



SCHOOL UPDATES

KS2 SATs:

A huge well done to our Year 6 pupils who have been diligently preparing for their end of KS2 SATs assessments over the past Term.

As has already been explained to the pupils, it is advisable that pupils have a good night's sleep prior to each assessment (as with every school day!), have a healthy breakfast, arrive at school **with plenty of time before the bell at 8:55am**, and to be calm and confident.

Please find below a reminder of the week's timetable:

Date	Activity
Monday 8 May 2017	English reading
Tuesday 9 May 2017	English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: questions English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 2: spelling
Wednesday 10 May 2017	Mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic Mathematics Paper 2: reasoning
Thursday 11 May 2017	Mathematics Paper 3: reasoning

BISHOP'S CUP SUCCESS:

A huge congratulations to the school football team who have qualified for the Semi-Finals of the Bishop's Cup after defeating St Theresa's (Heaton) and St Mary's (Blackhill) in a tightly contested Quarter-Final this week. We wish the boys continued success in their cup run.

TERM DATES - ADDITIONS:

Please note that there will be two **Film Nights** this Term to raise money for the School Fund, they will be on:

Monday 22nd May (3:15-5:00 p.m.) for KS2

Wednesday 24th May (3:15-5:00 p.m.) for KS1

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.

WHOLE SCHOOL FUN RUN:

On Friday 26th May, Years Reception, 1, 2, 3 and 5 will be taking part in the Gateshead Fun Run at Saltwell Park. The event promises to be a great opportunity for the pupils to take part in a sporting competition against other schools, representing and competing for St Mary's. We will give further details nearer the day, but with transport being a consideration in attending this event, we are asking for a voluntary donation of £2 per family to go towards the cost of the coach hire. Please send cash in to school in a clearly labelled envelope before Friday 19th May. Thank you.

1st HOLY COMMUNION MEETING:

For parents of pupils in Year 4: there will be a meeting to discuss this year's 1st Holy Communion Mass on Tuesday 9th May at 5pm; at the meeting there will be an opportunity to ask any pertinent questions about the day, and a letter will be sent home following the meeting with key information for family and friends attending the celebration.

ST THOMAS MORE OPEN DAY:

The St Thomas More open day for parents of pupils in Y5 will now only take place during the morning session on Thursday 11th May. The evening session has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

200 CLUB:

Please see below the winners of the Friends of St Mary's 200 Club draw.

February 2017:

Prize	Number	Winner
£50	149	Nora Earl
£25	119	Louise Young
£15	171	Max Williamson
£10	66	Christine Wood

March 2017:

Prize	Number	Winner
£50	22	James Alder
£25	126	Molly Spreadbury
£15	99	Marinda Reid
£10	137	Josh Whitfield

April 2017:

Prize	Number	Winner
£50	165	Katherine Fawcett
£25	184	Caroline Hopkinson
£15	117	David Sutcliffe
£10	120	Sharon McCready

REMINDERS

NEW INTAKE:

Parents of pupils who will be starting in Reception class in September 2017 have now been informed if they have received a place at school. If there are any prospective parents, new to the area or seeking alternative school provision for their child, who would like to visit the school, or discuss places at St Mary's with Mr Wheatley (especially for Reception 2017), please contact the school office to make an appointment. Please spread the word to family or friends who may be interested in this.

GENERAL ELECTION – DATE CHANGE:

The first date change of the Term is a fairly significant one. Though we had been informed last Term that we were not going to be used as a polling station this academic year, we have now all learned that there will indeed be a General Election this year.

As such, we will need to make the following alterations to ensure that pupils are in school for the required number of days this year:

School will now be open as normal on Monday 5th June, but will be closed on Thursday 8th June.

SUMMER UNIFORM:

As we hopefully move towards lighter and brighter days, pupils may now come to school in summer uniform (i.e. summer dresses and shorts). Please be reminded that sandals/open toe shoes should not be worn for school.

ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS:

As a school we are currently collecting Active Kids vouchers (available from Sainsbury's) in order to purchase sporting resources for school. If you – or someone you know – shops at Sainsbury's, we would be very grateful if you could collect and send the vouchers in to school; they will be greatly received, and will go towards continuing to provide excellent sporting opportunities for all at St Mary's. Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S:

The next meeting for the Friends of St Mary's will be Thursday 25th May, 9am at school. All welcome!

ADULT'S CHOIR:

There will be a meeting of the Adult's Choir at 6pm on Wednesday 10th May; all welcome. Please find future dates on the school website.

PARISH COFFEE MORNING:

An ex-pupil of the school, Oliver Williams, is running a coffee morning on Saturday 20th May in St Mary's Church hall (10am-1:30pm) to raise money for his part in the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. There will be a tombola, bric-a-brac stall and more; please come along and offer your support if you're able.

THE WEEK AHEAD W/C : 08/05/17

KS2 SATs Week

- MONDAY – Y5 C2C Bike Ride (3:15-5pm)
- TUESDAY – 1st Holy Communion session for parents (5pm)
- WEDNESDAY – Y1 Trip to Alnwick (pupils to arrive at school for the start of the school day with a packed lunch, and suitable, warm clothing).
- THURSDAY – Y5 Big Sing event at St Thomas More (9:30am-12:30pm)
St Thomas More open morning for Y5 parents (9:30am)
- FRIDAY – Y3/4 Orienteering at Kingsmeadow (pupils involved will receive a separate letter with specific details).
- SUNDAY – National League Trust Under-11s final at Wembley Stadium!