



# St. Mary's Newsletter

June 2018



*At St. Mary's we aim to provide an environment for all members of our school community where positive attitudes to learning and creativity are promoted and valued within the context of Christian belief and practice.*

***Core Christian Values: Compassion, Friendship, Koinonia and Trust.***

## **Christian Values: Christian Journey**

This half term we are focussing on the Christian Journey.

*The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.*

*Psalms 23:1-3*

## **Building Work**

As I am sure that you will have seen, our building work is now underway. In our meetings with the local authority and our contractor, we have discussed the continued health, safety and safeguarding of our children. To ensure this, steps including the boarding up of windows where the building work is being carried out; workmen not in the school building; mobile phones not to be used will be implemented. Our aim throughout this half-term is to continue with school as much as is normal and to keep any disruption to a minimum. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to speak to me about these, thank you.

## **National Curriculum Assessments**

As you will be aware, each year in the summer term, we assess the children in Years Two to Six through the use of English and Maths tests. These are used alongside ongoing teacher assessment for staff to confirm the level of attainment that your child is currently working at. These tests also help ready the children for the more formal compulsory national SATs tests in

Year Six. All these tests are managed well by the members of staff, so that children are prepared and comfortable taking them. All credit to our children—this year being no exception—who generally take them in their stride, with several even enjoying them! Though these are a necessary process, here at St. Mary's we ensure that children have other academic, sporting and artistic opportunities too, in order to develop and nurture the whole child. Thank you to all staff and parents who have helped provide the right environment and given our children the best opportunities to succeed—not just in these tests, but in all their education and development as individuals.

## **2018-2019 Term Dates**

These dates are set by the City of York and include five days to be chosen by individual schools for their staff training days. These are on the school website, within the parents section. The school's web address is [www.stmarysprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stmarysprimaryschool.co.uk) Please remember that under DFE National Arrangements introduced in September 2013, requests for leave of absence in term time will not be authorised and you may be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice from the Local Authority.

## **Nut Friendly School**

We have recently had some children bringing in snack bars with nuts for morning break and peanut butter sandwiches for lunch. As we have individuals in school with nut allergies, please may I ask that you

consider this when providing a packed lunch for your child in the future.

### **Sports Day & FOSM BBQ**

On Wednesday 20th June we will be hosting our annual Sports Day—weather permitting! With our building work ongoing, the residents of De Mowbray Court have very kindly allowed us to use the gate from their private road onto the school playground for the event. They have requested that their road be used for **pedestrian access only** and not for any vehicles or for parking. FOSM will again be organising the popular BBQ following the Sports Day. If you are able to help out in any way, please contact FOSM. Please may I politely remind parents that no alcohol is permitted on site, thank you.

### **Mental Health Week**

As part of Mental Health Week, Mrs Holliday led an assembly with the children on overcoming difficulties. Further useful tips on how to help your child can be found at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/help-your-child-to-chill-out>

### **Sport in School**

Well done to our Year 5/6 Cricket Squad who competed in the recent School Sports Partnership tournament at the University of York. Despite losing both games, the children enjoyed the competitive fixtures, improving as they went on.

### **Safeguarding**

During the summer term especially, please ensure that your child has their water bottle at school every day and a sun hat for lunchtimes. If your child needs sun cream, please apply this before school commences.

### **School Uniform**

Please may I remind parents of our school dress code, which can be viewed on the

school website within the Parents section. In particular, the wearing of shoes and not trainers is requested, along with skirts of an appropriate length and not shorter than knee length, thank you.

The next school uniform stall will take place on Monday 11th June, 8.30-8.45am. We have a limited supply of new uniform, as well as nearly new items.

### **Governor Profile**

In each newsletter we are providing a Governor profile so that you can get to know our school Governors. This month it is from Mrs Lindy Illingworth, our Vice Chair of Governors and one of our Foundation Governors:

I have had the pleasure of serving on the governing body for nine years. I represent Reverend Otter as the ex-officio foundation governor. Professionally I have taught in nurseries, schools, in further education and higher education specialising in Early Years. This has been my passion since I began working in an educational nursery school when my son was 3. I am now retired and have eleven grandchildren.

### **-Dates for your diary:**

- Friday 8th June: FOSM Non-Uniform Day
- Monday 11th June: FOSM meeting, Rose & Crown, Askham Richard, 8pm
- Wednesday 13th June: Class & Year 6 photographs
- w/c Monday 18th June: Health Week
- Wednesday 20th June: Sports Day and FOSM BBQ, 1.15-5.00pm
- Wednesday 27th June: Reserve Sports Day & FOSM BBQ
- Sunday 1st July: FOSM Family Football Fiesta at The Chequers Inn, Bilton-in-Ainsty, 2.30-7.00pm

*Thank you for your continued help and support.*