

**Important Items in this newsletter:**

- ♦ **Diary Dates**
- ♦ **School Photos**
- ♦ **Swimming pool update**



Dear All

I am writing this ahead of time as, much to the surprise of the children, even Headteachers need to keep learning! I will be on a Headteachers' Conference with all my CAST colleagues looking at the latest developments in education.

It is great to be settled back into life at St Mary's and I am absolutely overwhelmed with the generosity and 'pulling together' of the school community. Our Macmillan coffee morning was a huge success and due to the amount of cakes we received, we were even able to sell cakes to the children after school. In total we raised **£188** for this extremely worthwhile cause. Congratulations also to our winner of the 'Spot the Cake' competition, Judith Mooney who received £21.

As a school we have redesigned our behaviour policy to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to reach their full potential in an environment that supports their learning. The children, governors and school staff have chosen 5 core values to form the foundation of our school expectations. These values are Responsibility, Curiosity, Kindness, Perseverance and Co-operation. As you can see they are all very admirable values and I am pleased to say that when our year 6's visited Humphry Davy the staff at the school commented on how responsible and polite the children all were.

The school swimming pool has been looked at earlier this week by an engineer and the filtration system will be tested. There are still many areas where maintenance needs to be carried out and some equipment serviced. Please be assured that I am very keen for the pool to be opened at some point this year but, until all of this work has been properly completed I cannot give a definite date as the safety of the children using this facility needs to be my main concern. As soon as we know that the pool is ready to be used we can start looking at companies to hire it which will in turn ensure the pool is cost effective. As a school we also need to consider the cost of employing extra staff to take the lessons and maintain the pool. I am sure you will appreciate that we do not want to open it in haste and have to close it again and I really appreciate your support and patience in this matter.



## Star of the Week

### Week 1

★ Reception: Domas  
★ Class 1: Amelia-Grace  
★ Class 2: Violet  
★ Class 3: Lyra  
★ Class 4: Ryan  
★ Class 5: Abigail  
★ Class 6: Ethan

### Week 2

★ EYFS: James  
★ Class 1: Michael  
★ Class 2: Evie  
★ Class 3: William  
★ Class 4: Luke  
★ Class 5: Lyla  
★ Class 6: Kieran

## PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

We currently have a vacancy for two Parent Governors. Governors play a very important part in over-seeing the running of the school. If you are interested in becoming a Governor, please pick up an information letter and application form from our school office.

## Photographs

Tempest will be in school on Thursday 13th October to take individual photographs of each pupil.

There will be an opportunity for pupils with brothers and sisters in school to be photographed together. If you would like this then please contact the school office to book a slot from 8.30am.

## New Staff

We recently advertised for a number of roles in the school. There were many applications for these positions and I am pleased to say that the following appointments have been made:

Adele Stuckey: Early years nursery assistant  
Amanda Williams: Early years teaching assistant  
Rebecca Merriman: Early years and Class 1 teaching assistant  
Rob Bolton: Premises Manager

We welcome to our school and wish them well in their new roles!

## Class Attendance

Each week classes have the opportunity to win two attendance prizes. One for the best attendance and one most punctual class with the least number of recorded lates. Well done to the following classes :

w/ending 23rd September 2016

1st place Y5 with 100%, 2nd place Y1 with 98.5% and 3rd place Y3 with 98.2%

w/ending 30th September 2016

1st place Y5 with 97.7%, 2nd place Y4 with 96.7% and 3rd place Y3 with 95.9%

### EYFS Fundraising

The parents in Reception have been absolutely amazing in organising fundraising for the Early Years department and their WOW day trip. They managed to raise £120 from their cake sale which has gone towards their trip and outdoor clothing. There will be a raffle taking place on the playground after school on Friday 21st October with a range of fabulous prizes. Tickets can be bought for £1 a strip from Nursery or Reception. A massive thank you once again to the parents involved in this!

### Halloween Disco

There will be a Halloween Disco organised by the PTA, for the children on Friday 21st October.

Reception, Class 1 and Class 2 : 5.30pm—6.30pm

Class 3, Class 4, Class 5 and Class 6: 6.45pm—7.45pm

Tickets will be £2.50

A letter will be sent home nearer the time with a reply slip which will need to be returned to school with the ticket money.

### **Parent Teacher Association (PTA)**

**Our next PTA meeting is being held at school on Friday 14th October at 9.15am. If you are able to join us to discuss forthcoming fundraising events, you are very welcome. If for any reason you are unable to attend but would like some involvement in the PTA please contact the school office and a member of the PTA will contact you directly.**

### Lost Blazer

Please could you look out for a lost named school blazer belonging to Violet Hocking in Class 2.

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### Wear your Sports Clothes!

We are very excited to be welcoming GB Olympic Swimmer Antony James to the school on Friday 14th October. He will be completing a fitness circuit with all children and answer any questions the children may have. The aim of the day is to inspire the children to take up sport and to encourage them to discover and pursue their passion in life. There is no cost for this event but the children have all been given a sponsor form and part of the money raised will go towards sports equipment for the school. We would like the children to wear sports clothes to school for the day, this may be their school PE kit or any other sports clothes they have.

### Calculation Policy

Our school calculation policy is now saved on the school website to which parents can refer. Please let us know if there is anything else you would find useful as we are updating it all the time.

### Polite Notice

**Please could you ensure that you do not park on the roundabout outside the school. This is a hazard to other cars and a potential danger to pedestrians.**

## Dates for your Diary

Thursday 13th October	All	Tempest photographs individual and families
Wednesday 19th October	KS1	Harvest Festival—2.30pm in school
Thursday 20th October	KS2	Harvest Mass—9.30am in school
Mon 24th October to Fri 28th October	All	Half Term holiday
Monday 31st October	All	Return for second half Autumn Term
Friday 4th November	All	INSET DAY—School closed
Monday 19th December to Tuesday 3th January		Christmas Break
<b><u>Spring Term 2017</u></b>		
Tuesday 3rd January	All	INSET DAY—School closed
Wednesday 4th January	All	Return for Spring Term
Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February		Half term holiday
Monday 20th February	All	Return for second half Spring Term
Monday 13th March	All	INSET DAY—School closed
Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April		Easter Break
<b><u>Summer Term 2017</u></b>		
Tuesday 18th April	All	Return for Summer Term
Friday 26th May	All	INSET DAY—School closed
Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June		Half term holiday
Monday 5th June	All	Return for second half Summer Term
Wednesday 26th July	All	INSET DAY—School closed
Monday 24th July	All	Celebration Assembly
Tuesday 25th July	All	Leavers Mass 9.30am school
Thursday 27th July	All	Break up for the Summer Holidays