



## SCHOOL UPDATES

### SPORTS UPDATE:

### SCHOOL ALLOTMENT:

This week, pupils in Years 1 and 2 have begun work on our school allotment, planting a variety of different fruit bushes. Through Forest School sessions and our new Gardening Club (pupils and parents to hear more about this in coming weeks), we will be making full use of the wonderful garden, designed and constructed by our very own Mr Gallagher, and we will be sharing updates via the school website and Twitter feed. You never know, we may even have some produce to share with you in the not too distant future!

### ADULT CHOIR

All adults welcome, the next rehearsals are:

15<sup>th</sup> February

1<sup>st</sup> March

15<sup>th</sup> March

29<sup>th</sup> March

E SAFETY DAY 7<sup>th</sup> February ?

EARLY LITERACY SESSION FOR PARENTS ?

### CURRICULUM OVERVIEWS:

Each class' termly overview for the Spring term is now available to view on the school website at <http://www.whickhamstmarys.org.uk/curriculum.html>. On the overviews, you will find all key topics and learning outcomes from Core and Foundation Subjects to be studied this Term, as well as Extended Learning Opportunities available to your child. Printed versions are available on request at the school office. We have also attached an overview for your child's RE Curriculum, with key dates in the Church's Liturgical Calendar.

### SMALL SAINTS HALF-TERM PROVISION:

Small Saints will be open during the February Half term and we are currently taking bookings as places are limited. We will be open 7:45am till 6pm Monday to Friday at the cost of £24.00 per child however if you need all five days, a discount will be offered with a charge of only £100.00 for the week. The children will have 3 meals per day as well as snacks, and there will be specific activities to take part in along with our normal day to day play.

If this is something you would like to book or discuss, please contact me to secure your child's place as we have already started to take bookings.

Thank you very much,

Leanne Sanderson (Small Saints Manager) - 07882421973

## REMINDERS

### SCHOOL UNIFORM:

A reminder, at the start of a new year, about the high standards we have for school uniform. Please ensure that all children are coming to school with: appropriate footwear (black shoes – no trainers); no jewellery apart from a watch (absolutely no earrings or necklaces); appropriate hairstyles (any hair at shoulder

length must be tied back; no braids – even if tied up; no die or ‘extreme’ styles such as lines shaved in to heads or ultra-short hair). I would also ask that all make-up and nail varnish is removed in full before the start of a school day – even after parties or events outside of school. Our full school dress-code is available to view on the ‘School Documents’ area of the school website ([www.whickhamstmarys.org.uk](http://www.whickhamstmarys.org.uk)).

**PE:**  
Please ensure that all pupils are prepared for every Physical Education lesson of the week with a full school PE kit (coloured t-shirt, royal blue shorts and trainers). Pupils are expected to take responsibility for their kit in school, and will not be allowed to waste lesson time searching for missing kit. If, for whatever reason, a full PE kit will not be in school (ie. No trainers, different shorts and t-shirt), we would ask that a letter is sent in to school to be handed to the class teacher.

**GRASSROOTS MULTI-SKILLS CLUB:**

There are still places available for the multi-sports club, run by Grassroots, taking place this Half-Term. The club will take place on Wednesdays from 3:15pm – 4:15pm, and sessions are £2.50 per week. The club is open to Years 1-4; if your child would like to take part in the club, please speak to Mrs Noble in the School Office.

*Pupils already in Choir will not be considered for a place at the Grassroots club.*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**BIKING BEN:**

**SKIPPING:**

On Wednesday, Year 3 will be taking part in a skipping workshop, in preparation for the Gateshead Catholic Schools’ skipping festival due to take place in the Summer Term. As such, all pupils will need to have full PE kit in school.

**FRIENDS OF ST MARY’S:**

**WHICKHAM LIBRARY HARRY POTTER NIGHT:**

Please find attached a flyer promoting the upcoming Harry Potter Night due to take place at Whickham Library on Thursday 2.2.17. We have been advised that spaces are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

**THE WEEK AHEAD W/C : 16.1.17**

**MONDAY –**

**TUESDAY –** Year 4 Rugby League session 4 – full PE kit (including trainers) required.

**WEDNESDAY –** Grassroots multi-skills session 2 in Years 2 and 6 – full PE kit (including trainers) required.

Year 6 Maths Booster (session 2) – 3:15pm – 4:15pm.

**THURSDAY -** Y4 Forest School Session

Y3 Forest School Session

**SATURDAY -** Y5 Arts Day at St. Thomas More 10:00-2:30