



SCHOOL UPDATES

KS2 SATs:

A huge well done to all our Y6 pupils who have approached 'SATs Week' with admirable maturity and determination. Mrs Ledger – and indeed the whole school staff – is incredibly proud of the progress each of our Y6 pupils has made, and we know that whatever the outcome, they can hold their heads high knowing that they have given the tests their absolute best effort.

SPORTS UPDATE – WHOLE SCHOOL QUAD KIDS:

Tomorrow (Friday 18th May), all pupils in school will be taking part in an intra-school 'Quad Kids' competition. Pupils will take part in a number of different events, and the competition will promote the benefits of sporting competition in a supportive and encouraging environment. As such, pupils are asked to come in to school in their PE kit (with hoodies/tracksuit over the top if needed).

ACTIVITY WEEK:

Next week (21.5.18 – 25.5.18), we will be having an 'activity week' in school, focusing on 'new experiences through activity and exercise'. This will be our Extended Learning Week for the half term – a week in which we collapse the curriculum to focus on one particular area of learning. Below, you will find a timetable of events for the week. **Pupils will need their PE kit and trainers in school all week.** We would ask that pupils take their PE kit home on Thursday night to be washed and worn to school on Friday 25th May (with hoodies/tracksuit over the top if needed) for the Gateshead Fun Run event.

DAY	EVENT
MONDAY	Gateshead Tennis Fun Day. Y4 Skipping Festival (all Y4 to participate).
TUESDAY	Sport and Citizenship day (including Unicef and Cafod workshops).
WEDNESDAY	Hoopstarz (hula-hooping workshop) <i>Following the session, pupils can purchase their own hoop for £3 (please send money in to school in a clearly labelled envelope).</i>
THURSDAY	Team Northumbria Netball sessions.
FRIDAY	Gateshead Fun Run. <i>*see below</i>

Year 6 will be on residential at Knock Christian Centre with 'Canoes, Mountains and Caves' all week.

GATESHEAD FUN RUN:

As we will be leaving early for this event, **all pupils must be in school for 8:15am**. School will be open from 8am for drop-off (as normal in the playground). Please could all adult helpers report to the main school entrance by 8:10am for a quick debrief prior to the event.

Pupils will need to come in to school in full school PE kit (with hoodies/tracksuit over the top if needed), prepared for the elements (sun hat, suncream etc) and with their own water bottle.

FILM NIGHT:

Please ensure that all pupils bring in money for Film Night prior to the event, in a clearly labelled envelope; the cost (including a hot dog, drink and popcorn) is £3.50 per pupil, or £5 per family. This term, KS1 will be watching *Ferdinand* and KS2 will be watching *Paddington 2*.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION TIES:

Communion ties are now available for purchase from the school office priced at £5 each. The ties are to be worn by all boys receiving the sacrament on the day.

FRIENDS COFFEE MORNING FRIDAY 8TH JUNE:

The Friends of St Mary's will be holding a coffee morning in the school hall on Friday 8th June from 9-10am. There will be an array of tasty treats and cakes available to buy, and all friends, family, little ones and the St Mary's wider community are welcome. Funds raised on the day are going towards Year 6 leavers activities, and we will be selling any "left over" cakes in the yard after school at 3:15pm, so please come along and support. Thank you.

We will also be sending out information in due course regarding the Friends Summer Picnic event which will be held on Tuesday 10th July from 3:15 – 5:30pm. Please put the date in the diary, and tell your friends and family to come along and support the event.

REMINDERS

ESCHOOLS:

All school contacts should have received a new eschools username and password via the pupils' blue bags this week. The system has been trialled on both iOS and Android devices, and seems to be working fine. The process to get back in to eschools is to:

1. Uninstall and delete the app.
2. Re-install the new version of the eschools app.
3. To follow the instructions on the slip provided to login with your new username and password.
4. To ensure that your device allows file storage from the app (this should be prompted on initial set-up, but may also need to be changed via your device's settings).

UNIFORM – HAIR AND MAKE-UP:

We have had to deal with a number of instances recently in which pupils have been sent to school with haircuts which have not been in-keeping with the school dress code. Please could all parents/carers be reminded that hair should be 'clipped' no shorter than a grade 3 (with no shaved lines), and that shoulder length hair should be tied back, with fringes kept short (out of eyes). With regards make-up, no form of make-up, including nail varnish, should be worn in school. Pupils have been reminded of this, and we would ask that parents/carers support the school in maintaining the high standards of which we are proud at St Mary's. If anyone has any queries about uniform, please feel free to get in contact with Mr Wheatley for a chat.

END OF SCHOOL DAY

Please be advised that school gates will be closed promptly at 3:30pm each night and re-opened for collection from after-school clubs. Whereas we don't want to discourage pupils from having a few minutes play (on the court, adventure trail etc), pupils have been reminded that school rules still apply before and after school (eg. no children within the 'forest school' area, no swinging on goalposts, no hiding in/climbing trees etc), and we would ask that parents/carers collecting children from school help support school staff in ensuring that all children are closely supervised and follow these rules. Thank you!

THE GREAT ST MARY'S EXHIBITION 2018:

In previous years, we have ended the school year with a 'Summer Showcase', which has seen pupils across school performing musical medleys around a chosen theme. This year, we have decided to showcase our pupils work and talents slightly differently. Taking inspiration from the Great Exhibition of the North (<https://getnorth2018.com/>) which gets underway in June, we will be hosting our own exhibition, with each class 'curating' their own exhibit around a curriculum theme of their choice on the 10th and 11th of July. The Summer Showcases have always been a way of celebrating the gifts and talents of our pupils with our wider community, and we are hopeful that our Great Exhibition will do likewise – albeit in a changed format. We will share more details nearer the time, and explain how you can get involved in the event.

HAPPY FEET:

A reminder that Happy Feet now finishes at 4:15pm. Please ensure that pupils are collected at this time.

TENNIS:

There are spaces for pupils in KS1 for our Monday night Tennis club. Interested parents to contact Mrs Noble in the school office for more information.

THE WEEK AHEAD (21.5.18 – 25.5.18)

Activity Week (see timetable in 'School Updates')

MONDAY –

C2C after-school ride (3:30-5:30pm)

TUESDAY –

KS1 Film Night

NO HAPPY FEET

WEDNESDAY –

KS2 Film Night

Y5 Hi 5 Netball (pupils involved will receive an individual letter)

THURSDAY –

Friends of St Mary's meeting (9am at school)

Y3 Class Liturgy (2:45pm in school; all welcome)

FRIDAY –

NO GYMNASTICS

