



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER



Issue: 5 Date: 5<sup>TH</sup> October 2018

[www.st-marys-pri.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys-pri.wilts.sch.uk)

Tel: 01249 460231

## HEAD'S NOTES

### SOME DIARY DATES

16, 17, 19 & 22

October: Travelling  
Book Fair

Parents Evenings:

18-10-18: 4-7pm

23-10-18: 3.30-6.30pm

24-01-18: Break up for  
Half Term

05-11-18: TD Day

06-11-18: Return to  
school for Term 2.

Other key dates have  
been sent as a  
separate attachment

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of Week 5!

This morning we came together as a community to celebrate Holy Mass and to thank God for the harvest. It was wonderful that so many parents and friends joined us for this service. The children sang beautifully and filled our hearts with gladness that we have so much and are able to share with others. Thank you to Canon Millet for leading our Mass and reminding us of all the needs of our brothers and sisters around us and in the wider world.

Thank you to those of you who were able to visit the 'Open Classrooms' on Monday afternoon. There was a buzzing feeling in school, as children showed what they have been learning and parents were able to see and talk about the learning environment in the classrooms. You will see, below, that we have Parents' evenings for one to one discussions with Class Teachers about individual children's progress this term. Please sign up for your preferred time.

On Wednesday, the Local Authority Early Years Advisor visited Nursery and Reception Classes for the morning and gave some very positive feedback about their learning environments and activities, as well as, areas for further development, which was great. Today we have undergone the external Pupil Premium Review, which was required by Ofsted. This has been a very thorough process, visiting classrooms, talking to children, scrutinizing books, meeting with subject leaders, SENCO and Senior Leaders, as well as scrutinizing paperwork, our statement on the website and how the grant has been spent. I am expecting that this review, with its recommendations, will help us to greatly improve outcomes in this area.

I visited another school this week and on my return to St Mary's felt very thankful for and proud of the happy, kind children, positive staff and tidy, bright learning atmosphere that we have here in our school.

Have a lovely weekend and God Bless.

Mrs Howie-Lee

### SAFEGUARDING

It is not acceptable to allow children to urinate in the school grounds at drop off and pick up time. This can pose a health risk to the children who play in the grounds and encourage vermin.

If pre-school children need to go to the toilet please bring them to Reception where they can access toilets.

### PARENTS EVENINGS

Parents' evenings will take place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October in the school hall. From Monday, there will be a sign-up sheet for each class available in the Office Reception. You are invited to call in and choose the time most convenient to you. Each appointment is 10 minutes.

## **OBOE SCHEME**

Wiltshire Music Connect, the area Hub, is backing the drive to save the oboe which is a seriously endangered instrument in schools. They are offering a few carefully selected children a term of free oboe lessons (worth £110) and free use of an instrument (worth £46) for the academic year. Our visiting woodwind teacher is the oboe specialist for North Wiltshire so we could have a pupil on the scheme at St Mary's. The oboe has a double reed and is a member of the woodwind family. Numbers of children playing woodwind instruments has fallen in the past 5 years but the oboe is almost dying out. It is expensive to buy which puts a lot of people off and it is also one of the hardest orchestral instruments.

If you think your child has the determination and coordination necessary to play this beautiful but difficult instrument, please get in touch. Mrs Williams will be assessing anyone interested as there is only one place available at the moment at St Mary's.

## **GET INTO GOLF**

Chippenham Golf Club have various junior clubs at weekends. To sign up or for more information please call 01249 655519 or email [nick.horrocks@foremostgolf.com](mailto:nick.horrocks@foremostgolf.com). Official partners of YMG (Young Masters Golf) [www.ymg-golf.com](http://www.ymg-golf.com)

## **AWARDS OF THE WEEK**

- Nursery: Sochinwenmeri E for lovely use of number names and counting in her play
- Class 1: Paige L for being a caring and kind friend
- Class 2: Chaiylah F for listening to instructions
- Class 3: Matthew H for being an amazing role model in Class 3
- Class 4: Oscar H for fantastic effort in all areas of learning
- Class 5: Meg C for super Science thinking!
- Class 6: Keiyano P for consistently good focus
- Class 7: Scarlett C for resilience and commitment to her learning
- Class 8: George D for great determination and effort to improve his handwriting
- Class 9: Keeley F for being enthusiastic in her learning and having a smile on her face!
- Class 10: Emmi B for a positive and more focused learning attitude