



Issue 8: 18th January 2019



A very warm welcome back to everyone, we do hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and are ready for the busy term ahead. On behalf of all the staff in school, a huge thank you for your kind wishes, Christmas cards and thoughtful gifts at the end of term, they were very much appreciated by us all. This term we have lots of busy times ahead of us and an up to date diary list is added to the end of this newsletter. Please make a particular note of dates for the **spring Parent Consultations**.

Values Education

This half term's Value is '**Tolerance**'. In our Collective Worship last Monday, we started to think about our focus Value for this half term. Over the coming weeks we will be thinking a lot about what tolerance means and how we can appreciate and respect differences in others.

Tolerance means...
appreciating and respecting
differences in people.



School shoes

We have noticed that, at the start of this term, a few children have come into school in trainers or boots. Please ensure that your child is wearing **black school shoes only** for school. If your child wishes to wear boots, then bring black school shoes to change into when they are in school, that is perfectly fine.

School Panto

Our whole school trip to the pantomime in Stevenage last week was a huge success! The children laughed, danced and were dazzled by the special effects!



Your Local A-Plan Insurance in Bletchley is now a proud sponsor of St Mary's Junior School.

We provide insurance for Private Car, Commercial vehicle and Home Insurance. For every new policy taken out by anyone quoting St Marys Junior we will donate £25.00 to help support the funding for new computer equipment.

Why choose Aplan:

- Cover that fits your exact needs
- Here to help manage claims
- All your insurance needs in one place
- Personal service

Please quote St Marys Junior when calling us.

01908 271771 Aplan have a special offer on Home Insurance. You don't have to wait for your renewal, We will gladly pay up to £50.00 of your cancellation fee with your current provider so that you can start saving money right now. For every policy taken out we will donate £25.00 to St Marys.

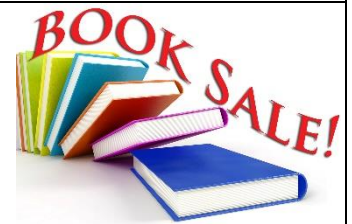


CAKE SALE



Cake sale and PTA book sale

On Friday 15th February, our School Council children will be organising a cake sale. All money raised will go towards our school fundraising project to update our school library with new furniture, books etc. We would like this to be a more comfortable place that can be used for small group work, or just a space to relax or reflect in, when needed.



It would help the children enormously if we could have as many donations of cakes as possible for this worthwhile event. Please send any cakes in on the morning of Friday 15th February.

The PTA will also be raising money towards our library fundraising project by selling books at this event. There will be a range of books available, from pre-school ages up to adult.

Both the cake sale and book sale will be in the school hall, from 3.20pm onwards on Friday 15th February. Please help us by supporting this event.

School Trips

Yr 6 Broneirion - Please continue to make payments for the Yr6 residential trip each month.

Yr 4 Wildchild - Please continue to make payments for the Yr4 residential trip each month.



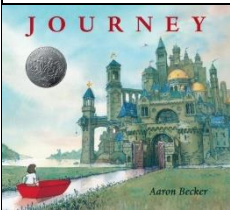
Home Tuition

Are you looking for private tuition for your child within maths or English? Please contact Mrs Di Noia for further details and competitive rates.



Fortune Financial are offering parents a FREE review & service from start to finish, for every household that completes on a protection or mortgage case we will donate a £25 contribution to your child's school, not only that we will ensure our chosen charity MIND for mental health receive the same £25 contribution on your behalf.

Please see the attached letter for further details.



Whole school writing project

We are well underway with our three week whole school writing project in school, which is a project that St Mary's is taking part in alongside other Junior schools in our area. The children are really enjoying this imaginative adventure story, whose elaborate illustrations inspire wonder. We have linked this with some wonderful artwork and would like to invite parents to come and see both the writing and the artwork that children have produced on **Wednesday 13th February from 3.30-4.30pm**. This open session will allow parents to see work on display around the whole school, both in the corridors and in classrooms. Let your child be your guide and help them celebrate their successes during this wonderful learning project!

PTA News

The PTA, now being chaired by Emma Rowe, have sprung into action and are now looking to recruit new members across both the Infant and Junior Schools.

Last week, you'll have received the first PTA Newsletter. These will be mailed out to parents every month to update you on planned events and fundraising projects for both the Infant and Junior schools.

Recruitment events

We are in desperate need of new recruits for the PTA! Could you spare a couple of hours of your time to help us in one or more events per term? In addition to the coffee morning event that took place today at the Infants, we are also hosting an **evening recruitment event on Thursday 24th January** in the school library at the Junior School from **6-8pm**. Come along and meet other parents, have a glass of wine and find out about fundraising plans that our PTA are organising.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 24th January Recruitment event 6-8pm Junior school library. Wine and nibbles provided! Please come along to find out how you can help.

Friday 25th January 200 Club All forms to be returned to school office by today latest.

Thursday 5th February BINGO at the Infants school (please see attached poster for details) If any parents can help at this event, please contact Emma Rowe at pta@st-marysjm-baldock.herts.sch.uk

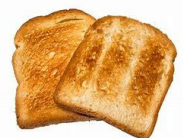
Friday 15th February Book sale after school in the hall.



TOAST

School Council members will be selling toast every break time next week for 20p per slice. Please send you children in with loose change if they would like to purchase toast. All money raised will be going towards our library project.

If you would like to donate a pot of jam or marmalade, that would be very much appreciated!



Bad weather procedures

We would just like to recap the methods of communication we will use to inform you, should the school need to close at any point due to snowy weather conditions.

* Parents who are signed up to ParentMail or Dojo will receive notification via these sites.

* A message will also be posted on our home page of the school website, to notify you if we are closed as early in the morning as possible.



Please do pass on the message to other families who may not be able to access the internet. Please also be aware that, although many of our children can walk to school, many of our teaching staff cannot, as they live some distance away. Therefore, if we cannot adequately staff the school, this may be the reason for closure. We may also need to close, or have a later opening, if we cannot clear the snow enough for safe access to the site.

The decision to close is never taken lightly and we will always endeavour to remain open where at all possible. Safety of both the children and the staff are always a high priority.

When school is open during snowy weather, we ask that all children have wellies and warm outdoor clothing to use at playtimes, so they can get outside and enjoy it. ❄️

Diary dates (further dates will be added throughout the term)

January

Mon 21st - Toast on sale all week in school at breaktime

Mon 28th -Year 4 Egyptian workshop

Thurs 31st -Year 3 fruit workshop

February

Tues 5th - Class and Team Photographs

Fri 8th - Year 3 Stone Age workshop

Wed 13th - Open session for parents to come into school to look at our writing project and art work for 'The Journey' 3.30-4.30pm (please note a change of date for this from the last newsletter)

Thurs 14th -Writing project week awards assembly

Fri 15th - Cake sale and PTA book sale (3.20pm school hall)

Fri 15th - Half term (school closes at 3.20pm)

March

Wed 6th - Ash Wednesday service in school

Mon 11th -Year 5 Passover/Communion session

Tues 12th- Year 5 Passover/Communion session

Fri 15th - Red Nose Day (Dressing up! More details to follow)

Mon 18th -Year 5 Knex Challenge

Wed 20th - Voice In A Million (Wembley Arena)

Mon 25th- Year 5/6 Communion

Wed 27th - Parent Consultation Evening 5-8pm

Thurs 28th - Parent Consultation Evening 3.40-6pm