



NEWSLETTER No 7: 4th April 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

Happy Easter

On behalf of all staff, we hope you have a relaxing and happy Easter. We remember that Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, is the most important Christian festival, and the one celebrated with the greatest joy.



Our Easter service

Year 5 led a fantastic service on Tuesday 1st April at the middle site. I would like to thank the children and their teachers for all their hard work. Thank you also for your very generous donations to Humanitas. We will let you know how much we raised in due course.



A message from Graham French, father of Kate & Lotte

Thanks to John Kennett, grandfather of Kate and Lotte French, for his kind gift of a bench for the junior site in memory of Kate and Lotte's mother, Susannah. The gift is in recognition of the school's kindness in supporting the family following Sue's death, including allowing the middle site to be used for refreshments after the funeral. A further bench in memory of Sue, kindly funded by her friends at the school, will soon be installed in York Gardens.



Staffing news

Many congratulations to Katy and Nick Cliffe on the birth of their daughter, Seren Mair.

Assemblies

Thank you to Ms Glenister and Miss D'Arcy for their wonderfully inspiring assemblies.



Questionnaires

Thank you for returning completed questionnaires. We will let you have the results after the Easter holiday.

Reminder

Please remember to take everything home on the last day of term. Our PFI provider cleans the school thoroughly and will dispose of any items left in school. Thank you.

Good to be Green

We have now started "Good to be Green" in each of our Reception classes. This is part of our whole school approach to behaviour management. Our "Good to be Green" system is used to positively reinforce good behaviour and encourage improvement as well as offer a consistent, fair approach to discipline throughout school. All the children have been spoken to in detail and are very aware of how and why the system works.

Year 3 Ancient Egypt exhibition

On Friday 14th March Elms, Pines and Poplars displayed their pictures and artefacts about Ancient Egypt in a special exhibition. Together they created a St Mary's Museum of Ancient Egyptian antiquities. Both galleries showed what Ancient Egyptians believed about the afterlife. Each artefact was accompanied by a carefully decorated caption to explain the significance of the object. The pupils proudly showed their exhibits to all the Year 3 classes and were especially pleased to welcome Mr Campbell and Mr Holmes to the exhibition too.

Visitor's comments included:

"I really liked the pyramids because they were 3D"

"I learned that cats were mummified"

"The 3D pyramids look realistic"

"I learned that Ra was the first Egyptian God"

"There's loads of teamwork and everything's detailed"

Mr Campbell gave a special mention to Stefan's and Evie's exhibits.

Mr Holmes said *"I really enjoyed the layout and the words and pictures, well done."*



Mastermind competition

Once again, pupils in Years 5 and 6 were quizzed in the 'black chair' to find St Mary's Mastermind Champion 2014. Evan, Bryn, Isla, Ethan, Daniel, Daisy, Ben, Denise and Sophia answered general knowledge questions and then further questions on their specialist subjects which ranged from the book 'Animal Farm' to the topic of budgerigars. After some extremely quick answering and superb subject knowledge, Ethan was crowned champion with Daisy second and Denise, Sophia and Isla joint third. Congratulations to all participants.



Year 2 Music Club

Year 2 enjoyed a concert on Monday 31 March given by the Year 2 Music Club members. Mrs McKechnie and the children have worked hard all term and the eight musicians demonstrated their talents on a range of instruments.

Rosa, who participated, said *"It felt exciting to do it but I was quite nervous as well. I was very proud of myself."*

Year 2 topic: Japan

Year 2 were delighted to meet a real life "kendōka". Mr Johnson, father of Alexander in Willows, spoke about the history of kendo and demonstrated some awe-inspiring moves.

Lexie said *"It was fun to watch and the costume looked quite cool!"*

Lucy B said *"I liked the costume because my favourite colour is black and the moves were powerful."*

Ted enjoyed it because *"he taught us about Kendo and told us that it is a sport where you have to concentrate with a sword."*

Harrison remembered "The sword is made from bamboo or wood. I thought it was really good because there were different types of swords to see."

Phillip thought it was "Really good because Mr Taylor banged a bamboo sword on the Kendo man's head to show us how hard the sword is."

Carys commented that "It was interesting with lots of information and yet funny at the same time because the audience was chanting."



Year 4 Roman day

"Once we had chosen one of our Roman names and dressed up, we went into the hall. Then we started making pots, sticking together mosaics, making good luck charms and doing lots of other Roman activities. While we were doing this our instructor told us about Boudicca's revolt. When we had finished making our objects, we went and sold them to the merchants."
Lucy 4R

"After lunch we had a feast and entertained each other with music and drama. It was amazing!" *Mia 4R*



Year 6 have a visitor from the Yawanawa tribe

On Friday 28th March, Year 6 received a visit from Nixwaka Yawanawa. Nixwaka was born and brought up in the Yawanawa Tribe, in the heart of the Amazon Rainforest. He told us exciting tales about his hunting experiences and family life. We also had time for him to answer all of our questions about tribal life and important issues such as deforestation. For further information, please visit their website: <http://www.yawanawa-project.org>



Gardening news

Spring is in the air, and as gardeners amongst you will know, so begins the busiest time in the gardening calendar. Here at St Mary's we have been busy looking through plant catalogues, sowing seeds, preparing the ground for the year ahead and harvesting the last of the winter offerings the allotment has to offer – delicious leeks and a couple of potatoes!! Planting will begin in earnest after the Easter break.



Gardening Training Day with Chris Collins (Blue Peter Gardener)

Recently, Mrs Pointon and Mrs Goodall took a group of Year 6 children from the gardening club to a training day at Hampton Hill Junior School run by Chris Collins, the Blue Peter gardener. After a rainy start and an indoor lesson on choosing the correct site for a garden, the children were all able to get outside and get their hands dirty. Chris was incredibly enthusiastic and the children came away full of ideas for the garden here at St Mary's.



FoSM

Thank you to Johanna and her team for their on-going, tireless work on behalf of us all, particularly the children. Please let the team know how you can help with our summer fair.

Compassion

We have great news from Compassion, the charity through which we sponsor Revan and Eugenie. They have written to us to announce that one of our sponsored children, Revan has improved his home situation to such an extent that he no longer needs assistance from Compassion:

“What an amazing testimony it is that your sponsorship has helped enable Revan and his family to become more self-sufficient. This also means that another needy child can be registered into the Compassion assisted project. Do please continue to remember Revan in your prayers and do not underestimate the lasting impact of your loving support in his life.”

Revan had written recently to let us know he had a house. We are delighted for him and his family. Consequently we have received details of a child who has been waiting many months for a sponsor and we shall begin to support Yohanes who has just turned 8 and is living in Eastern Indonesia.

Your sponsorship allows Yohanes to receive Bible studies, sports, medical check-ups, nutritious food, volunteer opportunities, music and singing classes and life-skills training. Local staff also provides parenting and child protection training for his parents.

We shall be sharing this joyful news with our pupils shortly as well as more details about Yohanes and his culture.

World Down Syndrome Day

“Friday 21 March 2014 marked the 9th anniversary of World Down Syndrome Day and each year the voice of people with Down syndrome, and those who live and work with them, grows louder.” This year, people showed their support for World Down Syndrome Day by wearing odd or crazy socks and a big thank you goes to the juniors for wearing the craziest assortment of socks and raising an impressive £81 for the Down Syndrome Association, a charity which supports individuals with Down syndrome and their families. The following is a link to a fun yet informative short film by actors with DS who explain the how, what and why of Down syndrome or Trisomy 21:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=o0VV3C_ydak

Marie Curie Cancer Care

St Mary’s raised **£570.60** for Marie Curie Cancer Care. Pupils on the infant and middle sites sold the daffodil bulbs they grew; a long project starting in the autumn term. Cakes were also made by Mrs Riedlinger and Ms Collyer on the middle site as an extra contribution. Thank you to everyone, staff, children and pupils for all your support, donations and time. A special mention must go to Grace Davis in 5M who, with her Grandmother, collected money for Marie Curie outside Waitrose in Twickenham. They raised an impressive **£149.88**.

Sport Relief

We raised **£132.60**. Thank you to all the children for taking part in our run!

Mayor's "March"

Twenty five children from Years 5 & 6 walked the Mayor's March on Sunday 23rd March. The walk involved the Tamsin trail, which is 7.5 miles around the perimeter of Richmond Park. The children were raising money for the mayor's local charities. Well done to all the children and many parents who took part, completing the circuit within 3 hours.

Smile shoeboxes

"Smile" wrote to us to say thank you to everyone who donated towards their 2013 Christmas shoebox programme. The shoeboxes were packed and sorted by their band of faithful volunteers in Orpington, Hitchin, Great Yarmouth and Nottingham. They were then dispatched along with other boxes of aid on 40 foot Lorries bound for Kosova and Romania.

The shoeboxes were then distributed to poor and needy children in Kosova, Albania, Macedonia and Romania. We know that our shoeboxes have given enormous pleasure to thousands of children. Your donations made a real difference in the lives of thousands of children. Thank you very much for your continued support. For further information, please visit the Smile website: www.smileinternational.org.

Sports news

Football:

St Mary's had two fixtures against St Stephens on Friday 27th March. The Y6 B team played with great effort and determination, recording a very impressive victory, winning 3-1. The Y4/5 team also had a very entertaining match, with lots of goals and changes in the score line. The large squad of 11, rotated and played well on a large pitch for 6 a side football. Unfortunately having levelled the match back to 3-3 at one point, they ended up losing 6-3, with a flurry of late goals.

Swimming:

The large school heats and large school finals were held in March. Following the large school heats on Thursday 6th March, five children reached the finals. Well done to all the children who were selected to represent St Mary's at this event. Congratulations to Woody in Y3 who made the borough final in the Y3 freestyle, coming fifth. Many thanks go to Emma Beagley and Lisa Graham for their continuing hard work. At the finals, there was a special guest appearance by Rebecca Adlington, Olympic medal swimmer.



Tag Rugby:

The tag rugby team took part in a friendly match against Chennestone from Sunbury on Thursday 20th March. We played three matches of seven minutes. We won one and drew one. Well done to all those who played. We are waiting to see if the Borough tournament is rearranged post poor weather in February.

Cross Country:

On Friday 27th March all children in years 3 to 6 (Key Stage two) took part in the school cross country in Marble Hill Park. Years 3 & 4 ran approximately 600m and Years 5 & 6 approximately 1000m. Well done to all the children for trying their hardest and supporting each other during the races. Congratulations to the winners from the eight races:

Y3: Charlotte & Woody, Y4: Dan & Isabella, Y5: Lucilda & Ben, Y6: Indi & Michael.

Richmond Gymnastics

Thomas in Pines took part in "Floor and Vault Competition" organised by Richmond Gymnastic Association (<http://www.richmondgymnastics.co.uk/index.php>). The completion took place on 29th March. Thomas trained for the last two months every Friday afternoon and he really enjoyed the atmosphere. Having fun and compete with his friends was the greatest joy.



School lunch prices for the summer term

First half of term	£	50.60
Second half of term	£	81.40
Whole Term	£	132.00

St Mary's Quiz club success

The audience were more nervous than the participants as St Mary's held on to their lead in a tight finish at the National Quiz club General Knowledge Area Heat 2013-14. Some excellent teamwork from Daniel, Lysander, Mia and Eli saw them victorious over other teams from Richmond schools.

Quizmaster, Simon Blair, awarded the team the Quiz club trophy and individual badges, commenting that this was one of the highest scoring heats that he had adjudicated. Congratulations also go to our second team of Ethan, Will, Matthew and Rosie who came ninth.



Every child in KS2 had participated in the selection quiz held in school and the highest scorers formed our two teams. Well done to everyone involved and good luck to our winning team that now goes forward to the Quiz club National semi-final.

Maths in Motion Summer Challenge Race 2014

What a race! Last Tuesday eleven cars lined up on the grid to race 57 laps round the Estoril Formula 1 track. There were thrills and spills as cars spun off the track, crashed and had engine troubles, leaving only three finishers at the end of the race. The excitement was audible from the ICT room as team members cheered on their cars. Congratulations go to the winning car engineered by Maria and Ana-Maria. Harry and his team were a close second followed by Isabel's team.

The winning car was put forward to the Regional Knockout round and successfully beat other teams in our region to get into the National Semi Finals. This will involve a new track to race around with the aim of making it to the National Final at the Heritage Motor Centre in Warwickshire.

The Maths in Motion package helps to develop skills in maths and maths applications. Pupils use these skills to set up cars using computer simulation software of a Grand Prix car racing game. They estimate, calculate percentages and angles, read scales, graphs and tables, assess risk and set strategies, but most of all work as a team.

Mrs Turner thanks all the children from Years 5 and 6 who committed their Tuesday lunchtimes to racing, some of whom are new to Maths in Motion and have really worked hard to get to grips with the new software and the mathematical and engineering concepts. More importantly, we have all had a lot of fun.

Rotary Club Young writers' Competition 2014

Once again Paul Kershaw, Rotarian and former Trustee and Governor of St Mary's, invited children to participate in the Rotary Club's Young Writer competition on the theme of 'What a difference that made to my life'. There were 167 entries from schools around Twickenham and Scarlett, Pippa, Megan, Nell, Ruby, Ella, Leah, Frankie, Michelle and Seba entered from St Mary's. The local judges enjoyed reading the entries and we were delighted to hear that Scarlett was the overall winner of this round and has been put forward to the Rotary District to be entered into the next round. Frankie and Ruby were short listed in the top 25 entries. Congratulations go to Scarlett and well done to all those who entered.

Message from Inspector Hannah Wheeler

Dear Parents

I would like to make you aware of the following online resource available to schools and parents in the teaching of responsible and safe ownership and use of mobile phones. Whilst this is not a Police branded resource - the material is owned by the Mobile Industry Crime Action Forum (MICAF) - it is supported by us as best practice

www.outofyourhands.com

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me or one of your local neighbourhood officers

Richmond-Upon-Thames Borough Police | Telephone: **020 8247 8322 (738322)** | Mobile: **07920 233963** Address: **Sovereign Gate 18-20 Kew Road, Richmond, TW9 2NA** |

Email: Hannah.wheeler@met.police.uk

Wild London

This is a fantastic series of wildlife themed events, starting on April 9th. The subsequent events will be run in school holidays and will give families an opportunity to learn about the wonderful wildlife right here on their doorstep in Crane Park. They are suitable for families with children aged 4 and over. All sessions will comprise learning and discovering activities and will include: A Frog Day, butterfly and dragonfly discovery, mini beast hunting river and pond dipping, tree spotting and more.

The sessions will all be run at the lovely Crane Park Island Nature Reserve and the Shot Tower, Crane Park.

Booking is essential. Please contact: Alex Robb: arobb@wildlondon.org.uk or phone 07702 669 888 or 0208 755 2339 (24 hours). Frog Day is on April 9th (from 2 – 4 pm). Discover the life cycle of the frog, hunt for frogs on Crane Park Island and make Froggy masks

Holiday Bible Club at Amyand Park Chapel

Tuesday 15th April to Thursday 17th April, 10 am to 12.15 pm
Bible Stories, Quiz, Games, Singing, Refreshments, Craft and Prizes, all FREE!

We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 22nd April, the first day of our summer term.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Campbell
Head Teacher
headteacher@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

4th April 2014



THE ROYAL SOCIETY
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RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

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