



Welwyn St Mary's Primary School

Newsletter - February interim 2020



Value

Our value for this half term is:
Justice

"Justice cannot be for one side alone, but must be for both."
Eleanor Roosevelt

"The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern."
Proverbs 29:7

Welcome

Welcome to Mr Duncan Shepherd who has joined our lovely lunchtime team and will be working across both playgrounds. We hope that he will be very happy here.

Gold School Games Mark



On Wednesday 12th December Kyrln Brooks Lynch, our School Games Organiser (SGO) presented our GOLD School Games Mark to our year 6 sports leaders. The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. Each School Games Mark application is divided into four sets of questions. They cover the following basic topics:

- Participation - how many young people at your school are being engaged in sporting activity?
- Competition - how many different sports are being played and how many competitions are being entered?
- Workforce - how many pupils are involved in leadership activities alongside taking part in competitions?
- Clubs - how many local links does your school have with clubs or establishments from the area?

We would like to take this opportunity to thank every single one of our pupils for allowing us to achieve such mark. Through the children's commitment, dedication and perseverance to take part in a range of diverse





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activities, P.E. lessons, competitions and clubs; we are now certified as achieving the GOLD mark for three years in a row. Well done to our staff, particularly Mrs Southall as PE lead and Mr O'Neill as PE apprentice. Thank you to all families for their support in sport - so valuable.

Indoor athletics:



After qualifying for the district round of the indoor athletics, the team spent time practicing for the next round. We travelled to Ridgeway Academy on the 11th February for the event. Even though the final result wasn't quite what we had hoped for everyone can be really proud of their individual performances. The whole team showed great determination and perseverance to try their very best at all times. Thank you to the entire year 6 indoor athletics team.

Six Nations tag rugby Super team event:



Poppy, Riley and Han were selected to represent the Monks Walk tag rugby team after tough trials two weeks prior. After a warm up, the two teams, made up of children from a selection of Monks Walk primary schools faced competition against teams put together from other primary schools, representing their link secondary school. Han represented Italy. Riley and Poppy represented Scotland. These children hadn't competed together before today. Riley scored some fantastic solo tries. Poppy with some awesome tagging of the opposition and Han for her passing ability.

Everyone showed fantastic communication and team work skills alongside a lovely attitude to work with others. The final result reflected this as Italy came first and Scotland second. Thank you to Welwyn Rugby Club for allowing us to use their facilities and the Monks Walk sports leaders for refereeing and collating scores.





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Crossing patrol

We are delighted to have been able to appoint a crossing patrol person for the beginning and end of the school day. Ms Ullman begins later this week and will be fully operational from 2nd March. She will patrol the London Road crossing and Ottway Walk before and after school. We are very grateful to Hertfordshire County Council and Welwyn Festival Committee for funding this. It is another way to keep our families safe and to encourage walking to school. Do please think about how you might be able to Park and Stride knowing you will have a safe crossing place and you will be lowering vehicle emissions. Thank you.

Parking near school

On her recent visit our community police officer made the following observations:

- keep Ottway Walk clear so traffic may pass in both directions and an emergency vehicle could have access
- use the Whitehill and Bowls club car parks as over spill but do use the bark path when walking to and from school
- never park on double yellow lines

She will be around from time to time if you have any queries.

Reusable Water Bottles

Green Group would like to encourage all children at Welwyn St Mary's to only bring in reusable water bottles to school. This is one way to reduce the amount of single use plastic as we all look to help protect our planet.

Regular eye check ups

Do make sure you take advantage of the free eye checks for children. These are available widely through most opticians. Children's eyesight can change over time and eye checks can also pick up other health issues.

Five a day

Make healthy eating fun by seeing how many fruits and vegetables your family eats in a week. The recommended is at least five a day.

Internet safety advice

Please take time to look at the attached link from the NSPCC. The website covers 54 different products and is very simple to use. It covers the risks of bullying, grooming or children accidentally running up large bills. It also assesses the type of content and suitability for various age groups and explains how you can make products safer by adjusting the settings. You can find it here <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/> Please share this website with friends and family members who have responsibility for young people. It is so useful to guide your children to age appropriate sites only and to keep them safe. By researching here you will know the age limits required and the type of content. As ever do please check what your child is accessing and warn them of dangers.

Pancake Race

The annual village pancake race takes place on Shrove Tuesday (25th February) after school, starting by the church. Teams of 5 people are welcome - just come with a team name and a frying pan. The Wellington kindly provide the pancakes. Please meet in the carpark of the Wellington at 3.15pm, ready for the races to start at 3.30pm.





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All are welcome to come and cheer on the Welwyn St Mary's staff team. Pupils may also enter.

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.

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

	Spring Term 2020
25 th February	Year 6 K'Nex Challenge
25 th February	Shrove Tuesday pancake race
26 th February	Year 2 National Gallery trip
29 th February	11am - 1pm Nature Reserve tidy up
5 th March	World Book Day
6 th March	MR class assembly - now moved to 20th March
11 th March	Early evening - Year 5 dance festival at Hawthorne Theatre, Campus West
13 th March	CD1 class assembly
13 th March	3.05 pm PTFA Reception cake sale
16 th to 20 th March	Science Week
18 th March	Key Stage 2 Speakers' Cup
20 th March	MR and LR class assembly - new date for MR
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





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1 st April	Years 5 and 6 Sherrardswood cross country event
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
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
26 th June	3.05 pm PTFA Year 5 cake sale
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





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16 th July	Term ends at 1.20 pm
19 th - 22 nd July	INSET days - school closed

