

Spring Term Newsletter 2011

- Tues. 4th Jan. Welcome back to Spring Term
Gateshead Heritage Centre to visit (In school) —Year 6
- Thur.6th Jan. Year 3 Mass Visitor from Newcastle Chronicle—Year 4
- Tues. 11th Jan Happy Feet After School Club starts tonight
- Tues 18th Jan Friends of St Mary's Meeting at The Gibside Hotel 7pm, we welcome new ideas so please come along.
- Fri 21st Jan Specialist music session for Reception class
- Sat 22nd Jan Science Enrichment Session at St Thomas More School for selected pupils.
- Thurs 27th Jan Comenius visitors from Italy, Poland and Turkey arrive in school today
- Fri 28th Jan Specialist music session for Reception class
- Mon 31st Jan National Story Telling Week
- Fri 4th Feb Specialist music session for Reception class
- Tues 8th Feb Year 4 visit the Evening Chronicle Offices
- Fri 18th Feb Specialist music session for Reception class
- Monday 21st February—Friday 25th February HALF TERM BREAK**
- Mon 28th Feb SCHOOL CLOSED for pupils INSET
- Tues 1st Mar Return to school for pupils
- Wed 2nd Mar Year 3 visit to CLC "Here be Pirates"
- Thurs 3rd Mar World Book Day, World Maths Day
- Mon 7th Mar EXPO Chef food assembly on Fair Trade
- Wed 9th Mar ASH WEDNESDAY—Holy Day of Obligation—The Season of Lent begins
- Mon 14th Mar School photographer to take group photos of Reception class and Year 6
- Wed 16th Mar Year 1 and Year 4 to CLC Heworth
- Thurs 31st Mar Y3 & Y5 to CLC Heworth
- Mon. 4th Apr Y6 to CLC "Here is the News"
- Tues. 5th Apr Parents Appointments from 1 p.m. for Reception/Year 2/Year 4/Year 6 parents
- Wed. 6th Apr Parents Appointments from 1 p.m. for Year 1/Year 3/Year 5 parents
- Fri. 15th Apr Last day of the Spring Term

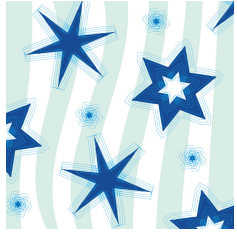
Return to school Tuesday 3rd May

Comenius Visitors.

On the 27th and 28th January we will welcome teachers and pupils from Italy, Poland and Turkey to our school. They will be visiting classrooms and experiencing the educational and cultural opportunities of our school community. If you would like to meet our visitors or find out more about the Comenius Partnership please contact Mrs Noble or Mr Wheatley.

**Friends of St Mary's
200 Club Draw
November and December 2010**

Prize	Number	Winner	Contact	Prize	Number	Winner	Contact
£50	136	Mrs K Spark	Mrs M McMillan	£50	201	Mrs K Rogerson	Mrs Fawzi
£25	109	Graeme Proctor	Thomas Year 2	£25	216	Jackie Hodgson	Church
£15	119	Louise Young	Pre- School	£15	53	Fabienne Harte	Matthieu Year 1
£10	123	Susan Cameron	Pre-School	£10	19	Lucie Stephenson	Church



The Friends of St. Mary's, who organised the Christmas Raffle and the School Calendar have once again had a magnificent response to the hard work and effort which goes into the preparation of both of these events.

A total of £969 was raised from the Christmas Raffle, a proportion of which will be matched by Barclays Bank.

Thank you to all of The Friends of St Mary's, in particular a huge thank you to Mrs Caroline Hopkinson who as Treasurer has managed and matched a fantastic amount of money during her time as parent of pupils at St. Mary's. A huge thank you to Mrs Jo Williams who had a mammoth task of arranging the new style calendar which was a sell out and secured donations of the fabulous raffle prizes for the Christmas Draw.

The next meeting of the Friends of St Mary's is Tuesday 18th January at 7pm in The Gidside Hotel, the meeting is informal and we welcome new faces who would like to become more involved in the fundraising and organising social activities to continue to develop our GREAT home/school community. (I know that other Head Teachers envy the PTA support received at St Mary's).

School Uniform

Having addressed the issues concerning the supply of school uniform last term I had hoped things would run smoothly. However a number parents who have placed and paid for uniform have not received it, and have been unable to contact The Uniform Store. Unfortunately school have also been unsuccessful in making contact.



We had arranged for a new supplier to be effective from March 2011. However they will deal with any requests for uniform from now onwards if you require uniform.

The main contact is Maeve Davies on 0191 –4202061
Or by email maeve@mickmartinpromotions.co.uk

At present their website does not include details of the school uniform for St Mary's but this will be updated soon. If you would like to view their website to see what they do you can visit www.mickmartinpromotions.co.uk



Key Stage 2 Swimming

The arrangements for Key Stage 2 swimming are once again delayed due to the later than expected completion of alterations to Dunston Swimming Pool and in not being allocated sufficient sessions at Blaydon. So there will be NO SWIMMING for Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 or Year 6 until further notice. Hopefully March!



Reminders

School dinner money should be paid weekly each Monday in a marked envelope (available from the school office) £9.25 per week.

Payment can also be made in advance monthly, termly etc if you wish to take advantage of this facility.

Sickness, Colds, Flu

This is the season for sickness, colds, flu. We remind the children in school about CATCH it, BIN it, KILL it, and using hankies and washing their hands. Could you please reinforce this message at home and provide your child with a packet of paper hankies if they have a cold. If they have a temperature then they should not be at school.

Last term a number of parents noted that although they labelled their child's school uniform with their name it "disappeared". We do try to ensure that any clothing lying around is checked to see if there is a name attached then return it to them. Where there is no name tag the items are put into the Lost Property bin in the hall. However we think that some of the items which "disappear" may have been taken home by mistake by other pupils (especially the younger children). As you wash or iron the uniform could you check that the clothes belong to your child and that the name tag is clearly marked.

Thank You for your co-operation.

Thank you also to those who have sent in "old/outgrown" uniform for emergencies and accidents.

Better Reading Programme

We are focussing on a BETTER READING programme with groups of children in upper Key Stage 2. This involves a regular session of time for a block of six weeks with a named adult and which is also supported at home.

This will operate on a rolling programme, with different children being involved in each six week block.



Happy New Year to all our families, we hope 2011 is a good year for everyone.