



Welwyn St Mary's Primary School



Newsletter December End of Term 2019

Value

Our value for this half term is:
Trust

'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'

Luke 19:17

"Trust takes years to build, seconds to break"

Anon



We wish all our families a very happy Christmas and every blessing for 2020.

End of Term

A reminder that term ends today at **1.20 pm** and After School Club closes at **4.20 pm**.

Christmas Fair

We are delighted to share that the Christmas Fair raised over £4,000 plus a further £1,000 in match funding from a parent's employer. Thank you to our dedicated PTFA team and all who supported this event.

Class Attendance Cup

Congratulations to class MS3 who won the December class attendance cup with 99.04% attendance.

MS3	99.04%
AT2 and A4	98.72%
HT6	98.54%
O4	98.26%
MN2	98.08%

House point winners

Well done to Normans for the most house points this term. House points can be awarded by any adult for good work or good behaviour.

Normans	3214
Saxons	3122
Romans	2728
Vikings	2687

Values project winners

Congratulations to the following for their excellent art and craft based on our current value Trust.

- 1st Grace and May
- 2nd Millie and Evelyn G
- 3rd Riley and Manuka

Start of day arrangements for KS2

Please remind your children that they should be coming straight in to school in the morning. For their own safety they should not be waiting in the alley near the key stage 2 entrance as this area is not supervised.





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Choir Concerts



Our choirs are always central to the Christmas concert season at Welwyn St Mary's, and have performed at our Christmas Fair, St John's Digswell Church and St Mary's Church. Their beautiful renditions of traditional carols and more modern songs were enjoyed by all. Thank you children to your commitment to rehearsing and performing, and to Mrs Harrison who teaches to such a high standard.

The Landlord's Cat

Key Stage 1 performed a wonderful production of "The Landlord's Cat". Thank you for supporting your children as they learnt their lines and the songs, and for providing their beautiful costumes. Thank you to Ms Anstey for leading the production so effectively.

Hoodwinked

Our year 3 and 4 children performed "Hoodwinked" which tells the story of Robin Hood. Well done to all children for learning their lines and dances so well, and to Miss O'Keeffe for her directing skills. Special mention to Anaiah who took on two additional roles at very short notice. Well done indeed.

A Present for the Baby

Our reception children performed their nativity play brilliantly to family and friends on 18th December. They did so well remembering their lines and the words to all the songs. Thank you to parents for helping them practice at home.

Pantomime

Our whole school trip to watch Beauty and the Beast was a real treat. The children and adults had a thoroughly enjoyable morning. Please read the following reviews from our year 6 children in their own words.

Another amazing pantomime!

On Tuesday 10th December all the pupils from Welwyn St Mary's attended the show, "Beauty and the Beast" at the Gordon Craig theatre. The show was very enjoyable and really well put together. The set definitely set the scene and made us feel like we were there. The show was also very interactive as the characters talked to us and gave us tasks to do. Some of our favourite characters were: Pierre, Dotty, Beauty, Beast, Malevolent and Beauty's Dad. It was very well acted.

Here is what some people had to say about it:

"Excellent changes of scenery" - Evie, HT6.

"I really liked Soup-erman" - Libby, HT6.

"I really like the backdrop when they were on top of the castle" - Alasdaire, HT6.

"I liked it when they sang ghostbusters" - Harry, HT6.

"I like the part when all the plates accidentally smashed" - Ellie HT6.

In conclusion, we thought it was a very good show and we hope they continue to make more.

Jasmine, HT6.





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Beauty and the Beast

On Tuesday 10th December, Welwyn St Mary's Primary School went to Stevenage, Gordon Craig Theatre, to watch the pantomime Beauty and the Beast. Firstly, we got to the leisure park and then we walked the rest of the way. Once we had got into the theatre we sat down on the comfy, royal red seats. We settled down and listened to the festive Christmas songs that were playing in the background. Suddenly, a fairy tiptoed delicately onto the colossal, intricately decorated stage - and the show began.

There were many amusing scenes throughout the play and they were mainly because of "Potty Pierre" and "Dotty" who were the most comical characters of the panto. Some of the most hilarious scenes included the part where they were washing dishes and they kept on "accidentally" dropping them! As well as that, another of the funny scenarios was when Potty Pierre was singing and then Dotty blew him up - everyone screeched with laughter.

Overall, I think that everyone really enjoyed the spectacular show and were really grateful for the opportunity of going to see it.

Esther, HT6

Carol Service

Our annual carol service once again featured performances of spoken word, singing, dance and drama of the highest standard. It was a wonderful way to conclude our celebrations here at Welwyn St Mary's, and helped us to focus on the Christmas story. Well done to all children and staff.

Orchestra



Very well done to our school orchestra who played beautifully for Key Stage 2 this week. It is lovely to see how this has grown so rapidly and become a key feature of our school. Well done to all and thank you to Miss Richardson, Mrs Baker and Ava for helping make this possible.

Christmas lunch

Our Christmas lunch was enjoyed by a record 350 children this week. A big thank you to our head cook Kelly, and deputy head cook Caroline, for a delicious lunch and for all they do for us the whole year round. Look out for the super easy electronic lunch ordering coming in for 2020. Please register if you have not already done so. We were also delighted that no single-use plates or cutlery were used this year.

K club entertains



Our Year 6 K club members did a great job looking after elderly guests including 8 residents from St Mary's Court. Our guests watched Reception's show and then were served coffee and mince pies. Our pupils were praised for their manners and kindness. Thank you to Mrs Maouchi for running this event and to her and Mrs Bould for organising K club activities every week. This includes excellent reading and maths support for our Reception children.





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Food Bank donations



Thank you to all our families who brought in a donation for the Hatfield Trussell Trust food bank. This will make a difference to many people this Christmas.

Tanzania donations

Thank you for your generosity in giving to our retiring collections at the Christmas productions. This has raised £626.90 which has been sent to Walser's Tanzania Charity.

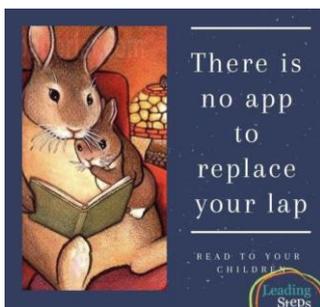
Unclaimed raffle prizes

Please do check your raffle tickets as the following prizes are still waiting to be claimed from the school office:

Number	Colour	Prize
461	Peach	Family Photography Session
640	Peach	A 30 minute Golf lesson with PGA Golf Professional Richard May and 18 holes of Golf
357	Peach	A term of French tuition at School French Club
65	Pink	One hour Primary Maths Tuition
790	Peach	Complimentary Conditioning Treatment at No.15 Hairdressers, Welwyn
54	Green	£20 voucher for Box of Delights, Welwyn
605	Peach	Cod and Chips for two at Lemon Plaice, Welwyn
738	Peach	Two tickets for Boozy Bingo at the Welwyn Sports and Social Club
468	Peach	Tequila
115	Yellow	Voucher for personalised Christmas stocking
637	Peach	Ladies Watch
943	Peach	Bottle of Prosecco
14	Yellow	Family ticket to Standalone Farm
169	Peach	Family ticket to Standalone Farm

Readathon

We are pleased to share with you that £606 was raised by our Readathon. Thank you to all who took part and to friends and family for sponsoring our children. Well done to Tammy who raised the most individual sponsorship and well done to children for such a fantastic amount of reading.



Reading at home

Thank you to all our families for so much excellent reading together at home. It is so valuable and this illustration makes the point very well. Do please continue over this busy season as benefits definitely build over time.





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Table Tennis

On Friday 6th December the Welwyn St Mary's table tennis teams travelled to Edge Grove school to compete in this year's county finals. The boys' team finished second in their pool to reach the semi-finals. After narrowly missing out on a place in the final they showed fantastic stamina to continue playing great table tennis and compete in the 3rd/4th place play-off. After drawing two games each, they were marginally pipped to 3rd place via points scored. Well done to the team, Luca, Jamie, Stanley and Sean.



The girls' team followed in the afternoon and the results played out very similarly. After finishing second in their pool, they also narrowly missed out on a place in the final. A fantastically fought out 3rd/4th place play-off ended in the team finishing 4th overall. Well done to Josie, Poppy, Lily and Robyn.

Both teams are the 4th best table tennis team out of 428 teams within Hertfordshire - a fantastic achievement.

Music Lessons

Music lessons and orchestra will start week beginning 6th January 2020.

New meal system

A reminder for those who have not yet given consent by completing the online Parentmail form regarding the new meal system - please do this as soon as possible. Without this consent, your child will not be registered on the new system, and will not be able to have a school meal. If you are having difficulties, please speak to the school office who will be able to help.

Recycling for Charity

Did you know...you can bring in to school the following items which will be recycled through Terracycle, raising money for the charity Medic to Medic:

- Pens, felt-tips, highlighters and markers
- Sprays from cleaning products
- Toothbrushes and their packaging
- Toothpaste tubes (not pumps)

We want to make it easy for you to send in your recycling. We will be in the KS2 and KS1 playgrounds collecting on Friday 24th January. After that, we will be collecting in both playgrounds on the last Friday of





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every month. Attached is the latest newsletter from Medic to Medic, sharing how the money raised is used to support medical students in Malawi.

Reception Places 2020

The window for applications is now open and closes on 15th January 2020. Please be aware that we require our own Supplementary Information Form to be completed and returned to the school office as well as your online application to county. For more information please visit www.hertsdirect.org/admissions

Pupil Premium

For every child registered for Pupil Premium, the school receive additional funding which is spent on raising the attainment of those pupils. If you are entitled to Pupil Premium funding, your child could access a range of additional benefits, including extra help in class, additional resources, free school trips and visits and one free club per term.

If you think that you might be eligible for free school meals and are not currently registered, please complete the simple online application form which can be found at: www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals Once you have registered your child, please speak to the school office to claim a new school jumper or cardigan.

Christmas tree

Thank you Verity, Scarlett and Hugo for decorating the Christmas tree in church so beautifully.

Midday Supervisor vacancy

Are you or someone you know, looking for a part time job? We are looking for an enthusiastic and reliable person to join our busy midday supervisory team. The position is initially on a fixed term basis with an immediate start until the end of the summer term 2020. If you are able to work from 12.00 until 1.00 pm daily from Monday to Friday, term time only, we would love to hear from you.

Please apply online at www.teachinherts.com or contact the school office for an application form.

Applications close 10th January 2020.

Welwyn St Mary's Primary School is committed to safeguarding children and young people and therefore the successful applicant will be subject to suitable references, medical and DBS checks in accordance with Herts County Council guidelines.

Severe Weather Guidance

In the event of bad weather and possible school closure due to snow we will Parentmail parents as early as possible. You can also receive up to date information from www.hertsdirect.org or listen to BOB FM Hertfordshire 106.7 and 106.9. We always endeavour to keep the school open and will only close if absolutely necessary.

Diary Dates

	Autumn Term 2019
20 th December	Term ends at 1.20 pm





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	Spring Term 2020
6 th January	Spring term commences
6 th January	Music lessons start this week
16 th January	Year 3 swimming begins
24 th January	Year 6 road safety quiz final
24 th January	3.05 pm PTFA year 6 cake sale
29 th January	Year 6 trip to RAF Hendon
29 th January	Year 4 Faith Tour
31 st January	MJ5 class assembly
12 th February	Parental Consultations
13 th February	Parental Consultations
13 th February	Year 3 Greek Day
14 th February	MN2 class assembly
14 th February	3.05 pm PTFA year 4 cake sale
17 th - 21 st February	Half term holiday
25 th February	Year 6 K'Nex Challenge
26 th February	Year 2 National Gallery trip
5 th March	World Book Day
6 th March	MR class assembly
13 th March	CD1 class assembly
13 th March	3.05 pm PTFA Reception cake sale
16 th to 20 th March	Science Week
20 th March	LR class assembly
24 th March	AB5 Distractions training
25 th March	MJ5 Distractions training
26 th to 28 th March	SMART production
27 th March	M1 class assembly
31 st March	Year 1 Chiltern Open Air Museum trip
31 st March	AT2 scooter training
1 st April	Visit of the Bishop of Hertford
1 st April	MN2 scooter training
2 nd April	Whole school Easter service in Church
3 rd April	Term ends 1.20 pm
	Summer Term 2020
20 th April	Summer term commences
22 nd April	Year 2 Fire of London day





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24 th April	3.05 pm PTFA year 2 cake sale
8 th May	May Bank Holiday
11 th May	SATs week
15 th May	3.05 pm PTFA year 1 cake sale
22 nd May	Sports Day
25 th - 29 th May	Half term holiday
9 th June	AB5 class assembly
10 th June	Year 3 Celtic Harmony trip
12 th June	3.05 pm PTFA year 3 cake sale
16 th June	Year 4 Verulamium Museum trip
19 th June	INSET day - school closed
22 nd June	INSET day - school closed
24 th June	Year 2 Kew Gardens trip
17 th July	Term ends 1.20 pm
20 th - 21 st July	INSET days - school closed
Autumn Term 2020	
2 nd September	INSET day - school closed
3 rd September	Autumn term commences
26 th - 30 th October	Half term holiday
20 th November	Occasional day - school closed
18 th December	Term ends at 1.20 pm
Spring Term 2021	
4 th January	Spring term commences
15 th - 19 th February	Half term holiday
26 th March	Term ends at 1.20 pm
Summer Term 2021	
12 th April	Summer term commences
31 st May - 4 th June	Half term holiday
16 th July	Term ends at 1.20 pm
19 th - 22 nd July	INSET days - school closed

