



NEWSLETTER No 6: 10th March 2014

St Mary's CE Primary School
email: info@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk
This newsletter is on the school website:
www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

Dear Parents

Staffing news

Samantha Riley will be getting married during the Easter holidays. She will return as Mrs Evans, her class will remain as 4R. Our best wishes go to the happy couple for a wonderful day.

Parent Teacher consultations

Parent Teacher consultations are on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th March, 4 – 7 pm. Please remember school closes **one** hour earlier on both days so teachers have time to prepare for interviews. There will be no school run clubs w/c 10th March, apart from Netball squad on Tuesday morning. Thank you.

Proposed teachers strike

Proposed strike action Wednesday 26th March 2014. The school will operate as normal on this day.

Governing body news from Lucy MacArthur, Chair

The governors highly value professional development of the staff. It affects the teaching and learning directly. Children benefit most obviously if their teachers are well trained and up to date with good practice. Governors, too, have many opportunities for continued professional development. This also directly affects teaching and learning and enhances the children's experience in school. Training undertaken by governors is extensive, but examples include: data analysis, to help governors understand our results and our targets and how to interpret them. Health and Safety training, to ensure the premises are properly checked and that the school provides a safe environment for the children to learn. Leadership training so the governors can continue to drive improvement through working closely with the senior leaders. Recruitment training to ensure we follow robust procedures when we make appointments. Pupil Premium so we understand the importance of supporting disadvantaged groups.

Governing body news (continued)

Safeguarding to ensure we know how to support the school in protecting a vulnerable child. Special Educational Needs, so we are prepared for forthcoming changes to the law and can support the school to ensure every child reaches their full potential. Financial management training to guarantee a healthy, well managed budget, and understand grants allocated and how to monitor their impact on school. The main purpose of the governors is to improve the school. We look forward to corresponding with you shortly with an important survey to be carried out before the Easter holidays. Collecting your views is another important aspect of our work. Like the training we do, consulting with you directly affects the children too, because we listen to what you say about our school and, where we can, take appropriate action.

Message from Father Piotr

We have begun the time of Lent and we look forward to the Easter Service on 1st April 10am (Tuesday) at St Mary's Church, prepared by children from the Junior Site. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that our next "Messy" Church will take place on Friday 9th May at St Mary's church. We need help from parents to organise this creative and so well attended service. Please do contact me if you wish to help. Thank you.

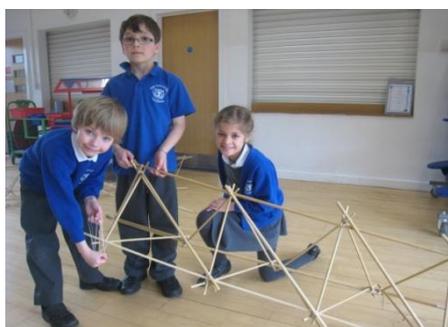
Father Piotr
piotrashwin@btinternet.com

Assemblies

Thank you to Mr Molyneux and 5M, Miss Riley and 4R for such splendid assemblies, enjoyed by all.

Bridges workshop

On Friday 28th February Alban, Amelie and Olly went to Marshgate Primary School for a Bridges workshop with Mrs Turner. The children used wooden sticks and rubber bands to make tetrahedra, which were then combined to form other 3D shapes. There was a lot of discussion about shape using mathematical language, counting faces and edges and thinking about how triangles make structures stable.



Bridges workshop (continued)

The final part of the afternoon was to make a long suspended bridge that spanned the whole length of the school hall. It was a great collaborative effort!

Olly reported: "It was really brilliant because you got to make a bridge only using two things: sticks and rubber bands."

"I give it 10 out of 10," said Amelie.

Alban commented: "It was fun; I liked putting all the sticks together."

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and learned how versatile sticks and rubber bands are for making large and complex structures.

Primary Maths Challenge 2013

Congratulations to Isla Flett for achieving a bronze award in the 2013 Primary Maths Challenge. 77,000 primary aged children nationwide entered the challenge last November including our year 6 children. Isla was one of only 520 to be put forward to sit the February bonus round paper, and by gaining the bronze award this puts her in the top 256 in the country. Well done, Isla. At St Mary's we continue to challenge our pupils in mathematics and to succeed at the highest level.

Sports news

Hockey:

Lucilda White (5B) and Dan Hunt (4R) were selected to represent Teddington Hockey Club in the In2Hockey Middlesex Championships on Sunday 2nd March. This is a seven a side tournament with entries from all the major hockey clubs in Middlesex. The winners and runners up qualify to go on and represent Middlesex in the South Finals which take place at the end of this month where they will face opposition from all the other South counties – Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. Lucilda captained the girls Under 10s and Dan captained the boys so St Mary's has supplied both captains in this age group. I am delighted to tell you that Teddington won both the boys and girls tournaments last weekend making them Middlesex Champions for 2013/2014. We are very proud of Lucilda and Dan and wish them luck in the finals at the end of this month.



Netball:

Netball Provision at St Mary's

At the end of last term, we were delighted to have over 60 children trial for a place in the Netball Squad. Due to high demand, both a club and an additional squad were introduced, increasing the opportunity to play netball from 16 places to 50 places, all of which were filled. During the Spring Term, we have coached a Junior Squad, a Development Squad and the Netball Club. As netball is a winter sport, for the Summer Term we will only be operating the Development Squad, with trials to be held near the end of this Term.

St Mary's v St John's the Baptist

On Tuesday this week, the St Mary's Junior Squad played an away friendly against St John's the Baptist. In our previous League match, St Mary's had come off second best, and St John's A team went on to win the League. This was an opportunity for St Mary's to put into practise the strategies and techniques we've been working so hard on since the beginning of term. As it was a friendly, after two quarters we swapped oppositions, so our Squad played against both St John's A and B teams.

St Mary's Red played St John's B, and at half time handed a 4-0 lead over to St Mary's Blue. With an amazing display of skill and shooting ability that lead was extended, with a final score of 9-1.

On the other court, St Mary's Blue commenced a tough battle against a strong and feisty St John's A team. At half time we were trailing 3-1. St Mary's Red took to the court, executed some near perfect passages of play, playing with great heart, skill and commitment. Not only did they prevent St John's A from scoring any further goals, but they also pulled past with some accurate shooting. Final score was 5-3.

So, a win on both courts, thoroughly enjoyed by all our players, almost as much as the biscuits and squash so kindly provided by St John's!

Many thanks to the parents and grandparents for help with transportation and support.

St Mary's v Chennestone Primary

On Thursday last week, St Mary's played a home friendly against visiting Chennestone Primary School. This match represented another opportunity to try our moves out against a talented team, and the game was extended to six four-minute periods rather than the usual four six-minute periods to ensure all our squad were on court at least twice.

The match was fiercely contested, with both teams playing at whirlwind pace. After four rounds, St Mary's were up 6-2, but Chennestone kept up a determined fight, and scored some excellent goals; spurring St Mary's to lift their game. When the final whistle blew, St Mary's had done it again, final score 9-4.

Netball (continued):

Many thanks to Chennestone Primary for making the effort to play against us, and we hope to organise a re-match again soon.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the entire Junior Squad for their dedication and commitment to improving their performance as a Team. The progress they have made is incredible and a testament to their enthusiasm.



Chess club news

EPSCA National Primary Schools Chess Championships February 8th 2014

The St Mary's U11 chess team played in the EPSCA tournament on Saturday 8th February. The team consisted of Joseph Williams, William Sandford-Morgan, Maria Van der Vegt, Kiarash Keshvari, Louis Wilkins and Jean-Sebastian Prenovost.

All the team played well but were up against some stiff competition! In five rounds Joseph won three games, Will won one game, Maria won one and Louis won one and drew one. For most members of the team it was their first tournament; however, it was a valuable experience for the children to play competitive chess and they had a great day as you can see from the photograph!



Sarah Williams

Mr Wilson. Headteacher for the morning on 11th February 2014

I was dressed in a smart blue shirt complete with a matching dark blue tie. I was more than ready to take on being Headteacher of St Marys School.

I took a Celebration assembly on the infant site. I read out the children's names and I gave the children their celebration stickers.

I took the green brick playtime and I choose Daniel as my friend to play with.

I went to the middle site and visited all the classes and looked at some lessons. I watched Miss D'Arcy and Mr Holmes teach.

I was given some fruit which I ate during the morning break time.

I then went to the junior site and visited all the Year 4, 5 and 6 classes.

I met the office staff who gave me a glass of water.

The best bit about being a Headteacher is going into the classrooms and asking the children what they were doing.

The worst bit about being a Headteacher was going outside as it was very windy and wet.

James Wilson 1K



Lunch at “Bill’s” with Mr Campbell

Will and I wanted our Mummy and Daddy to bid at the Christmas fair to have lunch with Mr Campbell at Bill’s.

We were very excited about it and we did not expect to win.

We were worried about the food and how much fun we would have with Mr Campbell.

When the time came we walked to Bill’s in Richmond but we got there too early so we went up the hill and looked in some shops.

Then we went back and waited for one minute and out of nowhere appeared a very smart looking Mr Campbell.

I chose sausage and mash and Will chose fish fingers and chips and Mr Campbell had a salad dish. We told some jokes and talked about our friend’s and where Kingston was.

We waited for half an hour and our food came, Will’s food came last. We didn’t talk much after that but had a little chat about Kingston again.

Me and Will did a bit of daydreaming but finished our meal. When we all finished Mr Campbell called our Mum and Dad. ***Erin & Will 3 Poplars & Reception Swifts***

Message for Year 6 parents: French trip

Please could you send your payments into the school office as soon as possible, marked for the attention of our Finance Officer, Denise Donald. Should you have any concerns, please speak to me or Tom Holmes. Thank you.

Unwanted toys for Reception please

If you have any unwanted toys in good condition, which you are willing to donate: such as Lego, dolls, trains, dolls house accessories or anything you feel young children in reception may enjoy. Reception would be very grateful.

Spare clothing for the infant and middle site please

The infant and middle sites desperately need spare clothing, in case of accidents etc. If you have any spare (aged 4 – 6 please) socks (boys and girls), tights, knickers, pants, trousers, skirts, tee shirts or dresses, please hand into the school office. The middle site particularly need spare knickers and pants, aged 7, 8 & 9 please. Thank you very much.

Sickness and diarrhoea

To stop the spread of infection, I would ask parents to remember that children should not return to school until 48 hours after a bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parking in Candler Mews

Parents are requested not to park in Candler Mews when dropping off or picking up their children on the middle site. Thank you.

Berty Bank at the junior site



Every time Berty Bank is emptied, St Mary's earns up to £200.

Berty Bank is also holding a competition in 2014 to see which school can collect the most textiles from their Berty Bank. The winner will receive £100.00 cash and one year's free membership to Our Wastebuster Education Programme which is worth another £150.00 so that's a prize worth over £250.00!

Here is the link to the Wastebuster Website which will show you all the resources and interesting things that pupils can use it for:

<http://www.wastebuster.co.uk>

Library Service - Free Wi-Fi access available to pupils

The recent upgrade enables pupils and staff from schools using LGfL 2.0 services to access the internet from within libraries using web access policies managed by their school. For many, this will enable significantly greater access to internet-based learning resources and web sites than the non-adult public policies normally applied by default will allow.

To benefit from the service, students and staff can use their LGfL USO account details to access the libraries' wireless networks using their own laptops, tablets and other mobile devices. WebScreen filtering policies, set up and managed by the school, will then be applied for all pupils (or groups of pupils) that have been so identified by their schools, whenever they are offered the option to log in and bypass the local policy.

Details on how to set up relevant user lists and policies can be found here:

https://support.atomwide.com/secure/guide/WebGuide/Help.html?user-based_policies.html

To access more information about any aspect of the above, please contact the LGfL Service Desk during standard support hours on 020 8255 5555 option 3, or raise a case on this Support Site.

Community Learning Survey - win an iPad or £100 towards a course

The Richmond Community Learning Partnership would like to find out residents' views on current and future adult learning provision in the borough. We are interested in hearing from existing and potential learners to hear what adult learning activities would be of interest and how any barriers to learning could be overcome.

If you complete the survey at <https://consultation.richmond.gov.uk/education-childrens-and-cultural-services/learning> you can be entered into a prize draw to win an iPad or a £100 credit towards further learning (terms and conditions apply). Deadline: 30 April 2014.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Campbell
Head Teacher (headteacher@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk)
10th March 2014



THE ROYAL SOCIETY
Associate Schools and Colleges



RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

St Mary's CE School is a member of the RFU Education Partnership