



## SCHOOL UPDATES

### KENYA WEEK:

As you will be aware, our school has a longstanding friendship with two primary schools in Kenya: St Anthony's (Nakuru) and Catholic Parochial School (Nairobi). For over a decade, our schools have taken part in shared projects, reciprocal visits and shared work produced by our pupils, as a way of enhancing the global view, and world understanding, of our pupils. Next week, all pupils in school will be taking part in an extended learning week focusing on 'Kenya', as we initiate a new project with our partner schools; we hope to share with you over the coming weeks and months the fruits of our shared venture!

### RIGHT-CLICK E-SAFETY WORKSHOP:

A reminder that we will be hosting a 'Right-Click' internet safety day in conjunction with UNICEF and BT on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February for all pupils in Y5 and 6. With the session forming an integral part of the children's e-safety curriculum, we do not require parental consent for the session; if you would like to discuss the content of the session with Mr Wheatley, please get in contact with school before Tuesday. The workshop will also be open to all parents (whether your children are in Years 5 and 6 or not) who have already submitted an attendance request form – the session will begin at 2pm, so please report to the main office just before this time.

### SPORTS UPDATE:

Well done to the St Mary's HI-5 netball teams who competed in a fantastic afternoon at Kingsmeadow school. All the pupils involved demonstrated wonderful skill, sportsmanship and enthusiasm, which was a pleasure to see. Good luck to the St Mary's A team, who won their heat, and will go through to the finals to be held in March.

### FORWARD TOGETHER IN HOPE:

Over the last two years, our Diocese has been involved in a process of self-evaluation as part of the Forward Together in Hope journey. This process was initiated to ensure that important steps are made now, in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, to safeguard the future of our worshipping communities. The consultation period of the process ended in December, and the Diocesan Board (made up of the Bishop, the Vicar General and other members of the clergy and laity) have met to consider recommendations from all Diocesan parishes. There will be a meeting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 7:30pm at the Lancastrian Suite, Dunston for all people interested in hearing the Diocesan Board's proposals at the culmination of the Forward Together in Hope process. You do not need to book in advance if you wish to attend, and the meetings are open to all interested parties.

## REMINDERS

### 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.*

#### 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

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### YEAR 5 BIKE SKILLS:

Ben Tweedie will be in school on Monday to work with pupils in Y5. The session will be for ALL PUPILS in the class. Ben will be providing bikes and helmets (to give the children an opportunity to work with the road bikes that the Coast to Coast group will be using for their ride). Please can all pupils come to school in appropriate, warm outdoor clothing, with comfortable shoes, a waterproof jacket and change of clothes.

##### FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S:

The next meeting for the Friends of St Mary's will be Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 9:30am at School All welcome. If you are unable to make the meetings, you will be able to keep up-to-date with the goings on of the group by reading the 'Friends Blog' which can be found on the school website.

##### 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

#### THE WEEK AHEAD W/C : 6.2.17

MONDAY – Year 5 Bike skills (whole class – see information above)

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

E-Safety Session 2pm – 3pm (all Y5 and 6 plus parents who have already submitted attendance request forms.

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

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