



St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

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Term 1 Week 4

Friday 4th October

Dear St Mary's Families,

It was so lovely to see so many of you at our Harvest service on Wednesday! Thank you for your donations and support for the Food Bank and our Toilet Twinning project - the children have been really reflective about how fortunate we are to have so much to be thankful for.

Wednesday was a busy day as in the afternoon, some of our fantastic KS2 children went to Beacon Academy for an inter-schools Cross-Country race. For a small school, we certainly have some talented children and they were a credit to our wonderful school.

It was great to meet with some of you at our Parent Forum this week and discuss the development plans for the school this year - thank you for your support and feedback. Attached to this newsletter are the minutes taken at the meeting so please do read these and come and speak with us if you have any questions.

Next Wednesday (9th October) we have Tempest Photography coming in to take school photos so, if you haven't already, please ensure you have sent in the permission slip for this. Mrs Leahy is also hosting a local CLASS+ coffee morning for parents of children with ASC on Thursday 10th October, from 9:00 - 10:30, so please see the noticeboard for further details.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend,

James Procter

Becca Hare

Abbie Banks

Learning Powers Certificate



Linking Lemur



Brave Bee



Curious Cat



Persevering Parrot



Concentrating Crocodile

On **Friday 11th October** in our celebration assembly at **9.25am** the following children will celebrate their achievements:

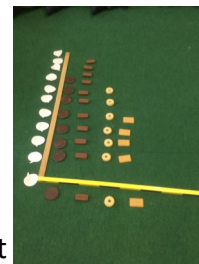
Maple: Elodie **Cherry:** Chloe

Willow: Megan **Lilac:** Szabi

Please come along if you are free!

Cherry Class Maths

Cherry Class have been learning about data handling in Maths this week and we explored pictograms using real biscuits! We voted for our favourite biscuits and then made a 3-D pictogram using the real thing.



We were all very excited and it really helped our learning as we could see what a pictogram looked like using real things.

We all had a biscuit after we had recorded our findings in our Maths books!



Maths +
Biscuits =
YUM



Parent Forum

This was held on Monday 30th September, to discuss the school's development plan for this year; the new curriculum and the Homework policy. Please see the attached minutes - which also give details of newly planned **'Meet the Teacher'** meeting dates.



READING REWARD SCHEME

Results from the first week of our new Reward Scheme are now in:



Maple: 31.6 miles

Cherry: 56.5 miles

Willow: 781.0 miles

Lilac: 47.1 miles

Well done to all of you - excellent first week!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Daisy held a Macmillan Coffee afternoon on Sunday 29th September, raising a fantastic £86.79 for Macmillan cancer support!



Well done, Daisy! We are so proud of you!

CONGRATULATIONS!

We also need to congratulate the Hartfield Guides and Brownies, who joined forces last week to put on a coffee and cake evening to raise money for Macmillan. Together they raised £183!



What super members of the Hartfield community!

GET SET TO EAT FRESH

'Get Set to Eat Fresh' is part of the Get Set family of education programmes. Created in partnership with the British Olympic Association and Aldi,



'Get Set to Eat Fresh' uses Team GB athletes as a source of inspiration to encourage students aged 5-14 to cook and eat healthy, fresh food. Free lesson plans, activities and athlete films give young people the confidence to cook and feed themselves healthy food - everything they need to perform at their best in the classroom and on the field; supporting students to achieve healthy, active lifestyles. If you shop in Aldi, please collect the stickers to help us gain as much support for the school as we can.



CLASS+ coffee morning 10th October 9:00 - 10:30 at St Mary the Virgin School

CLASS+ support parents of children with autism and this is an opportunity to meet other parents and practitioners experienced in this field of support. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sports Award

Mr D has nominated three Sports Stars for this week:



Amelia: for demonstrating much improved dribbling control and ball skills

Elodie: for very good listening, changing and following instructions during PE games

Hugo: for excellent focus, attitude and pacing during cross country practice.

Pupils as Leaders

At St Mary's, key pupil roles are created to ensure that our students are making a highly-positive, tangible contribution to the life of the school and the wider community. Meaningful opportunities are developed and embedded for pupils to understand how to be responsible and respectful active citizens who contribute positively to society.

House Captains

The role of House Captains is one of privilege, pride and responsibility. House Captains are elected by the rest of the pupils in their house, after they've given a speech about what they can offer. The House Captains lead and support the children in their House in a variety of sporting competitions; collect, monitor and announce House Points each week; are excellent role models in behaviour and attitude; help organise their houses when we have off-timetable days and motivate and inspire the pupils in their Houses.



Pupil Ambassadors

Pupil Ambassadors have an important role to play at St Mary's. They were selected to be Ambassadors, after writing a letter of application, because they are recognised as inspiring role-models of respectful behaviour, learning attitude and active contribution to the school and wider community. They show visitors around the school; participate in Open Mornings and help out with other extra-curricular events. Pupils are made aware of the responsibility that accompanies this role and the high standards of behaviour that all Ambassadors must adhere to.

Eco-Committee

Our Eco-Committee is made up of children who are passionate about making our school more sustainable and helping us become more aware of green issues. The Committee is run by one of our Associate Governors, Hilary Rowberry and her husband, Mr Rowberry. The children are the driving force behind the Committee, which meets every Wednesday, to discuss new ideas and plan activities aimed at increasing environmental awareness. The Eco-Committee has introduced a number of initiatives ranging from posting signs reminding us to turn off lights to holding regular 'Big Cleans', where they go out into the wider community litter-picking.



Pupil Governors

KS1 & KS2 classes have elected two children to be their representatives as Pupil Governors. The Pupil Governors meet regularly to discuss suggestions put forward by their respective classes. They are the voice of the pupils and are expected to be good role models and ambassadors for the school. The Pupil Governors are also our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and Love, Strength and Faith Champions

MAPLE CLASS BUDDY TIME

The impact of Buddy Time is for the children to build their confidence, create personal and social relationships and to support them through their first year at School.

This impact can be seen through the skills learned, the activities we do, and the observations and discussions that the children have with each other.

At St Mary's, Maple Class and their Year 6 Buddies have half an hour together every Tuesday afternoon.



This week, Maple shared their 'All About Me' books, which they made in the summer. They talked about things that they liked, places they have been and asked questions about each other.



So far this term, the children have made collages of themselves, learning how to use scissors and glue independently, whilst talking about how special they are.



They have also been on a number hunt around the school, where they spotted numbers in classrooms and the outdoor environment. This was also a chance to become more familiar with the school building, with support from their knowledgeable Buddies.



Dates for your diary

A full dates list will soon be available on the school website but please see below for October and November

October

8th - Maple 'Meet the Teacher' Meeting

9th - Tempest Photography

9th - Willow 'Meet the Teacher' Meeting

10th - Mental Health Awareness Day

10th - Willow Forest school

10th - Cherry 'Meet the Teacher' Meeting

11th - Lilac 'Meet the Teacher' Meeting

15th - Awe and Wonder Day: British Value theme

17th - Lilac Forest school

19th - St Mary's Open Morning 10—12noon

22nd - Full Governing Body meeting at East Hoathly 6:00 - 8:00pm

24th - Flu Vaccinations

24th and 25th - Willow's Bake sale

25th - Open Classrooms to see books - 2.45pm

25th—Last day of Term 1

November

4th - First day Term 2

5th - Lilac Class Trip

6th - Lilac return

Attendance

Whole school : **97.91%**

Maple: **90%**

Cherry: **100%**

Willow: **97.6%**

Lilac: **100%**

100% - Gold **96.5 to 99.9% - Green**

95 to 96.4% - Amber **Less than 94.9% - Red**



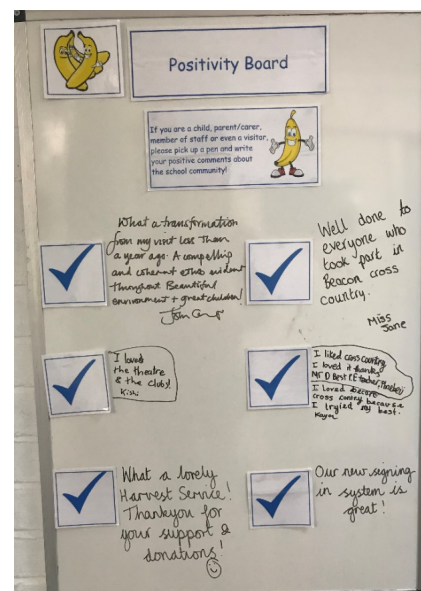
Well Being Poster

Each week we share a wellbeing poster with you. This week's poster looks at Tips for Waking Up on Dark Mornings.



Positivity Board

This board enables parents/carers, staff, children and visitors to write positive comments, or thoughts, about their time in school or during events that they would like to share with others. Please pop in any time to write down something that you would like to



share. In the newsletter every week, there will be a picture to share and celebrate the positivity within our school and community. As always, thank you for your support

Tempest Photography

Please remember that individual (and sibling) photos are to be taken on **Wednesday 9th October**. If you haven't returned your consent slip, your child will not be able to have their photo taken.

After School Clubs

Afterschool Artytime met for their second session last week and explored collage making. The group started by looking at different artists' use of collage, including Matisse as well as some more modern artists. Enthusiasm was high as the children started choosing their materials.



Highlights for the children included the excessive amount of shiny sparkles available and the use of a guillotine to cut straight-edged shapes (supervised of course!) The finished pieces were very impressive; each one unique and showing



great talent and creativity. The group ended the session by showing their work to each other, and sharing what they liked about each others' art.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thank you to all those who attended our Harvest Service on Wednesday and for your contributions. Enough was raised to enable both of our toilets to be twinned. Thank you!



In addition, the food and items collected for East Grinstead food bank are greatly appreciated. Well done, St Mary's!



PARENTMAIL

As an update about ParentMail: We have a representative from the company coming into the school on Monday 7th October to talk office staff through the system, ensuring it is right for us as a school. Please look out in schoolbags next week for more information.



School Clubs

Wildlife Explorers have updated us with the following:



The Explorers had a very busy club meeting this week. Decisions were made about finishing the Churchyard nature trail and a club competition was started to design bookmarks to raise awareness of the nature trail to the rest of the school. Also, the explorers surveyed all the school rooms to check that lights were off; taps were not dripping; computers were put away and the recycling bin for paper was being used. The explorers team will be reminding their own classes regularly.



Parent forum minutes – 30th September 2019

Agenda: Curriculum, School Development Plan, Homework and future parent forum agendas.

School Development Plan

Mr Procter explained what the school's aims are for the year and rationale for having a School Development Plan (full copy available on the website).

It is split into the 5 sections of the new Ofsted Framework and the overview of each section is as follows:

Quality of Education:

- Developing our new curriculum
- Aiming to improve the subject knowledge for teachers
- Ensuring strong outcomes for end of KS results.
- A focus on reading at KS1 and having consistent progress scores for KS2.

Leadership and Management

- Defining our teaching vision and values through teaching and learning policy
- Following the national initiative to reduce teacher workload
- Ensuring expertise in subjects is shared across the federation
- Governors to challenge and support schools.

Behaviour and Attitudes

- Pupils as Leaders is a big focus and ensuring they make a huge difference to the life of the school and wider community – we want our pupils to know how they contribute to the school
- Attendance staying above national
- Anti-bullying award being led by Miss Banks and a working party of children, parents and governors.

Personal Development

- 6x special day events to ensure that the curriculum is enriched
- Sports events
- Learning powers and 6Bs and the impact that they are going to have on children's learning.

Early Years Foundation Stage

- Separate area under new Ofsted expectations.
- EYFS teachers lead strong hub across the county to help CPD for all Early Years practitioners

Curriculum

There are new expectations on how schools should run their curriculum – we need to consider the '3 Is'. This is bespoke to the Federation and has considered the 'cultural capital' of the trips of the children. The curriculum is clear and consistent between all teachers and documented in a way that makes it clear as to the aims of the education at Pioneer schools.

3 Is

Intent – defining the sequence of topics – schools choose the topics ensuring they cover the National Curriculum

Implementation – what are the skills that children will learn?

Impact – what difference is it making to children's knowledge?

Yellow highlighted key on each curriculum event on the website to make it really clear why we are running particular trips or events and what was the knowledge that children gained.

Curriculum is a 2-year cycle (currently on cycle 2) and details each year group's curriculum and broken down into the 3 I's for clarity.

This is always adapting and being evaluated so any feedback on what the children are learning and talking about would be really welcomed.

Parent forum minutes – 30th September 2019 (continued)

Homework

Miss Hare went through the policy which is available on the website and details each class' expectations. A reminder about KS2 practising their times tables weekly will be added to KS2's homework 'checklist'. Best way to practise these is through Timestable Rockstars or on PurpleMash.

Any further thoughts on useful parent forum agendas would be welcomed.

Website

This is constantly updating and ensuring that key information is available there and easily accessible for all. Please feedback to Miss Hare if you notice anything on the website that is out of date or incorrect.

Future Parent Forum agendas:

- Spelling in KS2 – how it is taught and year group expectations
- Maths – particularly linked to times tables

Questions:

Quality of the sweatshirts

We will feed this back to the provider and see what other options are available.

Teacher-led clubs

As part of the 'Reducing Teacher Workload' initiative, we are aiming to help teachers manage their workload effectively and running clubs is not a part of their job description. We will investigate whether sibling discounts can be offered and, when researching new clubs.

A questionnaire will be sent out asking for feedback on which types of clubs would be popular.

Meet the Teacher meetings

These weren't run last year but feedback is that they were useful in informing parents of what is coming up over the school year.

DATES AGREED FOR TEACHER MEETINGS:

For 10-15 minutes, after school:

- Maple: Tuesday 8th October**
- Cherry: Thursday 10th October**
- Willow: Wednesday 9th October**
- Lilac: Friday 11th October**

Times-tables teaching/practising

In Year 3 and 4, time-stables are taught at least 3 times a week (similar to spellings).

Regular practise is also needed at home to ensure consolidation of school learning.

Year 4 children will take part in a national test for their times-tables in June of each school year.

Parent Forum timings

Parent Forums will always be on a Monday as this is when Mr Procter and Miss Hare are both in school.

They will alternate between 9:00am and 2:45pm to hopefully allow as many of you to attend as possible.

The dates and times will be put onto the school website calendar and sent out in the newsletter with the agendas also sent out as soon as they are agreed.

The positives of autism and neurodiversity

with mother and daughter, Lucy and Phoebe Sanctuary

Lucy is a highly specialist paediatric speech and language therapist, with a clinical specialism in Autism Spectrum, she is a regular speaker at conferences and events, such as for the NAS.

Lucy's family is neuro-diverse, she has been fighting and campaigning for appropriate and effective support for the last ten years, hearing stories like her own on a regular basis. Lucy and her daughter will be talking about the positives of neuro-diversity as seen through the eyes of a mother and daughter team living in a neuro-diverse household - they will be discussing their journey of understanding what autism really is.

(Please note there will be 2 therapy/assistant dogs at the talk)



Thursday 17th October

The Phoenix Centre
26 Malling St. Lewes, BN7 2RD

7pm - 9pm

To book a place on the above event visit: www.tickettailor.com/events/icontact

LAST CHANCE TO JOIN:

Community Children's Choir

September 23 - December 2

Are you between the ages of 8-14? Do you like singing fun songs and performing? Then do come along to the new Community Children's Choir starting in Hartfield Church this September.

Start date Monday 23rd September till Monday 2nd December.
Half term week commencing 28th October.

3.30pm to 4.15pm

Learn to sing a wide variety of different types of songs from classical to pop, and pick up some important musicianship skills along the way too!

Led by Frances Rowberry, an experienced local singing teacher, the sessions will be 45 mins once a week and cost £5.00 a session.
Contact Frances on 07719245539 or by email francesrowberry@hotmail.co.uk.

