

St Mary's News

September 9th 2013

www.stmarys.bryanston.net

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Welcome Back!

I hope everybody had a good holiday over the Summer and enjoyed the sunshine. It was good to hear about the children's adventures last week!

We welcome two new teachers to St Mary's: Sarah Philpot, who is teaching Year 2, and Gareth Moss who is looking after Year 3. We are looking forward to working with them over the coming months.

These are also my last two Terms at St Mary's (I'm keeping the seat warm for Emily Norman who takes over after Christmas!) and I'm looking forward to spending a bonus four months with the school; we've got great children, great parents, great governors and great staff - it's a great place to be! (apologies for the over-use of 'great!')

Fundraising

Miss Bell and Mr Carroll will be running the Royal parks half marathon on October 6th.



They will be fundraising for two very important charities: NSPCC and Marie Curie Cancer. The non-uniform day donations from the end of last Term went to these



charities (approximately £250 shared between them).

Both teachers will be working hard this month - on the track for sure! - but also to raise £800 in sponsorship.

To boost their efforts they will be holding an ice-cream sale (starting last Thursday) and then every Friday for the next 3 weeks. Please help support two great causes and buy an ice cream for £1!

English Language Classes for Parents

"There are many English Language Courses available, at all levels, held very near here. You can find out more, see if they cost anything (many are free) and enrol before 14 September at the Westminster Adult Education Service offices in the Lisson Grove Centre 9am - 8pm weekdays and Saturday 9-5pm. For more information telephone: 020 7297 7297 or visit www.waes.ac.uk"

Sheelagh Leith

Attendance Last Term

Our class attendance for the last two Terms of last year (from Easter to the Summer) was very good! Thank you to everyone for helping us with

this and a special 'WELL DONE' to last year's Year 5 (now Year 6!) for having the best attendance over those two Terms.

- Year 5: 97.5%
- Year 2: 97.1%
- Year 3: 96.7%
- Year 4: 96.3%
- Year 1: 95.5%
- Year 6: 95.3%
- F2: 94.2%

Parent Information

Over the next couple of weeks class teachers will be inviting you to a general class meeting to discuss the routines and expectations for your child's new class - some have already taken place.

I'd also like to remind everybody that there is lots of information for parents on our website and draw special attention to the holiday dates and various policies, such as the Communicating With Parents, Complaints and Charging Policies - to name just a few! If you don't have access to the Internet, or would like hard copies of these policies, just ask in the school office.

Other ways we keep in touch with you are (apart from the website I already mentioned) through Twitter (search for @smbsschool) and a Blog at: smbnews.wordpress.com),

**Year 6 School Journey:
Marchant's Hill, Surrey**



Peter Hadfield

both of which are linked to our website.

There is also a calendar on the website that shows holiday dates, when the after-school clubs are running and other significant school events. Go to our website and click on the 'School Calendar' tab. You'll also find this year's holiday dates summarised below the calendar.

We also use email - and this newsletter is emailed to those parents who have given us their email address. If you have an email address, please let the school office know. If you are receiving this newsletter by email and don't want to, also let us know and we will remove you from our distribution list.

We also use our texting service when necessary - perhaps to let parents know if a club is cancelled, for example.

If you have changed you mobile 'phone number recently, please make sure the office staff amend your contact details so we can get in touch quickly and easily if we need to.



I'd also like to encourage you to express your views about the school through the Government's 'Parent View' website: <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Lastly, just a final reminder that we have a Breakfast Club in school from 8.00—9.00 and an After-School Club that runs from 3.15 until 4.45. See Lesley Baillie for the Breakfast Club or Mrs Ar-

nold if you are interested in After-School Club.



School Journey

Good luck to our Year 6 class who are off to Marchant's Hill this morning on School Journey. Marchant's Hill is near Hindhurst in Surrey - an 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty' and the children always have a great time. They do a lot of 'Outdoor and Adventurous' sport in a secure and safe environment and it's a great way to develop the children's confidence, independence and co-operative skills.

Year 6 SATs

Our provisional Year 6 SATs results for 2012/13 are as we expected. This was a small class (23 pupils who count towards our figures, excluding one pupil who was new to Year 6 in the Spring Term and had no English) which means that each pupil counts as more than 4%. The class also had large numbers of children with Special Educational Needs (8 out of 23 pupils: 1 child with a statement, 4 recorded as 'school action plus' and 3 at 'school action.')

Despite this we attained:

- **87% at Level 4 or more in Reading**

- **78.3% in Writing** and
- **83% in maths.**

The provisional government figures also indicate that the children made **13.7 points progress**, as an average, from Year 2 to the end of Year 6. The expectation is that they will make 12 points progress.

These figures are all provisional at the moment.

What's On This Week

- Monday: Year 6 leave for School Journey
- Monday: Year 3 meeting for parents (3.20)
- Tuesday: Year 4 meeting for parents (3.20)
- Thursday: Year 2 to the Wallace Collection
- Thursday: Year 6 (and Y5) Secondary Transfer Meeting at 3.20 in the ICT Room
- Thursday: Year 5 meeting for parents (3.30)
- Friday: Year 6 return from School Journey

School Dates

- THURSDAY, 5th September: FIRST DAY OF TERM
- Monday, 9th Sept to Friday, 13th Sept: Year 6 School Journey
- Thursday, 10th October: Harvest Service (Church) at 9.30
- Tuesday, 22nd October: School Photographs
- **Friday, 25th October: last day of Term 1**
- **Monday, 4th November: first day of Term 2**