



## SCHOOL UPDATES

### KENYA WEEK:

We have enjoyed a fantastic 'Extended Learning Week' across school during which pupils have explored different aspects of Kenyan – and African – life, have learned a little more about our partner schools, and have prepared various pieces of work to share with our friends at St Anthony's and Catholic Parochial schools. Some classes have been preparing 'a day in the life' of St Mary's, whilst others have been undertaking a data analysis of time use for young people in the UK compared with our Kenyan counterparts, and there have been many other exciting and interesting learning tasks. We will continue to share the progress of our project over the coming weeks and months.

### RIGHT-CLICK E-SAFETY WORKSHOP:

On Tuesday, we celebrated Safer Internet Day with a Unicef 'Right-Click' workshop for pupils and parents. The workshop was designed to provide important information and guidance on how to keep safe when accessing the internet or social media. The session urged parents to begin this vital conversation with their child, in a positive and open way; as such, for those parents who were unable to attend, we have provided some of the handouts from the session so that you may be best-placed to begin that conversation at home. Alongside this, we are hoping to run an e-safety session for parents in the not too distant future in order to further develop some of the discussions started this week.

### C2C:

Ben Tweedie has been in school working with pupils this week in preparation for the Coast to Coast training to begin for our Year 5 cycling group in earnest after half term. Parents of children involved will receive a letter with key dates and a kit list this week in preparation for the big ride!

### MOTHER'S DAY SALE:

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March. After the success of our Mother's Day Sale last year we are asking for your support in providing suitable donations that you as mothers would like to receive from your child. Please bring your donations to the school office. Prices will range from 50p to £3 for a gift.

### TERM DATES 2016-17:

As our school is used as a polling station, we are obliged to retain a date in May for local elections each year; we have been informed that there will be no elections in May this year, as such we will be taking this occasional day on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

*This date is the first day of the Y5 C2C challenge (this will not affect the planning of the ride).*

## TERM DATES 17/18:

Please find below the agreed Term Dates for next academic year.

*Please note, Inset Days have not yet been set; information regarding this will be released in due course.*

	START	END	HALF-TERM
<b>AUTUMN</b>	4.9.17	22.12.17	23.10.17 – 27.10.17
<i>INSET</i>	TBC		
<b>SPRING</b>	8.1.18	29.3.18	12.2.18 – 16.2.18
<i>INSET</i>	TBC		
<b>SUMMER</b>	16.4.18	20.7.18	28.5.18 – 1.6.18
<i>INSET</i>	Polling Day (TBC); Bank Holiday 7.5.18		

## REMINDERS

### HAIR:

A polite reminder about school policy regarding hair – in particular for our young gentlemen. There is an expectation, as part of our 'no extreme' short styles policy, that boys should not have hair clipped to anything shorter than a grade 3. I would also request that there are no shaved lines in hair – even at a 'parting'. Thank you as ever for supporting the high standards for presentation we have at school.

### 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

### FILM NIGHTS:

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Key Stage 1 – 3:15-5:15

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Key Stage 2 – 3:15-4:15

The price to attend the film night, receiving refreshments of a hot dog, popcorn and a drink is £3.50 per child/£5 per family. Please send in payment to the school office in an envelope marked 'Film Night' with your child's name and year group. All money will go to support the school fund.

### 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 : 13.2.17**

**MONDAY - Key Stage 1 Film Night 3:15-5:15 (NO TENNIS)**

**TUESDAY - Key Stage 2 Film Night 3:15-5:15 (NO HAPPY FEET)**

**THURSDAY - Y5 Forest School a.m. Y6 Forest School p.m. (all pupils to come in appropriate warm clothes with waterproofs, wellies and a change of clothes – the session will go ahead whatever the weather)**

**FRIDAY - Y6 Challenge morning at St Thomas More (pupils involved will receive a separate letter regarding the morning)**

