

Value

Our value for this half term is:

Perseverance

"Fall seven times, stand up eight." (Japanese Proverb)

Visit from Grant Shapps MP



We were pleased to welcome our local MP, Grant Shapps, to Welwyn St Mary's on 12th January. He was introduced to the whole school during assembly, and was delighted by our school choir performance. Mr Shapps met with our School Council who shared their concerns over road safety, and learnt a bit more about what it entails to be an MP.

Thank you to all of our children for their impeccable behaviour and for showing our school at its best.

Table Tennis

On the 13th January 2018 the Welwyn St Mary's boys' table tennis team went to Tower Hamlets to compete in a table tennis zone finals. We started off playing St Luke's but sadly lost 5-3. Our next match was against Ells Hall. That match was very close and finished 4-4. The final match was against St John's and we also drew 4-4. In this competition we were representing Hertfordshire so out of all the counties in the south of England we came third. We would like to thank Mr O'Neill for training us and the parents for cheering us on.

Jamie, Jonathan, James and Ethan



Year 4 indoor athletics



Congratulations to our Year 4 Indoor Athletics team, who beat 6 schools to come first at the event held at Gosling on Wednesday 10th January. The team showed superb determination, sportsmanship and enthusiasm.

Year 5 indoor athletics

Well done to our year 5 team for coming first in the indoor athletics competition at Gosling on 17th January - a great effort from all of the team.



Year 6 athletics



Very well done indeed to both our boys' and girls' athletics teams for coming first in the local championships on 24th January. They worked as teams brilliantly with some excellent individual performances. Good luck in the next round.

Year 6 Road Safety Quiz

Congratulations to Callum, Ellie (B), Ellie (L), Gili and Tilly, who represented Welwyn St Mary's at the Road Safety Quiz at Oaklands School on 26th January. They did an excellent job in a close competition, and finished in third place. Tilly was awarded a special honour as she achieved 40/40 in the qualifying round - only the third time in the fourteen year history of the competition. Well done Tilly.

World Book Day

Please make a note in your diaries for World Book Day on 1st March. A letter with further details of the day will be sent out soon. There is a special lunch menu on the day - please see attached flier. If your child does NOT normally have a school lunch, please complete the form and return to the school office with payment of £2.40 (cash or cheques payable to HCL).

Sickness Procedures

Please could we remind you that if your child suffers from vomiting or diarrhoea, whatever the cause, they should not attend school until 48 hours after the last episode. This is necessary to limit the spread of infection in school. It is especially important as we have a number of vulnerable children on roll.

We will continue to remind children of basic hygiene measures in school and would be grateful if you could reinforce the following guidance at home:

- Always wash your hands thoroughly after visiting the toilet
- Use tissues to blow your nose and throw them away promptly
- Cover your mouth when you cough

Thank you for your help.

Reporting Absence

Thank you to all who have been using our absence line to report your child's absence. You can call **(01438 714169)** and leave a message 24 hours a day - please let us know your child's name, class and reason for absence.

Scooters on school grounds

A reminder that scooters should not be ridden at school. Please walk alongside them once inside the school gates.

Ottway Walk parking

Please do not park at any point along Ottway Walk as the road is not wide enough and needs to be able to allow two way traffic safely at all times.

Road Safety Petition

Please come to the school office to sign our petition for traffic calming measures along London Road. This is also available online: [Welwyn St Mary's School petition - TRAFFIC](#)

Volunteer in our library

Do you like things to be organised? Are you good at sorting and solving problems? Could you give some time each week to help keep our library in tip top condition? We have 420 children constantly using our wonderfully resourced libraries. Keeping the system going is a big job. We have a dedicated group of children who love to help but we would really appreciate some adult volunteers too. If you would like to get involved please contact Ms Anstey or the school office so we can talk about how best to make use your time and talents. Even just an hour a week would make a difference. We really look forward to your support.

Thank you to Smarty Schoolwear



We would like to say a very big thank you to Smarty Schoolwear for embroidering our team shirts. With school funding getting ever more tricky it was a very kind gesture and very much appreciated. We are very lucky. Smarty Schoolwear are based in Hatfield and supply our school uniform. Smarty keep items in stock which is useful if you wish to try on items before you buy. Please call 01707 263909 or visit <https://www.smartyschoolwear.co.uk/> for more information.

SMART Production

Please put a note in your diary of the next SMART Production. They are performing "The Emperor's New Clothes" on Thursday 22nd March at 7.00 pm; Friday 23rd March at 7.00 pm and Saturday 24th March at 2.00 pm and 6.30 pm. SMART is a group of staff and parents, past and present, who put on an annual play to a very high standard. Look out for further information when tickets go on sale.

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.

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.

Spring Term 2018	
12 th - 16 th Feb	Half Term Holiday
23 rd Feb	Year 4 Cake Sale
1 st Mar	World Book Day
5 th - 11 th Mar	Mothers' Day Gift Shop
21 st Mar	Key Stage 1 Easter Egg Hunt
22 nd Mar	Easter Church Service SMART Production The Emperor's New Clothes at 7.00 pm
23 rd Mar	Reception Cake Sale SMART Production The Emperor's New Clothes at 7.00 pm
24 th Mar	SMART Production The Emperor's New Clothes at 2.00 pm and 6.30 pm
26 th Mar	Year 3 and 4 Easter Disco
29 th Mar	Dress Down day
29 th Mar	Term ends 1.20 pm
Summer Term 2018	
16 th Apr	Summer Term commences
27 th Apr	Year 2 Cake Sale
7 th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
18 th May	Sports' Day Practice
18 th May	Year 1 Cake Sale
23 rd May	Y6 K'Nex challenge
23 rd May	Class Photographs
24 th May	Sports' Day (Key Stage 2 morning, Key Stage 1 afternoon)
25 th May	Reserve Sports' Day
28 th May - 1 st June	Half Term Holiday
4 th -6 th June	Year 6 at PGL
12 th June	Year 6 Crucial Crew
13 th June	Year 6 Athletics at Gosling

15 th June	Fun Run
22 nd June	INSET Day - school closed
25 th June	INSET Day - school closed
9 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Disco
12 th July	Secondary transfer day
19 th July	Leavers' Eucharist
20 th July	Term ends 1.20 pm
23 rd July	Occasional Day - school closed
24 th - 27 th July	Occasional Days - school closed
Autumn Term 2018	
3 rd Sept	INSET DAY
4 th Sept	Autumn Term commences
29 th Oct - 2 nd Nov	Half Term Holiday
23 rd Nov	Occasional Day - school closed
18 th Dec	Key Stage 1 Pantomime visit - Pinocchio
19 th Dec	Key Stage 2 Pantomime visit - Pinocchio
21 st Dec	Term ends 1.20 pm
Spring Term 2019	
7 th Jan	Spring Term commences
18 th - 22 nd Feb	Half Term Holiday
5 th Apr	Term ends 1.20 pm
Summer Term 2019	
23 rd Apr	Summer Term commences
27 th - 31 st May	Half Term Holiday
28 th Jun	INSET Day - school closed
19 th Jul	Term ends 1.20 pm
22 nd - 24 th July	INSET Days - school closed