12/1/2018 | 09:00 – 15:00 | Whole school Stunning Start, Ashdown Forest |
| 14/1/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Praise at St Mary's Church |
| 21/1/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Communion at St Mary's Church |
| 23/1/2018 | 09:00 – 15:00 | Drusuilas – Maple and Lilac |
| 25/1/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Willow Forest School |
| 27/1/2018 | 11:00 – 12:00 | PTFA Jumble Sale - tbc |
| 1/2/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Lilac Forest School |
| 5/2/2018 | 15:30 – 16:30 | Parent workshop – phonics, reading, grammar |
| 5/2/2018 | 09:00 – 09:30 | Parent Forum – Church School Developments |
| 8/2/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Maple Forest School |
| 11/2/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Praise at St Mary's Church |
| 12/2/2018 – 16/2/2018 | | FEBRUARY HOLIDAY |
| TERM 4 | | |
| 18/2/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Communion at St Mary's Church |
| 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 |
| 11/3/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Praise at St Mary's Church |
| 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 |
| 18/3/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Communion at St Mary's Church |
| 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 | End of term Easter service at St Mary's Church |
| 29/3/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Willow Forest School |
| 30/3/2018 – 13/4/2018 | | EASTER HOLIDAY |
| 8/4/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Praise at St Mary's Church |
| 15/4/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Communion at St Mary's Church |
| TERM 5 | | |
| 19/4/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Lilac Forest School |
| 21/4/2018 | 14:00 – 15:00 | Open Day for new reception children 2018/19 |
| 26/4/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Maple Forest School |
| 26/4/2018 | 09:00 – 09:30 | Parent Forum SATs info for Y2 & Y6 parents and Thrive Review |
| 3/5/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Cherry Forest School |
| 7/5/2018 | | MAY BANK HOLIDAY |
| 10/5/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Willow Forest School |
| 13/5/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Praise at St Mary's Church |
| 14/5/2018 – 18/5/2018 | | Bikeability training for Year 5 |
| 14/5/2018 – 18/5/2018 | | KS1 SATS (Year 1 & 2) |

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| 14/5/2018 – 18/5/2018 | | KS2 SATS |
| 17/5/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Lilac Forest School |
| 21/5/2018 – 24/5/2018 | | KS1 SATS |
| 21/5/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Communion at St Mary's Church |
| 24/5/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Maple Forest School |
| 25/5/2018 | 14:00 – 15:00 | May Festival |
| 28/5/2018 – 1/6/2018 | | MAY HOLIDAY |
| TERM 6 | | |
| 4/6/2018 | | INSET DAY |
| 7/6/2018 | | Whole school trip to Wakehurst Place |
| 10/6/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Praise at St Mary's Church |
| 14/6/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Willow Forest School |
| 15/6/2018 | 09:00 – 10:30 | Bring an adult to school and share our learning |
| 17/6/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Communion at St Mary's Church |
| 20/6/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Pop in and Play for new reception children |
| 21/6/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Lilac Forest School |
| 22/6/2018 | | Mufti Day (own clothes) |
| 28/6/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Pop in and Play for new reception children |
| 28/6/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Maple Forest School |
| 29/6/2018 | | Whole school Sports Day and PTFA Summer Social |
| 5/7/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Cherry Forest School |
| 5/7/2018 | 13:00 – 14:00 | Governor's Teddy Bear's Picnic |
| 6/7/2018 | | Reports to go home |
| 8/7/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Praise at St Mary's Church |
| 9/7/2018 | | Transition day – children to meet new class teachers |
| 9/7/2018 | 15:30 – 16:30 | Parent drop-in to discuss reports |
| 9/7/2018 | 14.45 – 15.15 | Parent Forum Parentview/Review SDP and plans for 18/19 |
| 10/7/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Pop in and Play for new reception children |
| 12/7/2018 | 13:00 – 15:00 | Willow Forest School |
| 15/7/2018 | 09:30 – 10:30 | Family Communion at St Mary's Church |
| 18/7/2018 | 13:30 – 14:30 | St Mary's Got Talent Show |
| 19/7/2018 | 09:15 – 10:30 | End of Year service at St Mary's Church |
| END OF ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-18 | | |