



SCHOOL UPDATES & REMINDERS

CHILDREN IN NEED:

Thank you to all those who have donated to the BBC Children in Need appeal via our dedicated Just Giving page (<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/whickhamstmaryschildreninneed2020>). At the time of writing, the school had raised over £700 for the cause which is absolutely incredible! If you have not had the chance to donate yet, please feel free to log on, and let's see how much we can raise in total!

TIMESTABLE ROCKSTARS 'ROCK OUT' 2020:

A huge well done to all our TT Rock Stars who have been taking part in the Rock Out 2020 week in school and at home. We have had some great successes over the week, with the pick of the bunch, Y6, breaking in to the top 25 schools nationwide for total points scored – amazing!

Let's see if our pupils can keep up their fantastic start, and continue to improve their quick recall of multiplication and division facts.

CHRISTMAS AND ADVENT 2020:

You will be very aware that this year we have had to – and continue to – make alterations to our 'ordinary' practices in school due to local and national restrictions against the spread of COVID-19. Due to the constantly evolving nature of guidance issued to schools, we have purposefully avoided looking too far ahead with our planning and sharing too many provisional ideas with parents – so as to not confuse or disappoint if we are unable to bring these ideas to fruition.

We know that many of you will now be looking ahead to Advent and Christmas – which are both fast-approaching – and wondering what we will be doing as a school community to prepare for and celebrate this joyous Feast Day. Though we will certainly – very unfortunately – not be in a position to invite you, our parents and wider school family, in to school (physically) to partake in our celebrations, please rest assured that we will not shy away from ensuring that our pupils have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities and experiences to celebrate the season. We will write to you in the coming weeks of our plans, and of how we hope to share some of these experiences with you – albeit virtually – before the end of term.

BIKE-IT BEN PLAYGROUND SKILLS SESSIONS:

Next week, Ben will be in school working with a number of classes in KS2. On the given day, pupils may come into school in their PE kit and trainers. Pupils may bring a bike or scooter and helmet, and they must be able to walk this through the school gates themselves at the start and end of the day. A small bag may help to manage reading folders/water bottles etc.

The classes involved are as follows:

Year 5 – Tuesday

Year 4 – Wednesday

Year 3 – Thursday

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE:

Please be reminded to ensure that children are under close supervision of an adult at the start and end of the school. Pupils, or younger siblings, should not be allowed to play freely near the school gates and should not be encouraged to walk away from their parents – either alone or with friends – especially if they are in EYFS/KS1. This is a particular concern on Dockendale Lane (the rear entrance to school) as the pavements are very narrow and visibility between parked cars is poor. Thank you for your co-operation.

REMINDER – PACKED LUNCHES:

Please be reminded that packed lunches brought into school should be healthy and balanced. Children should not routinely bring sweets and chocolate in as part of their packed lunch, and we would encourage parents to avoid packing processed and unhealthy foods. Thank you.

SOME WONDERFUL NEWS:

A belated note to say that Mrs McTernan and her husband have, in the past weeks, welcomed their new baby, Will Charles McTernan, in to the world. Mum and baby are both really well, and we hope to see them in school in the not too distant future!

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S 200 CLUB – BUMPER EDITION:

Please find below the winners for our Friends of St Mary's 200 Club draws from February to August. If you'd like to be involved in the draw, please get in contact with school; numbers are available for £1 and monthly prizes range from £50 - £10. Many thanks!

February 2020

PRIZE	NUMBER	WINNER
£50	46	Faye Gregory-Smith
£25	93	Gillian Corrigan
£15	95	Pamela Collins
£10	8	Julia Fawzi

March 2020

PRIZE	NUMBER	WINNER
£50	175	Christine Dobson
£25	115	Sara Ingham
£15	11	Claire Mearns
£10	151	Katherine Fawcett

April 2020

PRIZE	NUMBER	WINNER
£50	26	Clare Mills
£25	124	Margaret O'Hara
£15	73	Eve Jones
£10	159	Kathryn Jobses

May 2020

PRIZE	NUMBER	WINNER
£50	39	Helen Doran
£25	200	A Chaney
£15	189	Helen Giloney
£10	20	Catherine Armstrong

June 2020

PRIZE	NUMBER	WINNER
£50	106	Lisa Smith
£25	136	Keith Spark
£15	219	Maria Linfoot
£10	168	Sarah Routledge

July 2020

PRIZE	NUMBER	WINNER
£50	197	Mandy Green
£25	80	Jacqueline Sordy
£15	25	Victoria Mulholland
£10	160	Mr M Wright

August 2020

PRIZE	NUMBER	WINNER
£50	7	Matthew Oswell
£25	178	D. George
£15	207	Caroline Jackson
£10	63	Siobhan Thompson