



NEWSLETTER No 2: 18th October 2013

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

Reception children

I am pleased to say all ninety of our reception children have settled in well and they are all becoming very much part of St Mary's school community. I would like to thank the wonderful Early Years team who ensure your child is safe well and motivated to learn. It was super to meet and chat to many parents with reception children at our recent gathering. My thanks go to Johanna Van Otterdijk and her FoSM team for providing the refreshments.

We are currently discussing how we can ease the morning crush into school

School Councillors

I am delighted to say our Year 1 Councillors for this year are:

Mallards	Jasper and Elif
Kingfishers	Piper and Oscar
Puffins	Caitlin and Finley

Our other year group Councillors will remain in office until the end of the autumn term.

Governing Body news

Congratulations go to Lucy MacArthur, who has been re-elected as Chair of the GB and to Jonathan Jones, who has been re-elected as Vice Chair.

Year 6 share their detective stories with Year 3!

On Friday 4th October, Year 6 took a trip to the middle site to share their detective stories with the Year 3 children. They had worked intensely on their stories for two weeks, to ensure they would hook their Year 3 audience and fill them with suspicion and excitement...and they did just that!

After listening hard to the stories, the Year 3 children then worked with their Year 6 partner to improve some of their own story plans. They were inspired by Year 6 to organise their stories into chapters, use more exciting words and design interesting characters. Year 6 are eagerly waiting to hear the Year 3 stories on a return visit very soon!

Year 6 visits this half term

Year 6 children have been lucky enough to visit The Churchill War Rooms and also York House. At The Churchill War Rooms the children saw first-hand the heartbeat of the British war effort and had a simply superb day. At York House the children were taught about local democracy in Richmond and how they could get involved in the prestigious Pupil Parliament.



Y4 at the Royal Albert Hall



On Thursday 10th October, Year 4 went to see a concert organised by the charity Music for Youth called 'Primary Proms' at the Royal Albert Hall. All the performers were school children aged between 11 and 18 from across the country. We were treated to a fantastic concert showcasing a huge variety of musical styles. Here are some of the thoughts from Year 4:

"It was amazing! I especially liked the choir because at the end I danced to one of their songs". *Mia*

"The hall was the most beautiful thing I have ever seen!" *Harriett*

"My heart was going BOOM, BOOM, BOOM to the beat of the music". *Isabel*

"The performances were outstanding....I enjoyed it a lot. My favourite thing was the beat-boxing." *Marco*

Year 1 and "Lulu"

Year 1 have been learning about the features of an animal and what we need to do to look after pets. We were very lucky to have a visit from Mrs Hume with her dog Lulu and we were able to ask Mrs Hume how she took care of Lulu and what is important when looking after a pet.



Year 1 and “The Toy Man”

Year 1 enjoyed a visit from the Toy Man. Children learnt about a wide variety of 'old' toys most of which they had never seen before! They learnt about what the toys were made from and how toys have changed over time. All children were able to explore the toys and discover what it was like to play with toys from 100 years ago!



Outreach activities

Year 5 will continue to go to Orleans Park School for ICT lessons delivered jointly by Year 5 teachers and an OPS specialist. The content will correspond closely to our existing ICT Scheme of Work which already conforms to the revised (2014) Computing curriculum

Year 5 will be involved in a Pupil-led teaching project in which children from OPS Year 8 will come and teach Year 5 children.

Year 4 will continue this year to be taught French by an OPS French specialist.

Also, students from St. Mary's College will be coming to teach Maths to Year 5 (18th Oct). Year 5 will go to Walpole House in November for a follow-up session.

4T's Assembly

On Friday 4th October, 4T performed their classed assembly based on their trip to Sayers Croft. There they participated in a variety of activities including; pond dipping, a night walk, a study of Cobblers Brook, an earth walk, the low ropes course, a blindfold trail, team building activities and a maze. We hope you enjoyed their assembly, including their rendition of "Ham and Eggs!"



Gardening News

Great news this week... St Mary's School has achieved Level 3 in the RHS Campaign for School Gardening.

In order to meet the criteria set by the RHS, the school has had to show evidence of many aspects of gardening such as sustainable practices, growing and harvesting produce, and evidence that the gardens are used in lessons across the curriculum. The RHS were very impressed by the 'fantastic evidence' submitted and rewarded us with a voucher worth £70 to spend on vegetable growing projects. Well done and thank you to all the pupils and teachers who helped achieve this award.

Meanwhile, the children in Gardening Club have been busy harvesting produce and then planting up the allotment with winter vegetables. Many plants, such as lettuce and potatoes, which the children thought were not possible to grow in the cooler months, are now snuggled up in their winter beds (continued on next page)



Produce harvested by Gardening Club

Year 6 children have also been busy in the garden over the last couple of weeks. As part of their WW2 topic, they had a Dig for Victory day. Mrs Pointon played the role of a WW2 land girl and the children had a great afternoon learning about rationing and the reasons behind the Dig for Victory campaign. They finished off by planting some more winter vegetables in the school allotment. Dig for Victory!

Reception Parent Tours at the Infant site

I would like to say a big thank you to the following Year 5 children who have shown prospective parents around the infant site recently. They have been polite, charming, and informative. They are a credit to the school and their parents. I am very grateful to parents for ensuring their children arrive on time at the infant site.

30th September:

Brune, Isabella, Maria, Andrew, Ollie, Pip

15th October:

Harry, Daniel, Oscar and Ellie

Sports news

Boys Football:

The boys' football team got their league campaign off to a successful start with a 3-2 victory over Kew Riverside. Despite not playing their best, the boys had to work hard to regain the lead twice in the match. In a close match, they showed great fighting spirit to claim the victory. We are looking forward to the re-arranged borough tournament on the 23rd October.

The A and B teams played St Stephen's in friendlies at Moormead Park. We played thirds of 15 minutes each. The B's battled hard, but could not quite pull off a victory in any of the thirds; however they kept going all the way to the end. The A's were soundly beaten in the first third, before realising they could beat and compete with a very talented side. They fought back exceptionally well to claim a draw and a victory in the last two thirds.

(Continued on next page)

Girls Football:

Another season is off and underway in the Girls football calendar and I am pleased to say enthusiasm and commitment are higher than ever. The girls have turned up every week for training willing to learn and improve and I am sure they will come a long way this year. In terms of matches, the girls have played one match versus Archdeacon Cambridge School which I'm delighted to say we won 6-1. It was a superb performance from the ladies with Katrina netting a hat trick. Katrina was amply aided by Rhea and Lucilda who ran like Trojans in the centre of the park. A great start to year girls. Keep it up!

Cross Country Running:

Many congratulations to Michael for being selected to run for Team Richmond in the London Youth Games at Parliament Hill. Michael qualified by running a fantastic 2km in 7mins and 50 seconds at the Bushy Park Juniors run. He will now compete against all the other London boroughs. The Richmond borough schools team event occurs in late November in Richmond Park. The Bushy Park Juniors run is free and open to all children (4-14 year olds) on the first Sunday of every month at 11am. More details can be found here <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/bushy-juniors/>

New sports kit!

We are very fortunate to have some fantastic new sports kit to be worn for inter school fixtures. These cool, quick-wicking sports t-shirts and waterproof training tops will ensure that our sports teams are the smartest teams in town!

If your child wears one for a fixture, please could you wash it and return it to school as soon as possible.

Many thanks to all the parents who have helped to sew in the St. Mary's school labels!

Caroline Freer



New Energy club at the infant site – thank you!

We would like to say a big thank you to all of the parents who have been volunteering their time to help with our new Energy Club on the Infant Site. The club has had a successful start with a noticeable effect on our children. Children have been choosing porridge for breakfast for a healthy start to the day and have been excited to feel their heart beat while learning about the effects exercise has on our bodies.

Harvest Festival Tuesday 22nd October, 10 am, St Mary's Church

Thank you very much for your very generous donations of non-perishable food. This food will be distributed after the service by Mr & Mrs Foxwood.

Prayer meeting

Every half term a prayer meeting is held, where we pray for the school, staff and pupils. The next prayer meeting will take place on **Wednesday 22 November** at 8pm at 33 Craneford Way, Twickenham, TW2 7SB. Please do join us if you are able. If you would like some more information, please contact me at jekehilmy@yahoo.co.uk. *Ieke Hilmy*

Walking to school

We would like to remind parents that children walking to and from school without adults should be using the appropriate crossings at the right time and be sensible and careful. The Richmond Road and surrounding area is extremely busy and potentially dangerous. Children need to take care at all times.

ParentMail2

We have persuaded ParentMail2 to allow us access to parent emails and mobile phone numbers. This means that we can now help if you are having problems updating details etc. Should you need any help, please contact Emily Price on the middle site via email: eprice@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk. Thank you.

www.parentmail2.co.uk

Message from Mrs Maxted regarding school lunches

The cost of school meals for the second half of the autumn term is £77. You will receive an invoice before the half term break.

Please remember to give a week's notice in writing if you wish to stop school meals. You can email the school (info@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk) with your instructions and requests. Failure to do this will result in your child remaining on the school meal system and you will be charged for meals accordingly.

Thank you for your co-operation.

WWF Cake sale

On Wednesday 2nd October Natasha Elder, Isabel and I did a cake sale in aid of the WWF (World Wildlife Fund). We support this charity as all three of us have a passion for animals and want to help save endangered animals. There were a terrific number of children already lined up waiting for the cakes, and as we carried them out there was a huge cheer. The cake sale was a fantastic success and we raised £70 which we have sent to the WWF to help save pandas and elephants. We have really enjoyed raising money and are proud to support the WWF. Thank you to everyone who bought our cakes.

Megan (6S)



Driving and parking outside the middle site

I have had another complaint from a near neighbour, Ms Clara Vulliamy who lives at 14 Strafford Road. Please **do not** park across her driveway, even for a short period of time. Thank you.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Campbell
Head Teacher (headteacher@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk)
18th October 2013



RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

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

THE ROYAL SOCIETY
Associate Schools and Colleges