



Welwyn St Mary's Primary School



Newsletter - October 2019

Value

Our value for this half term is:

Thankfulness

"Always give thanks for everything to God the Father"

Ephesians 5.20

"Write your troubles in the sand, but carve your blessings in stone"

Anon

Farewell

We said a sad farewell to Mrs Greasby who left Welwyn St Marys on October 4th after 10 excellent years as a teaching assistant. We thank her very much and wish her well as she spends more time with her family. Miss Blyth will join our TA team working in M1 and Mrs Rogers will move to A4 as their TA.

Congratulations

Very well done indeed to Mrs Mather and our Travel Ambassadors for gaining Mode Stars Bronze for travel safety in and around school. They will continue to advise us wisely.

Lego Robotics

This week, all children in years 2 to 6 enjoyed a two hour Lego Robotics session. Each group of three children was given a box of Lego pieces. In the boxes were four parts: the controller, two spinning wheels, a sensor and parts to connect them all together. First we attached the wheels together, the controller on top and the sensor on the controller. Then we used a laptop with a coding planner on it, and we had to drag the commands on what we wanted the robot to do. After that we wired it up and waited for the instructions to download onto our robots. When it was finished, we took it to an empty space on the floor and it would stop and turn if it came to an object blocking its path. It was lots of fun and I really enjoyed it.

Helena, Year 6

September attendance trophy

Well done to BC3 for topping the attendance rates with a very impressive 99.52%. Runners up were MS3 with 99.03% and in third were A4 with 98.95%. All very impressive.

Gardening

Thank you to Mrs Newstead for taking on gardening club and the polytunnel. They meet every Wednesday lunchtime and are very active already. We are also taking part in the Little Daffodil scheme for Year 2 and Vanstones are kindly donating 100 daffodil bulbs, pots and compost. Thank you Vanstones. Additionally as part of the 2020 birthday celebrations for Welwyn Garden City we have been given 2020 bulbs to plant in our school grounds under the large cedar tree hopefully. This will happen on Wednesday 23rd October.

School orchestra

Final call for any new members of our school orchestra. Any pupil learning an instrument at home or school may join and it is completely free. It is great chance to make music as a group and perform in public. They meet each Wednesday lunchtime. Please let our office staff know if you are interested.





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Year 4 Tag Rugby

Well done to our year 4 team who attended the tag rugby competition on 30th September. There were twelve schools taking part, each representing one of the nations competing in the Rugby World Cup. We were allocated Australia and finished in 4th place overall.

Year 5 Tag Rugby



Congratulations to our Year 5 team who also competed this week. They played really well as a team and finished the event in second place.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are pleased to announce that the Macmillan Coffee Morning raised a fantastic £334.54. Thank you to all who supported this event and to Mrs Southall for organising it so well.

Reception Outdoor Area

We are looking to enhance our outdoor area for our new cohort and request your help please. We would be very grateful if are able to donate any items to us if they are no longer needed in your home. We are hoping for:

- trikes
- scooters
- small world toys and characters
- roleplay buggies
- roleplay high chairs
- pop up tents
- water toys
- foam footballs
- a toy garage
- dressing up costumes
- easel
- roleplay builders hats

If you have any of these items and they are in good condition, please bring them to the Reception gate at drop off or collection or to our school office.

School Office

Please call, rather than email, the school office when you have urgent messages towards the end of the school day. This is to ensure we receive these messages and can pass them on to class teachers. Any





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changes to pick up arrangements should be communicated to teachers at the start of the day whenever possible.

Please also ensure that your child has their PE kit, lunch, books, etc. with them in the morning. The office is receiving a growing number of items each day to distribute to classes.

A reminder that forms can be posted in the letter box on the door by MS3. This is emptied every day.

Smoking/Vaping on school grounds

We ask all parents and carers not to smoke or vape on the school grounds at any time.

Milk for Pupil Premium Children

If your child is registered for Pupil Premium, as well as additional classroom support, all school trips and one club per term being paid for by school, they are also entitled to receive milk each day free of charge. If your child is registered and would like to receive milk, please order online at: www.coolmilk.com. If you think you may be eligible for Pupil Premium, please visit www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals.

Britannica Online

Hertfordshire Libraries offers online access to Britannica Online. This is the equivalent of the Encyclopaedia Britannica and is a great resource to help with homework and projects. Simply log in with your library card number at: <http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/orlib>

Secondary School Admissions

The applications for secondary school places to start in September 2020 and close on **31st October 2019** for children in year 6. Applications can be made using the electronic system available at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions.





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Diary Dates

Autumn Term 2019	
7 th October	9.30 am Reception Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church - parents welcome
10 th October	Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church for Years 1 to 6 - children only
11 th October	PTFA Quiz Night
21 st October	Flu vaccinations
23 rd and 24 th October	Parent/teacher consultations
28 th October - 1 st November	Half term holiday
6 th November	9.30 am Open morning
8 th November	PTFA Fireworks 
22 nd November	Occasional day - school closed
30 th November	 PTFA Christmas Fair
4 th December	1.30 pm and 6 pm Key Stage 1 Christmas production
5 th December	9.00 am Key Stage 1 Christmas production
10 th December	Whole School Pantomime visit - Beauty and the Beast (Gordon Craig)
11 th December	1.30 pm and 6.00 pm Years 3 and 4 Christmas production
12 th December	6.00 pm Years 3 and 4 Christmas production
17 th December	Christmas lunch
18 th December	1.30 pm Reception Nativity
19 th December	6.00 pm Year 5 and 6 Carol Service at St Mary's Church - attendance compulsory
20 th December	Term ends at 1.20 pm
Spring Term 2020	
6 th January	Spring term commences
17 th - 21 st February	Half term holiday
3 rd April	Term ends 1.20 pm
Summer Term 2020	
20 th April	Summer term commences
8 th May	May Bank Holiday
11 th May	SATs week
25 th - 29 th May	Half term holiday





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19 th June	INSET day - school closed
22 nd June	INSET day - school closed
17 th July	Term ends 1.20 pm
20 th - 21 st July	INSET days - school closed

