

SCHOOL UPDATES

TRIPS GALORE:

This term, we've had a huge array of visits and visitors in school, including:

- Y5's trip to the Tyneside Cinema to learn about animation and the history of the moving picture.
- Reception Class and Y2's trip to the Great Museum of the North.
- Reception Class' trip – by bus, metro and ferry (!!) – to Sandhaven beach, South Shields.
- Y6's day at Gibside (part of transition to St Thomas More).
- Gem Arts sessions across school.

These opportunities to continue and extend our learning are invaluable, and we appreciate your continued support in allowing us to plan for and provide these opportunities for your child. You can see a range of pictures from these visits on our school Twitter feed (@whickhamstmarys) – which can also be viewed on the home page of our school website (www.whickhamstmarys.org.uk).

SPORTS UPDATE:

It has, once again, been a very busy week of sport at St Mary's.

Firstly, on Wednesday, following a very successful season, Mrs Joyce's Y5/6 Netball teams battled to 2nd and 3rd place respectively in a tournament held at St Thomas More displaying amazing skill, determination and fair play along the way.

On Thursday, we took 8 pupils from Y5 to take part in an afternoon of lawn bowls and Lyndhurst Bowling Club. Despite the sport being brand new, the pupils had an amazing afternoon in the sun, and even brought home gold medals, as well as a beautiful salver and signed England shirt for our trophy cabinet which were presented by Commonwealth bronze medalist David Bolt – who spent the afternoon coaching and encouraging the pupils.

We then hosted the Semi-finals of the Northern Cross girls' football tournament on a wonderful, sunny Thursday evening. The St Mary's girls faced tough competition from three other teams: St James' (Jarrow), St Matthew's (Jarrow) and Our Lady of the Rosary (Peterlee), but after some wonderful football, eventually qualified alongside St Matthew's for the finals to be held in a week's time.

We capped off this wonderful week of sport by taking 20 pupils from KS2 to participate in the Gateshead Athletics Festival, held annually at the International Stadium. The pupils – once again – represented the school admirably demonstrating amazing talent, resilience and respect, and everyone involved had a thoroughly enjoyable day. We even managed to bring home some medals!

Check out our updates from all of these events on our Twitter feed.

Y6 FIVER CHALLENGE MARKET PLACE:

Our 2nd annual Y6 Fiver Challenge market place went down a storm on Thursday with our football court area transforming in to a 'pop-up' market with stalls selling all manner of handmade, bespoke, one-off designs including: dreamcatchers, tote bags, candle-holders, pebble art, clothes peg toys and much more! The pupils had an amazing time preparing for and leading the market place, and it was wonderful to see the pupils' entrepreneurial spirit and creativity coming to the fore. Thank you, on behalf of the pupils, for supporting the project; all profits raised from the project will go to a charity chosen by the Y6 pupils.

FRENCH DAY:

Next week, we will spend a day celebrating French language and culture with Mrs Innerdale, our modern foreign languages teacher. On Thursday, pupils are invited to come in to school in their own clothes – red, white and blue where possible! Pupils in Y6 will be running a French café in the morning, and there will be a range of fun activities going on across school. We would also like to invite parents/carers to come along to hear some French songs that we've been learning this year; this will (weather-dependent) take place at 2:40pm on the school yard – it'd be lovely to see many of you there to help us celebrate the day!

ST MARY'S 'GREAT EXHIBITION':

Next week, we will be sending out a programme of events for our upcoming St Mary's Great Exhibition on Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th July. Our exhibition spaces are beginning to take shape, and it promises to be a wonderful celebration of the pupils' learning over the past term.

OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI CELEBRATION MASS AND SOCIAL:

On Friday 6th July, there will be a Mass held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lobley Hill to celebrate the amalgamation of the parishes of St Mary's, St Philip Neri and Immaculate Heart in to the new parish of 'Our Lady and St Philip Neri'. The Mass will also serve as an induction for Fr Peter Leighton, and promises to be a wonderful celebratory event. The Mass, which will begin at 6:30pm, will be followed by a 'prosecco reception' and a shared table.

Nb. Mr Wheatley will be asking pupils who intend to go along to the Mass to help with a couple of jobs this week, so it would be really useful if they know for certain whether they are able to come along. Many thanks!

CASH DONATIONS C2C:

Please could all cash donations for the C2C challenge 2018 be made to the school office by Friday 6th July.

REMINDERS

FAMILY LEARNING:

Our Maths Matters family learning sessions continue on a Thursday morning (9-11am). Even if you haven't taken part in the project yet, you may still come along – and the sessions are open to parents/carers, grandparents or other significant family members. Next week's session will be focusing on strategies for addition and subtraction, and resources will be made within the session to promote continued learning at home.

THE WEEK AHEAD (02.07.18 –06.07.18)

MONDAY -

Bike it Ben – Cycle Skills/Scooter Games

Y1 & Y3 Gem Arts Workshop

Mini Tennis Tournament at Blaydon Tennis Club

WEDNESDAY –

Y3 Trip to Beamish Museum

Sports Leadership Day at St. Thomas More 10 Y5 pupils

Outdoor & Adventurous at Gibside 8 Y2 pupils

THURSDAY –

FRENCH DAY (showcase of French singing at 2:40pm – all welcome)

Maths Matters Session 3

NO IRISH DANCING

FRIDAY –

6:30pm Our Lady and St Philip Neri celebration Mass an social event at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lobley Hill