

St Mary's Newsletter Issue 9 – 18th May 2016



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Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the end of Term 5. The children have enjoyed so many activities this term and we have all enjoying watching them take part in sporting events, visits, visitors, class open mornings and much, much more. We are updating the news section of the website, so please take a look regularly to find out more.

We are currently working on the organisation of the school for next year and we hope to be able to send this information to you shortly after the half term.

Please do ensure that your child comes to school with a hat and already has sun cream applied. They should also have a water bottle and can I remind you that water is the only drink permitted in these bottles.

We have many events in Term 6 so please keep your eyes peeled for posters and keep an eye on the website. PTA have the Summer Disco and the Summer Fayre. If you are able to help with these, please do contact Mrs Glenys Stevens, PTA Chairperson, via the school office. We also have the School Sports Day and Class Swap days, the dates of which will be finalised shortly.

Kind regards,
Naomi Clarke

Vacancy – School Crossing Patrol

St Mary's school is seeking to appoint a school crossing patrol to undertake duties concerned with the safe passage of school children and other pedestrians across the High Street at the end of Playclose.

We are looking for someone with a good awareness of road sense, and good communication skills. You will need to be punctual and reliable with good standards of physical fitness, particularly hearing and vision, and be able to react and move quickly in fast moving traffic conditions.

You will report to the Headteacher on a day-to-day basis and need to be available between 08:25 – 08:55 and 15:10 – 15:40, weekdays during term time. This equates to 38 weeks per annum but you will be paid for 44 weeks. The current rate of pay is £7.20 per hour.

For further information and/or an application form, please contact Liz Stephenson, School Business Manager on 01793 770239.

NB Unfortunately, there will be no crossing patrol on the following dates:

19 May pm 24 May am & pm 26 May pm

The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations



On a very hot and sunny Friday 6th May we celebrated Her Majesty's 90th birthday. The children spent the morning decorating cakes and designing their own Queen themed bunting. They then got to enjoy a garden party fit for a Queen in the afternoon. The challenging part of the day was the whole school task of forming the shape of a 90 on the field. The children did this very successfully and the photos look great on the Swindon Advertiser [website](#). A great day was had by all and lots of hard work put in by all staff members!

Year 5, Term 5 Are aliens among us?

Back in April 2016...

A deafening bang, a mysterious glowing white light and large crater all appeared over the Easter holidays. The cause? That was up to Year 5 journalists to investigate... Miss Jones and Ms Veale told their first-hand accounts of hearing a noise so deafening that it shook houses, and smashed much of Ms Veale's antique china. Miss Jones then took her camera onto the streets of Swindon to gather more evidence. Year 5 examined all the evidence gathered and this week were visited by Anna Bassi, Editor of *The Week Junior*, who gave students extra advice and writing tips!

Have a read of two of our fantastic articles reporting on the event on the school [website](#)

Key Dates

Thurs 26th May:

Last day of Term 5

Fri 27th May:

TD Day

Mon 6th June:

Term 6 starts

Sainsbury's Active Vouchers

Last chance to send in your vouchers as the offer has now closed. Please hand them into Reception.



North Wiltshire Cluster Wake and Shake Festival

Following on from lots of hard work, the St Mary's Key Stage 1 dance group put on a great performance at the recent Wake and Shake festival held at Lyneham Primary School. To fit in with this year's theme of 'Ghosts, Ghouls and Monsters' our dance was to 'Freak Flag' from Shrek the Musical. The children looked great dressed as 15 mini Shreks waving their flags in celebration of all things different. The children were enthusiastic and hardworking throughout rehearsals and a credit to the school at the event. Staff and parents in the audience were all very proud of them.

Mrs John TA

Holidays

There has been a great deal of coverage recently about holidays during term time. As yet there has been no change in the guidance and therefore we still require a 'Request for Absence Form' to be completed. It is very important that you complete one of these forms. Teachers need to be able to plan for your child's absence and arrange suitable work for you to take with you. Please don't just take your child out of school without completing a form, as it puts your child under pressure to be dishonest about their absence. As you can imagine children like to be able to talk about their holidays and share their stories. If you have not been honest with the school then this gives a message to your child that being dishonest in some circumstances is acceptable, which of course we all know it is not. Thank you for your continued support with this.

Book Club News

Celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday and World Book Day. A reply from Her Majesty.... YES, IT'S TRUE.... Our school book club sent Her Majesty a birthday card and wrote a letter to inform her of their interest in reading. The school received a wonderful birthday surprise, a reply to thank us for the beautiful handmade card. Her Majesty was also very pleased to hear the children of St. Mary's enjoy reading so much! Mrs Southern & Mrs Howse

Book Shop News....

Thank you to all who supported the school book shop on 10th May and our special visitor, illustrator and publisher Richy K Chandler. It was so thrilling to see so many children keen to experience a new genre of reading! Mrs Southern and Mrs Crumbie



BOOK AMNESTY

Can all school readers please check reading areas at home and school bags for any surplus school books, that could be returned to the school libraries!

Books can be returned to reception or placed in the box provided in the foyer. **YOUR ASSISTANCE IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.**

THURSDAY 26 May 2016 NSPCC "BIG BOARD GAMES DAY"

We will be supporting this cause so please could children come to school with their board games and a suggested £1 donation.