



## SCHOOL UPDATES

### KS2 SATs:

A huge well done to all our Year 6 pupils who have completed their SATs assessments this week. Each one of them has worked incredibly hard all year, and certainly in the last few weeks leading up to their tests. I'm sure they've all done wonderfully well, and can be so proud of the progress they've made this year. Needless to say, there'll be no let-up in challenge and expectation between now and the end of term – but we can certainly say goodbye to practice papers and revision guides from this point!

### SUMMER TERM CURRICULUM OVERVIEWS:

The Curriculum Overviews for each class will be available to download and view on the curriculum page of the school website (<http://www.whickhamstmarys.org.uk/curriculum.html>). On the overviews, you will see the curriculum content and extended learning opportunities that your child will cover/have this term.

### Y1 TRIP TO ALNWICK CASTLE:

Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Alnwick Castle this week. A particular highlight for the children was exploring the dungeon and taking part in the Dragon Quest - exciting stuff! Keep an eye on the Year 1 Blog for some photos of the day.

### WEMBLEY FINAL:

Good luck to the seven boys from Year 6 (Charlie French, Alexander Humble, Michael Mallaburn, Adam Nisbet, Matthew Noble, Barney Podbury and Joe Thompson) who will be representing the school, on behalf of Gateshead FC, at the finals of the National League Trust U11s final this weekend. We know that this will be a once in a lifetime opportunity for the boys, and will have a fantastic day out whatever the final result!

### MORE THAN DANCE:

Year 4 will be spending a day of prayer, reflection and Dance with liturgical dance company 'More Than Dance' on Wednesday. The children should ensure that they have their PE kit in school, including trainers.

### C2C RIDE – MONDAY:

On Monday the C2C group will be completing a 50km ride (similar to a day's riding during the challenge week). As such, Ben needs all participants in school for 7:45am, for an 8am start. The riders should be back to school for 3:30pm, and will need a packed lunch (money for adults) and to be prepared for whatever the weather decides to be on Monday!

### WHOLE SCHOOL FUN RUN:

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May, Years Reception, 1, 2, 3 and 5 will be taking part in the Gateshead Fun Run at Saltwell Park. Please could children bring in their £2 voluntary contribution towards the cost of transportation, in a clearly labelled envelope, by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you!

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> June, but will be closed on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June.**

### 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 22<sup>nd</sup> May (3:15-5:00 p.m.) for KS2

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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 25<sup>th</sup> May, 9am at school. All welcome!

### SMALL SAINTS:

Small Saints are open during the May half term from 7:45 through till 6pm at a cost of £20 per day per child. If you would like to secure a place please contact Leanne on 07882421973

We are also open June 8<sup>th</sup> while school is closed for those parents who may need.

PARISH COFFEE MORNING:

An ex-pupil of the school, Oliver Williams, is running a coffee morning on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> 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 and bric-a-brac stall as well as a Spring photo competition (please send any entries in to school for collection by the end of next week, or bring along on the day; 7x5 images with name, school name and year group on the back; two prizes on offer); please come along and offer your support if you're able.

THE WEEK AHEAD W/C : 15/05/17

MONDAY – Y5 C2C Bike Ride (8am – 3:15pm)

TUESDAY – Y5 Cycling Proficiency (4/5)  
Good Shepherd Mass (two pupils to represent the school at a Diocesan celebration)

WEDNESDAY – More Than Dance in Y4

THURSDAY – Y3 and 4 Forest School

