

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN CEP SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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



**Dear St Mary's families**

Well what a week it has been! Thank you for your patience and understanding as we have made the decision day by day on the opening of the school. I think our day in school on Tuesday will be remembered by all of us; it was, according to some of the children 'the best day at school ever!' I must admit I think the staff all enjoyed our mass playtime on the snow covered Croft as much as the children - what a team of great sports we have! Coming back to warming hot chocolate and stories was welcomed by all. We always take decisions about school closure very seriously and base them on the safety of the staff and children. Forecasts look rather better next week so we look forward to a more 'normal' week! In the meantime keep safe and warm.

**Mrs F Taylor**  
Acting Head of School



### Learners & Attendance of the Week

#### LEARNERS OF THE WEEK:

ENDING: 23<sup>RD</sup> FEB 2<sup>ND</sup> MAR:

MAPLE:	LUCA	MAPLE:	WILLIAM
CHERRY:	MEGAN	CHERRY:	TROY
WILLOW:	CALLUM	WILLOW:	ELOUISE
LILAC:	ELLEN	LILAC:	TIA

#### ATTENDANCE:

(W/E): 23<sup>RD</sup>

MAPLE:	100%
CHERRY:	92.6%
WILLOW:	98.9%
LILAC:	98.8%

TOTAL: 97.2%

#### ATTENDANCE

2<sup>ND</sup> MAR:

MAPLE:	100%
CHERRY:	86.6%
WILLOW:	97.6%
LILAC:	97.3%

TOTAL: 94.8%



## Pioneer News/Update

### Google Conferencing Consent Forms:

If you have not returned them yet, please could you complete and return your Google Meet Consent Forms please. Copies are available via the office.

### Federation Consultation Meetings – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018:

Thank you to all our parents and carers, who came along to the Federation Consultation sessions on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We hope you found the information useful. If you were unable to attend either of the meetings, and would like to discuss the proposal, informal group sessions will be arranged. Please contact the school office to make an appointment in the usual manner.

### A reminder that comments and views must be received by Friday 23 March 2018 at 3.30pm.

Written responses should be addressed to the **Clerk to the Governing Body** of the school.

A box for written responses is all available in school.

Alternatively, you may use the following email address:

St Mary the Virgin: [Wilmowski@btinternet.com](mailto:Wilmowski@btinternet.com)

~~~~~

| DATES FOR DIARIES     |               |                                                              |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| DATE                  | TIME          | EVENT                                                        |
| 04/3/2018             | 10.30         | Sunday Praise at Village Hall                                |
| 08/3/2018             | 13:00 – 15:00 | Lilac Forest School                                          |
| 09/3/2018             | 09:00 – 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 Mind-set<br>Parent Consultation Format |
| 28/3/2018             | From 15.15    | Lilac Bake Sale - PTFA                                       |
| 29/3/2018             | From 15.15    | Lilac Bake Sale - PTFA                                       |
| 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                                               |



## Sports Awards – Mr D

Well done to the following children:

W/e: 9<sup>th</sup> Feb

Maple: Freddie  
Cherry: Anna  
Willow: Hope  
Lilac: Ellie

W/e: 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb:

Maple: Isaac  
Cherry: Braxton  
Willow: William D  
Lilac: Molly B



### Cherry Class



Cherry are learning about how animals and humans grow from being a baby to being an adult, and how we change. We were lucky enough to have a visit from Mrs. Marelli and Mrs. Woodley and their babies last week. We thought of questions that we could ask the mummies.

It was very interesting to find out how much we have learnt to do even though we are only between the ages of 5 to 7! We learnt that babies cannot really talk or walk and that we have to learn these skills.

Thank you so much to Mrs. Marelli and Mrs. Woodley and we look forward to Mrs. Reid bringing in her baby next week.

### Cherry Class – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

Some of Cherry class continued with the buildings they had made last session, extending their creative ideas inspired by their 'Houses and Homes' topic. We listened out for bird calls and used the singing bird toys to explore the woodland with. Some children collected moss and made a beautiful nest for the green woodpecker, whose call sounds like someone laughing.

We also made some bird food balls to hang and stick to trees to feed the birds throughout these cold, winter months.

The class were showing their independence and developing gross motor control, by swinging on the foot rope. They worked out how to be patient and take turns with each other independently, and encouraged their friends when they initially found it a bit tricky.

The mud was really sticky due to all of the recent rain and the class had a lot of fun trying to wade through muddy areas beside the stiles.





## Maple Class Update



We have started a new topic this half Term- Dinosaurs!

On Monday we found some dinosaur footprints and followed them through the churchyard to find out what we think might be a dinosaur egg! The children brought it inside and we are incubating it in the classroom. We will let you know if there are any developments.

Lucy O'Dell from Inception dance came in to teach us some dinosaur dancing on Wednesday. We went in a time machine to travel back in time and used binoculars to try to spot dinosaurs. We then had a go at flying like Pterodactyls and stomping like a T- Rex. Thank you so much, it was great fun and we hope to be continuing dinosaur dancing inspired by the session.

We have also frozen some small dinosaurs in ice thanks to the cold weather and built some amazing symmetrical dinosaur caves with blocks. We have used dinosaurs to help us with our maths skills, lots of counting and measuring so far....we measured a Diplodocus on the playground, which was up to 27 metres long. We found out was the length of the corridor from our classroom all the way down to Lilac class!

Well done to all of the children for such an enthusiastic approach to their learning so far this term!





## Wildlife Explorers & Eco Clubs - Mrs Rowberry



*Wildlife Explorers have had a quiet start to this half-term because of the cold weather. However it hasn't stopped all of our activities. There are labelled recycling bins in all classrooms now; as requested at the last Eco-Committee. Also two members have applied for the Blue Peter environment badge (the green one).*

*The explorers ask that everyone remembers to put out **food for small birds** in the bad weather.*

*Also there are two photos of tracks in the snow - do you know what made them?  
(Work out as much as you can.)"*





## Katrina's Corner

This Sunday at St Mary's is a Holy Communion service with Sunday Discoverers- all are welcome! Some dates for your diaries- Sunday 11th is a special Mothering Sunday Church Family Praise service - this is an informal service, and there will be an opportunity for children to make a gift for a significant woman in their life. On Good Friday we will be running Messy Church from 3:30pm in the Village Hall, with crafts, games and a mini service. Just drop in! There will be flyers for both of these events coming out over the next week.

Katrina  
Katrina Thomas  
Children and Family Worker  
St Mary's Hartfield  
07777 630249



## School Website & New Policy

You will have hopefully had time see our new look website. We are in the process of adding to it and the most recent addition is our new **calculation policy**.

This policy (find it under more information, policies and documents) shows how we teach maths across the whole school; allowing children concrete, pictorial and then abstract experiences for each concept they meet.



There will be a parent forum meeting later this year to share this policy.

## PTFA News

The Chinese New Year disco was a big success and raised over £200. Big thanks to Mimi for leading the team on this. Also well done and thank you to cherry class whose bake sale raised £87.

The PTFA x

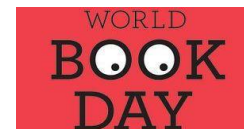
## Wealden Safety Days

The West Kent Parenting Bulletin has highlighted the following event that may be of interest to you.

Fun and Safety Days focus on personal community safety and in the past have attracted over 800 people to one event. Fun and Safety Days include a children's entertainer, play zone, arts and crafts, fire engine and community safety advice. Some events will include demonstrations by the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service. These demonstrations vary depending on availability. Everyone is welcome but children aged 10 years old and under must be accompanied by an adult. Our Fun and Safety Days in 2018 will take place at:

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – 10am to 1pm, Uckfield Fire Station, TN22 5DQ

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April – 10am to 1pm, Crowborough Fire Station, TN6 1AF



## World Book Day

As you know, we are planning to have the World Book day next Wednesday (7th March). Please come in dressed up as your favourite book character with the book the character comes from as before. Additionally, please bring in your book covers that you did for homework. The special lunch menu will still take place, with our weekly roast dinner the day before, Tuesday.

Lynn Hale will be coming in on Wednesday to talk to KS2 in the afternoon. She is the author of "The Intrepid Pony" - a book suitable to Year 6 and upwards and also writes books about Lottie the lurcher! Lynn has a blog which you may like to look at:

<http://intrepidpony.blogspot.co.uk/p/the-intrepid-pony.html>

Our additional author Giles Palfrey for KS1 cannot do Wednesday, but will be visiting us soon.

### Triple P Bedtime routines parental discussion group

Unfortunately, due to a low turnout this discussion group on Thursday 22nd February was cancelled. This topic had been chosen by the parents at the previous Triple P workshop, so we intend to run the session on Thursday 3rd May from 1.15pm -3.15pm.

If you are planning to attend please can you email the office to sign up. We will change the topic if we do not get enough interest.

The final Triple P workshop of the year will be on Monday 25th June 1.45pm, a rerun of the very successful workshop Raising Resilient children in preparation for the transition to new year groups in the Autumn.

Triple P are contactable via their email address: [triplep@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:triplep@eastsussex.gov.uk) for parenting advice. Our contact is Samantha Mills.

**Sian** Leahy  
SENCO/Inclusion Manager



### *Lost and looking for its owner*

- Pair of child's blue reading glasses
- Small silver ring with two black hearts

You can find us at the school office.

### Survey

As in previous years Chartwells are running a parent survey for school meals. This usually coincides with National School Meals Week in November but is being brought forward. Please look out for an email with full details.

The survey link will be active between 12<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018.



**LOVE SCHOOL**  
—Meals—  
**WE'RE ALL EARS**

**HAVE YOUR SAY**  
12<sup>th</sup> March – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**COMPLETE OUR SURVEY**  
For your chance to win  
**A FAMILY TICKET TO DRUSILLAS, KNOCKHATCH OR DIGGERLAND!**

**GO TO [WWW.LOVESCHOOLMEALS.CO.UK/WAE](http://WWW.LOVESCHOOLMEALS.CO.UK/WAE) TO TAKE THE SURVEY**

### Uniform Sale



We will be having a sale of new school uniform that we currently have on site during both parent evenings. These items will include; jumpers, cardigans, polo shirts, sweatshirts, PE t-shirts, tracksuit bottoms, coat/jacket and ties. Please bring some cash or a cheque book with you.



### Half Term Volunteers in the woods.

On a cold and latterly rainy day during February, a fantastic team of volunteers came to the woods to help to construct a sturdier surround for our compost toilet.



We had a great time and constructed under the brilliant and patient instructions of the owner of the woods- Charlie Munn.

We also had a go at making a coat and bag rack for the children's belongings when they come to the woods. We cut some hazel and holly branches and learned to tie some knots and practise some square lashing and the finished product turned out to be a success.



There was time for fire making, tea drinking, den building, slack lining and popcorn burning throughout the day also. A massive Thank you so much to all of the volunteers, young and not so young...it was amazing to have achieved so much in such a short time! You are brilliant!

Mrs Sanders

