



NEWSLETTER No 3: 11th November 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

Drop in sessions with the Headteacher (no appointment required)

I will be running drop in sessions this term as follows:

Friday 22nd November, infant site, 10.00 – 11.00 am
Monday 25th November, junior site, 10.00 – 11.00 am
Monday 2nd December, middle site, 10.00 – 11.100 am

Please feel free to turn up on the above dates if you would like to see me. No appointment is necessary. Just sign in at the school office.

Reminders

Reception and Year 1 Nativity play will be on Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th December at 10 am. Two tickets per family will be available and we will send out further details nearer the time.

Years 2 & 3 "The story of Christmas" will take place on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th December at 10 am. Two tickets per family will be available and we will send out further details nearer the time.

The Junior Carol service is on Monday 16th December, 6.30 pm, at St Mary's Church. Everyone is welcome and all junior children are expected to attend.

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

I would like to thank Year 2 for leading the Harvest Festival on 22nd October; it was a very uplifting service. Thank you to all staff and to Father Jeff and Father Piotr. It was lovely to see so many parents in Church too.

We raised £711.18 for Water Aid, which is amazing. Thank you so much for your generosity. Thank you also for your food gifts which have now been distributed.

FoSM Christmas Fair on Saturday 23rd November from 11.30 am – 3.00 pm

Please come along and support our Christmas fair at the middle site. All monies raised directly benefit your children.

Staffing news

I am very pleased to let you know that Mrs Katy Cliffe is expecting a baby. Mrs Cliffe will be leaving to start her maternity leave in March 2014. Congratulations Mrs Cliffe and her husband.

St Mary's Unit

St Mary's is proud to have a successful Unit which supports children with difficulties in the areas of communication and social interaction. The Unit, which has classes on each of the three sites, caters for children from the Foundation stage through to Key Stage 2 (4 to 11 years). All the Unit pupils have speech and language needs. The objective of the Unit is to help them acquire the necessary skills to become independent learners and access the broader curriculum within a mainstream class, given appropriate support. Therefore, every pupil is attached to a mainstream class for friendship groups and some lessons.

Wrens, Pines and 4KT do some gardening

Wrens, Pines, 4KT and their family and friends got together for gardening on a sunny October afternoon. First we dug and pulled all the weeds out and then we planted new winter vegetables.

The children in Pines shared their thoughts about the afternoon. Antanas enjoyed working with his baby brother, while Alex liked his mummy being there. Amber thought the activity was very good and Thomas said "I loved it when everyone worked together".



Thank you

My thanks go to Tom Holmes and Emma Beagley for taking children to the last two international rugby matches at Twickenham. The children had a wonderful time.

Sports news

Boys Football:

The boys have completed two league games in the past few weeks. They had a very exciting 4-4 draw with Archdeacon. Having been 3-0 behind at half time, the boys came out for the second half rejuvenated and ready to redress the score line. They dominated the second half and got the score back to 3-3. With just two minutes to go, Archdeacon looked to have won with a well worked goal. However, and most dramatically, with the last kick of the game, Tom managed to chip the keeper to earn a well-deserved point.

In the next league game against St Stephen's, the boys did start the game very well and led 1-0 at half time, thanks to a fine team goal and some stoic defence. Unfortunately, the team succumbed to the pressure and St Stephen's won 4-1.

The B team had an agonising defeat against St Stephen's. Despite leading during many occasions during the game, the boys were undone by the last kick of the game to lose 4-3. Well done to all those involved in all teams for representing the school with pride and determination.

Girls Football:

The Girls Football team embarked on their second match of the season last week and unfortunately we couldn't match the success of our first outing. We played St Mary's and St Peter's School and they beat us 5-0. SMSP had two exceptional players which meant winning was a "big ask" for our hard working troop. Despite the defeat, Manon Coudray and Nyah Lear put in a fearless, energetic second half display to bring some hope ahead of our Borough Football Tournament next Wednesday.

Large Schools swimming gala

Trials will take place for children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 at Isleworth swimming pool on Sunday 1st December from 9.30 – 11.30 am. Please could Years 3 & 4 arrive at 9.30 am and Years 5 & 6 at 10 am.

Children will be selected according to time with one girl and one boy selected from Year 3 and Year 4 and up to ten children from Year 6. Trials will be led by Emma Beagley and Lisa Graham.

Large School heats are on Thursday 6th March 2014, at 2 pm. The finals will take place on Thursday 26th March 2014 at 2 pm.

Arrangements for school run clubs, January 2014

As the school becomes larger, we have been looking at ways of making the system for signing up to school run clubs easier and fairer. We have consulted with other schools in the borough so this is how we are proposing to run the clubs from January 2014.

Parents will receive, via email, a list of clubs available, giving the day, time and, if appropriate, maximum numbers. This will be sent to parents before the end of the autumn term.

Your child/ren will have two days to write their name on a list, which will be kept in their classroom with their class teacher. Younger children will be assisted with this, if necessary.

Your child will then be given a letter specific to the club s/he wishes to sign up for. Children should return their slips to their class teacher with payment.

If a club is oversubscribed, we now have access to software called "The Hat" into which all the children's names will be added and places allocated randomly. Remaining names will be drawn to create a waiting list.

We hope this system will prove easier and fairer for everyone.

Choir news

The Choir will be singing Christmas carols at the Church Street Christmas light switch on which will be taking place on Friday 22nd November at approximately 6.30 pm.

The Choir have also been invited to sing at Twickenham Library on Friday 6th December in the afternoon. Twickenham Library is holding a Christmas party for the many volunteers (most of whom are over 60) who help in the borough Libraries throughout the year.

Reception visit Twickenham Library

Reception enjoyed their visit to the library, learning about what they can borrow, listening to a story from a Librarian and looking through a variety of books. They were excited by the opportunity to use the electronic machines to borrow their books.

We are very grateful to all the parents who accompanied us on this trip.



Reception children have a “Harvest” day at the middle site

On Wednesday 23rd October Reception children had a wonderful time visiting the middle site and celebrating Harvest. All of the children took part in a variety of activities. They used the computers to create beautiful Harvest pictures, they discussed the meaning of Harvest and they used the cookery room to make flapjacks. They were delicious!! All of the children had a thoroughly enjoyable morning and learnt a lot.



Prayer meeting

Please note the date of the Prayer meeting is **Wednesday 20th November** and not the 22nd. The next prayer meeting will take place 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 iekehilmy@yahoo.co.uk. *Ieke Hilmy*

Donations of old picture frames

If you have any old photo/picture frames (no larger than A3 please), we would be very grateful if you could drop them off at the infant site so that our infant children can paint them gold. Thank you.

Lateness

Some children are consistently late for school. Please ensure your child/ren arrive in plenty of time to start lessons promptly. I am obliged to meet with the Education Welfare Officer every half term and share persistent lateness and absenteeism with her. Please ensure your child/ren attend school regularly and on time. Thank you for your support.

Reminders

Please ensure **all** clothing, including shoes, is named appropriately. We are regularly being given brand new sweatshirts and other personal items which are unnamed. Some are never collected, including coats.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Campbell
Head Teacher (headteacher@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk)
11th November 2013



RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

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

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