

Please note that should you wish to receive this newsletter in a different format please ask at the school office.

This term's Christian Value is Forgiveness:

We forgive because we are forgiven. Forgiveness cannot be given or received unless it is asked for, and the asking must be genuine and from the heart. Too often 'sorry' is said very easily, implying: 'All I need to do is say I'm sorry and everything will be OK'. Real repentance demands that we take what we have done wrong with the utmost seriousness and have a deep desire not to do it again.

"Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive others." Colossians 3:13

St Mary's Has Talent

The School Council are running a 'St Mary's Has Talent' competition on 27th March, during the afternoon, in the school hall.

Children who would like to showcase their talents on their own or with friends should practice to perfect their act and may get the opportunity to perform in front of the whole school in the show. It may be necessary to run heats, should a class have a lot of entries.

School Council are asking for a donation (suggested £1) to watch the show. All monies raised will go to the School Council's chosen charity - raising funds to educate a child in Ghana.

Bunny Bounce - April 1st

The children are very excited about the BUNNY BOUNCE being arranged by the PTA to raise much needed funds for our school. Children will be challenged to see how many bounces they can complete in 1 minute. This will be recorded on their sponsorship form. Parents, neighbours, relatives and friends can choose to sponsor children per bounce or a flat rate.

School diary dates:

March

17th /18th Parents Evenings 3:30-6:30 (letters to follow)

25th KS1/KS2 Dance Umbrella at the Forum

27th St Mary's Has Talent

31st Football match v Farmborough

April

1st Bunny Bounce

1st Cake Sale

2nd Football match v Longvernal

3rd **Easter Bonnet Parade** for Little Acorns, Little Oaks, Class 1, Class 2
Easter Art and Craft competition for Key Stage 2

2:30pm END OF TERM 4

20th START OF TERM 5

Easter Egg Hunt - April 3rd

The PTA are organising an Easter Egg Hunt for all children on the last day of term. Children will search for Easter egg pictures dotted around the school grounds in return for their chocolatey treat.

Easter Bonnet Parade and Competition - April 3rd

As part of our in-school Easter Collective Worship (staff and children only) children in Little Acorns (Nursery), Little Oaks, Class 1 and Class 2 are invited to make an Easter Bonnet for a school parade. Bonnets should be created at home and brought into class on the morning of Friday 3rd April.

All Little Acorns children and parents are invited into nursery on Wednesday 1st April 9-10 am to make a bonnet alongside their child. Of course should you prefer you are welcome to make one at home.

Children in Classes 3-6 are encouraged to draw, paint or create a Spring or Easter themed piece of art for display in the school hall. There will be prizes for involvement and effort.

PTA Cake Sale and Second Hand Uniform

Do come along to our spring cake sale on April 1st in the playground (or school hall). Any donations welcome. In addition, second hand uniform will be available, for a nominal donation.

PTA Request

The PTA are hoping that there may be a willing volunteer who is able to support them building a shed. This could be carried out at a time to suit: maybe one evening, after school or on the weekend. Please let a PTA member or the school office know - 01761 434548

Plentiful tea and cake on offer !!! ☺

Summer Fayre

We are very excited that this year we are going to hold a St Mary's Summer Spectacular Fayre for our whole school community. Please, please, please let us know if you are able to be involved in making this a fantastic event for the whole family. **A 'special' meeting will be held on 27th March, in the staff room at 9am to start outlining the activities and stalls. We would love to see you there.**

Coronavirus

Yesterday there were some changes to the advice for education settings from Public Health England. Children, staff, volunteers who display the symptoms of Coronavirus, in particular a FEVER and/or CONTINUOUS COUGH, must now self-isolate for 7 days. We would ask parents to notify us in the usual manner if their child will not be attending school.

It is worthwhile noting the self-isolation advice from the NHS:

Do

- try to keep at least 2 metres (3 steps) from other people in your home, particularly older people or those with long-term health conditions
- ask friends and family and delivery services to deliver things like food shopping and medicines – but avoid contact with them
- sleep alone if possible
- regularly wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- try to stay away from older people and those with long-term health conditions
- drink plenty of water and take everyday painkillers, such as paracetamol and ibuprofen, to help with your symptoms

Don't

- do not have visitors (ask people to leave deliveries outside)
- do not leave the house, for example to go for a walk, to school or public places

Self-isolation will apply to staff and other adults that work in school and therefore we may experience a higher than normal staff absence rate: we will endeavour to ensure that school runs as normal.

Furthermore, teachers have been preparing curriculum packages of learning so should there be updated guidance from the government and Public Health England, regarding school closures, children can continue their learning at home. These are not meant to be onerous but will ensure that we are able to support the best possible outcomes for children at St Mary's. We do, however, recognise that some time at home will be spent as a family. Please encourage your child to complete tasks set, as appropriate.

To communicate with parents, carers and children, in the event of a school closure, we will primarily use the school website and our Text to Parents platform. Emails to the school will be checked daily for **urgent** messages: stmaryswrithlington_pri@bathnes.gov.uk