

ATTENDANCE

(%) 5th September to 26th January 2017 (Ofsted Above Average Target = 96.1%)

The symbols below show if the class has improved attendance ↑ since the previous newsletter, stayed the same = or decreased ↓.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	TOTAL
96.3	95.1	93.3	95.6	97.3	98.2	96.4	96.0
↑	↓	↓	↑	↑	↑	↑	↓

Above national average	Same as national average	Below national average
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TERM DATES 2016—2017

Holiday	Closing Date	Date Re-open For Teaching Purposes
Autumn 2016		Monday 5th September 2016
Autumn half-term 2016	Thursday 20th October 2016	Monday 31st October 2016
Christmas 2016	Friday 16th December 2016	Tuesday 3rd January 2017
Spring half-term 2017	Friday 17th February 2017	Monday 27th February 2017
Easter 2017	Friday 7th April 2017	Tuesday 24th April 2017
May Day 2017	Monday 1st May 2017	Tuesday 2nd May 2017
Summer half-term 2017	Friday 26th May 2017	Monday 5th June 2017
Summer 2016	Friday 21st July 2017	

Staff Training Days

Friday 21st October 2016
Friday 3rd February 2017
Monday 24th April 2017 (please note changed date—was originally Friday 7th April 2017)

Children Arriving Late to School

As a reminder for parents, children should arrive at school by 8.50am for the bell and be in the yard ready to come into school at 8.55am. If this is not possible, children should be brought to the main office and report late. There have been a few occasions when children are sent to the main office on their own when they are late. Please can we ask that parents bring the children to the main office and report to Mrs Hall to ensure they have been seen and recorded as present. It is important that your child arrives at school on time, the children start lessons promptly at 9am. Arrive after this time and they are missing out on vital education time.

Holy Communion

A reminder for parents in Year 4 that there is a meeting for parents and children, of those children preparing for 1st Holy Communion, on Wednesday 15th February at 6.00pm in St. Mary's Church Meeting Room. The children's sessions start on Wednesday 1st March 5.00pm - 6.00pm.

Mobile Phones

Children who are required to have their mobile phones in school to contact parents or family at the end of the day must remember to take their phone to Mrs Hall in the office first thing each morning and collect it at the end of the day. School cannot take responsibility for damage or loss to phones which are brought into school.

Valentine's Disco

Look out for the posters for the Valentine's Disco on Thursday 16th February—tickets available next week.

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter date: Friday 27th January 2017

WEBSITE: <http://st-marysrc.schooljotter2.com/>

Events

Friday 3rd February 2017
SCHOOL CLOSED—PD DAY

Monday 6th February 2017
Children Back to School

Monday 6th February 2017
Number Day for NSPCC

Thursday 9th February 2017
Rec & Y6 Mass

Friday 10th February 2017
Spoken Word—Poetry at
Woodham Academy

Wednesday 15th February 2017
Holy Communion Meeting
Church Meeting Room(6pm)

13th to 16th February 2017
Parents Evening—All classes

Friday 17th February 2017
Y1 Assembly

Friday 17th February 2017
BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM

Monday 27th February 2017
BACK TO SCHOOL

Thursday 2nd March 2017
World Book Day

Friday 3rd March 2017
Reception Assembly

Wednesday 8th March 2017
Y4 trip to Segedunum

Thursday 9th March 2017
Y2, 3 & 4 Mass

Wednesday 15th March 2017
Y5 trip to the Botanic Gardens

Wednesday 22nd March 2017
Y3 trip to Northern Stage to see
The Twits

Dear Parents & Carers

I couldn't believe it when Mrs Hall came in to say it was newsletter day. School has been a hive of activity over the past two weeks. The projects in each of the year groups are so diverse but all have been approached with such enthusiasm from the children and the staff.

Today we have the smell of hot bread floating through upper Key Stage 2 as the children in Year 5 are making butter with our 20 Teacher Trainees. As I type this I am trying some of the butter made by Erica on warm Tiger Bread and it is gorgeous! Harry, Finley and James B have made garlic butter. Again this was beautiful if not a little heavy on the garlic. It is fair to say there will not be anyone sitting close to me for the rest of the day. Apparently as the boss I had to take the first bite!

Y5 & Y6 along with Miss Miles have hosted 3 days of science investigations and experiments for the 20 trainees from the Shotton Hall SCITT. The feedback from the children, the trainees and Shotton Hall has been magnificent. A huge well done and thank you to all who have worked really hard to make the experience so positive.

In Reception they are celebrating the Chinese New Year with a Chinese banquet. They look wonderful in their Chinese costumes of red and gold. I have seen some amazing Chinese hats and fans. Thank you for joining in so well and providing such support.

Over the past two years our school roll has increased and we are running out of space for intervention groups. As a result we have had to move the library again! Mrs Muir and her team have taken over the library and you will now find it in the entrance hall. A massive shout of thanks to all who came and purchased books from the sale we had. The monies raised will help to purchase new books in the library and throughout the school.

Well done to Y2 for their liturgy this morning. A heads up for the 10th of February. We will be holding our Poetry Afternoon at Woodham Academy, following the success of last year's afternoon whereby each class had to learn and perform a poem from heart we are doing the same again this year.

Next FRIDAY (3rd FEB) school is closed for staff training. When we return on Monday 6th February we will be holding a Number Day. More information will be sent out early next week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. A. Sowden, Head Teacher

RECEPTION NEWS

We have had lots of fun celebrating The Chinese New Year - the year of the Rooster this week. We have learnt some Mandarin words, numbers and letters, made Chinese Money envelopes and lanterns and best of all tasted lots of Chinese food! Thank you for your support.

YEAR 1 NEWS

We had a fantastic afternoon at the Leisure Centre on Wednesday. We were able to practice our balancing, throwing, catching and jumping skills. Five schools took part and it was lovely to see everyone having such a good time.

YEAR 2 NEWS

As we have prepared for our class assembly, we have spent a lot of time talking about the Bible and our own special books. The children have enjoyed taking some time out of our busy schedule to have the opportunity to share and talk about why our books are special to us. We all hope you enjoyed the assembly.

I have a class full of super Mathematician's this week! Over the last few weeks the children have been learning how to add numbers using a written column method. We started by using practical equipment to show the value of each digit and learnt how to regroup the ones and tens. The children are becoming more confident in recording the calculations in this new format and have applied this to solving word problems. We aim to move onto subtraction next week.

YEAR 3 NEWS

We are working hard in our Maths to practise our times tables. We are getting quicker with our 2x, 5x and 10x. We still need to work on our 3x and 4x. We are working on improving our speed by playing the Hit the Button game and trying to improve our score.



Our new class reader of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is going well. Mrs Brown is going to get us to design a new chocolate bar linked to the book soon, which should be fun.

We really enjoyed our visit to the new library, it is much larger than the other one and a lot of us have joined in the new year. We have written a book review this week of some library books we have enjoyed and Mrs Brown is going to give a copy of these to the library. We are really excited for our next visit!

YEAR 4 NEWS

Year 4 have had an amazing two weeks learning more about the Romans. There is some amazing pieces of creative homework coming in. Well done. We have our Segedenum trip to look forward to soon. This week all children have been working hard on creating their own adventure stories. Next week we will be making our own Roman mosaic tiles which will be created into a cross for a school display.

YEAR 5 NEWS

Hot on the heels of a fantastic assembly, Year 5 have continued with all things Science, when playing host to 20 SCITT trainees from Shotton Hall Academy. The children were able to participate in lots of STEM based activities, from sugar and sweetie based investigations, to making butter, ice cream, newspaper bridges and bath bombs. One of the most enjoyable experiences was creating a marble run that lasted for as close to 20 seconds as possible, which, as we all found out, is rather a long time to keep a marble rolling! However, there were some fantastic and highly ingenious attempts, as well as lots of learning too.

Well done to both Year 5, and 6 for being fantastic ambassadors for our school and helping the trainees experience first hand how exciting STEM activities can be in primary schools. We wish them all every success in their future careers.

YEAR 6 NEWS

We are well into the Grammar for Writing Project and the children have produced some lovely descriptions. Next week we start on an extended Arthurian Legend. Mrs Moran has created Excalibur for our display.

The children are now leaning to waltz as a contrasting dance - Strictly here we come! Its more difficult than it looks.

Y6 have also taken part in a number of STEM activities with the Teacher Trainees this week.



STARS OF THE WEEK— 27th January 2017



	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Stars of the Week		Y1	Y2		Harry H	Y5	Archie

	Rec	Y1	Y2	↑ Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Speaker	Imogen	Martha	Christopher	Sophie	Grace	Rhys	Jack
Listener	Rosie	Harry	Oliver T	Kendal-Mai	Kieran	James Bo	Erin D
Writer	Hannah	Casey	Olivia	Leah	Jaden	Jazmin	Paige
Handwriter	Krystian	Rishon	Harley	Jaeden	Anthony	Rhys	Jason
Reader	Bella	Lola	Rachael	Sarah	Samuel	Thomas	Thomas
Maths	Joules	Harry C	Annabelle	Phoebie	Lucy	Brendan	Archie
Scientist	Will	Bria	Samuel	Polly	-	All Y5	All Y6
Artist	Jessica	Pearl	Abigail	Ruby	Whole	-	-
Sports	Trinity	Daniel	Sophie	Holly	Megan & Ava	Jazmin	Ebony

Toddler Group

If you have a baby or a toddler or know someone who is new to the area or never visited our Toddler Group before, please come along and join in the fun.



Toddler group is held every Wednesday morning from 9am to 10.40am.

Each week the group run craft activities, singing, story telling and lots of other activities. Come along, have a chat and a coffee.



Parents Evening

In February we have parents evening sessions, starting on Monday 13th February and running until Wednesday 15th February. This time we are going to

use the School Ping system to record these sessions and those parents who have the App or access Ping through the website will be able to book an appointment electronically. If you only access School Ping via email messages or do not access School Ping at all, you will not be able to book electronically and will need to contact Mrs Hall to arrange an appointment. If you wish to access the App please contact Mrs Hall for your login



Hats, Scarves and Gloves

With Winter well and truly with us, please can parents remember to provide children with a hat, scarf and gloves. Where possible, can names be put in these items and remind children to put them in pockets or bags after play time. We do have a few spare pairs but not enough for everyone.

