



SCHOOL UPDATES

SEPTEMBER 2017:

Though we would never wish away the remaining time we have in the current school year, it is at this time of year that we begin to plan ahead for September. On the 13th of July, all pupils in school will be spending the morning in their new class – with their new class teacher. In order to prepare them for this morning, we're delighted to announce that the following teachers will be in place for September 2017:

Rec Class – Mrs Joyce and Mrs Recchia

Year 1 – Mrs Sanderson

Year 2 – Mrs Pomeroy

Year 3 – Mrs Gardner

Year 4 – Mrs McTernan

Year 5 – Mr Colling

Year 6 – Mrs Ledger

MUSIC SHOWCASE – TICKETS:

As you will be aware, our end-of-year music showcases are a fantastic celebration of the artistic, cultural and musical achievements of our pupils across school. Taking place over two days, pupils will be involved in whole-class performances which have – this year – been inspired by the soundtracks of some much-loved films; we will also be taking the opportunity, at each performance, to exhibit work that has been completed across school within a whole-school curriculum topic of 'Journeys and Explorers'.

As with previous years, there is an expectation that all pupils will be involved in both shows (Tuesday 18th July, 2-4pm, and Wednesday 19th July, 4-6pm). In the event of an exceptional circumstance that would prevent your child from being involved in the performances, we would ask that parents/carers inform school as soon as possible, so that teachers may plan around this from the outset.

Attached, you will find information regarding the purchase of tickets for the events. Ticket sales will go to cover the cost of marquee hire, which allows us to share the events with over twice as many people than our school hall would allow. Please return the attached slip by the time specified to ensure you get the tickets required for you and your family.

Any other issues, please don't hesitate to get in contact with your child's class teacher for more information.

DIOCESAN PRIMARY FESTIVAL:

Next week, Year 6 will be spending a day of reflection and worship at the Emmaus Youth Village, home of the Youth Ministry Team (YMT) along with hundreds of other Year 6 pupils from across the Diocese. The day promises to be a wonderful opportunity for our most senior pupils as they prepare to embark on the next stage of their school journey.

C2C FUNDRAISING:

At present, our C2C champions have raised a whopping £2580 for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust – over five times their original target! Ben Tweedie will be visiting school on Tuesday to share some of the tales from the ride with our pupils, and to drum up support for next year's ride!

You can still donate money to the CF Trust at our Just Giving page (justgiving.com/fundraising/whickhamstmarys) **until Monday 19th June.**

If you would prefer to make a cash donation, we have a number of envelopes in the school office for you to use – which will be available until the end of term.

YEAR 6 SWIMMING:

To ensure that all pupils are able to swim a range of strokes, for a minimum of 25 metres, by the end of KS2, Year 6 will be attending swimming for one session on Friday 23rd June. As such, Year 4 will be having PE instead of their normal Swimming session for one week.

SPORTING UPDATES:

A massive well-done to the pupils involved in the recent Y4 Mini-Tennis and 5/6 orienteering. All the pupils involved in these events represented the school admirably and demonstrated great enthusiasm, skill and determination along the way!

BISHOP'S CUP FINAL:

Good luck to the school football team who will be competing in the Bishop's Cup final at St Aloysius, Hebburn on Tuesday night. The team have qualified through a number of rounds of the Diocesan-wide cup competition, and will be competing to be crowned champions of Hexham and Newcastle for 2017 – some achievement indeed! We'll let you know how they get on next week.

WEDDING BELLS:

A huge congratulations to Miss Snowdon who last week tied the knot, and has returned to school this week as Mrs Eden – which we're all still getting used to! We wish Mr and Mrs Eden a lifetime of love, luck and laughter together!

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.

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

Please find enclosed a uniform list for September 2017 orders. The deadline for guaranteed delivery for September is July 7th. An optional addition of a St Mary's hoodie will be available for PE and sporting activities; pupils will be able to wear this year-round for outdoor PE sessions and when representing the 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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

Please pray for our Year 4 pupils who will be receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist at St Mary's RC Church on Saturday. A reminder that pupils are required for photos at 8:30am, and that Mass will begin at 10am. The church will be open to friends and family from around 9:30am, and we would ask that all members of the congregation are in church for around 9:45am. Family and friends will then be invited to school for refreshments following Mass.

Please also be reminded that pupils may come to Mass in their First Holy Communion attire – should they wish – at any one of our parish Masses over the weekend.

SPORTS DAY:

We will be celebrating our school Sports Day on Friday 7th July. Weather permitting(!), we will be beginning with KS2 (Years 3 -6) events at 9:15am until lunchtime, and KS1 events at 1:15 until around 2:30pm. As with previous years, we would like to invite friends and family (both KS1 and 2) to join us over lunch (from 12pm) for a family picnic on the school field. Throughout the morning, our wonderful Friends of St Mary's group will be selling a range of refreshments for pupils and adults including fresh scones, strawberries and cream, tea/coffee and snacks for the kids. All proceeds will go to support learning and recreational opportunities for pupils in school.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S SUMMER PICNIC:

The Friends of St Mary's will be running our annual Summer family picnic on Monday 17th July from 3:15pm (straight after school). We look forward to seeing parents, grandparents, carers and children at our summer picnic again this year. There will be another Engineering Extravaganza and a 'Sweet Surprise' pop-up stall which will be selling a range of goodies, so all you need to bring is yourselves and a picnic.

If you wish to attend the picnic, please complete the attached reply slip and return to school to give us a rough idea on numbers in preparation for the event. We look forward to seeing you all there.

For those children who normally attend after-school club on a Monday, Leanne and the team will be taking the children along to join in the fun.

THE WEEK AHEAD W/C : 19/06/17

TUESDAY –

C2C Assembly.

Bishop's Cup Final at St Aloysius, Hebburn (pupils involved have already received a letter with specific details about the event).

WEDNESDAY –

Friends Meeting (9am at school).

Year 6 at the Diocesan Primary Festival (Emmaus Youth Village).

Year 5 Hi-5 Netball (pupils involved have already received a letter with specific details about the event).

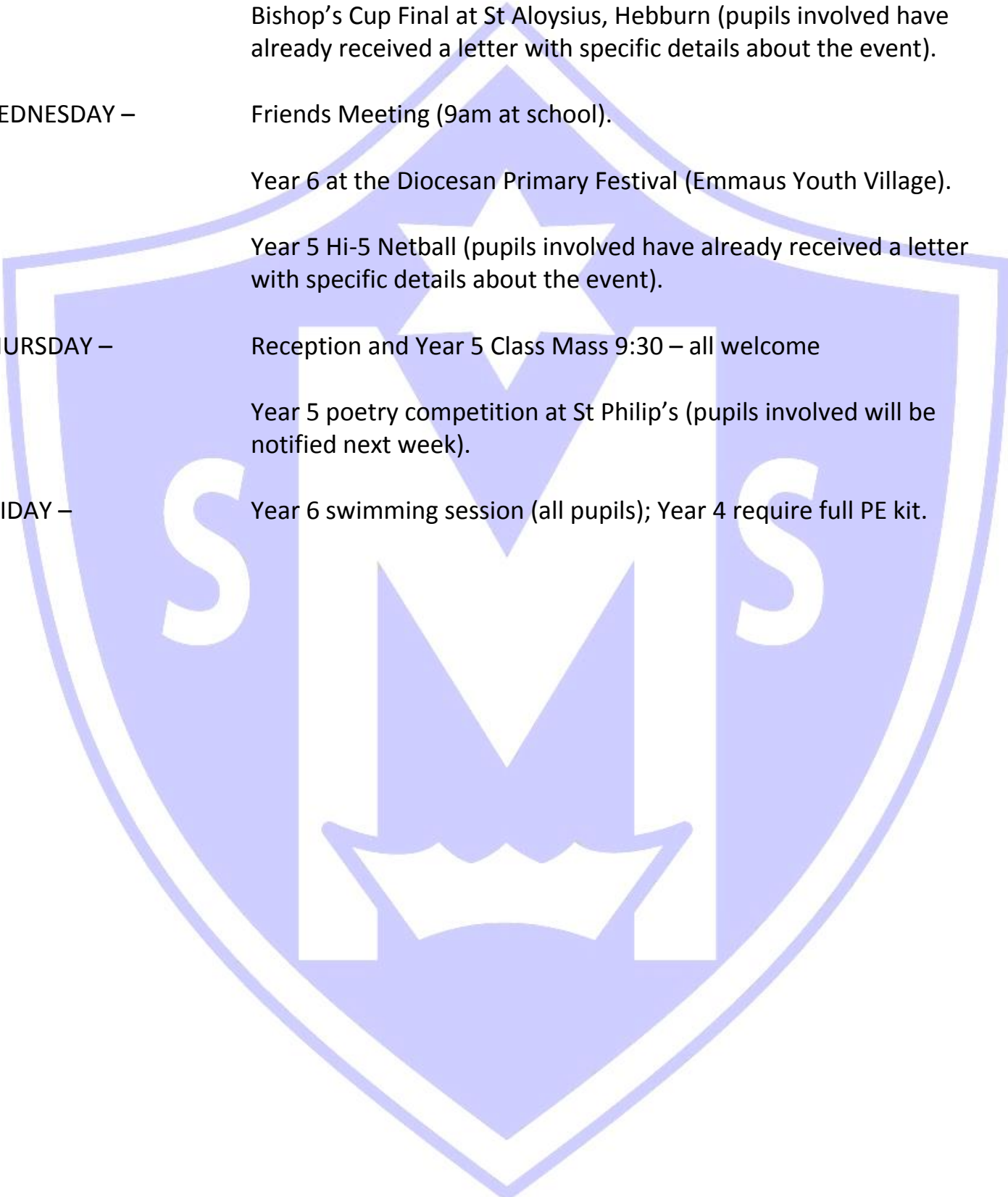
THURSDAY –

Reception and Year 5 Class Mass 9:30 – all welcome

Year 5 poetry competition at St Philip's (pupils involved will be notified next week).

FRIDAY –

Year 6 swimming session (all pupils); Year 4 require full PE kit.



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