

Value

Our value for this half term is Respect
"Respect is for those who deserve it, not for those who demand it."

J. Johnson

Welwyn Parade

Congratulations to all the pupils and parents who turned out in Roman fashion to represent Welwyn St Mary's in the festival parade. What a wonderful performance and very worthy of the trophy and first place. The outfits were superb and the formation at the end was truly impressive. Thank you all for giving up your time and to Mr Ashman for master minding our entry. Roll on next year!

Year 5 Viking day



Thank you to Miss Grant and Mrs Tucker for organising an amazing Viking day for all of year 5. Thank you too to so many year 5 parents and family members for their help. As a result our pupils were able to go back in time to experience a host of Viking activities from necklace making to apothecary. A really memorable way to learn.

Choirs of Welwyn St Marys in Concert

On Thursday the 5th July our three wonderful choirs performed a concert at Welwyn St Marys Church. Our Chamber Choir sang some really complicated pieces beautifully and our Community Choir, made up of parents, teachers and friends of the school, entertained everyone with a wide variety of music. Our main school choir brought the house down with a joyous rendition of Kusimama before all three choirs rounded off the concert with a joint performance of "Saltwater". Everyone sang beautifully and we received many compliments from visitors on the quality of singing. The concert raised over £400 for our chosen charities - music in school, Welwyn St Mary's Church, Heads Together and The Samaritans. A huge thank you to Mrs Harrison for her work with the Choirs this year.

County finals

Many congratulations to our KS1 gymnastics team and hockey squad as they have qualified for the county finals on Friday 7th July. Good luck, do your best and enjoy.

Crucial Crew

Year 6 spent a power packed morning at the University of Hertfordshire learning skills for life through a range of activities and scenarios. Feedback was very positive from pupils and staff, and the timing really appropriate as the children approach secondary school. Thank you Year 6 teachers for organising this.

MS4

Very well done indeed to MS4 for a delightful assembly in the nature reserve. Feedback was extremely positive from parents and visitors alike.

Hertfordshire Spelling Bee

Very well done indeed to Rocco, Amelie and Amber for qualifying for the county Spelling Bee finals. They all did amazingly well and Rocco finished an impressive third out of forty five finalists. Very well done indeed and thank you Mrs McKenna for organising it all.

Cambridge character education conference 3.7.17

We were delighted to be invited to speak at the Church of England Cambridge character education conference to showcase our work on pupil leadership at WSM. Audiences were impressed to hear about our school council, K club, Green Group, house captains, yellow banders and Peer Mediators. We felt very proud of our pupils.

Understanding Christianity

For this academic year, in line with schools across the diocese, we have been using a new RE resource called Understanding Christianity. We have appreciated the detailed planning it provides and the chance of depth of study that it offers. You may have seen the lovely display in the entrance to school based on the key concepts. We are delighted to welcome members of the diocese and Church of England to share our experience on Friday 7th July having been invited to do so.

Mrs Sivell

July 7th is certainly a red letter day for Welwyn St Mary's as we are so pleased to be welcoming back Mrs Sivell as part of her phased return to work. Really wonderful news in every respect.

Tennis Competition



Many congratulations to Zach and Stanley for winning the mini red tennis tournament on 22nd June. They were unbeaten throughout.

Charity Sale



Well done Serena, Erin, Emma, Sophie and Alice for giving their time and talents to raise nearly £120 for Redwing Horse sanctuary. They made friendship bracelets and cakes to sell and organised the whole thing themselves. Well done to Serena as the year 5 lead and thank you to Charlotte and Emilie who made cakes too.

Open Evening

Please join us for open evening on 11th July at 6pm. A chance to look at your child's work from the last year, and also to visit their new teachers and class ready for September. Following this, children will spend a day in their new class on 13th July - "Budge Up Day".

PTFA Fun Run

Please return your fun run form and sponsorship money to the school office as soon as possible.

September staffing

Farewells

We shall be saying a very sad farewell to a few colleagues at the end of term. Mrs Kilford will be retiring after 19 years at WSM. We thank her hugely for all she has done for us, from wonderful teaching to gymnastics coaching, and all with her customary grace. Luckily she may be back for future gymnastics. We congratulate Miss Grant on her promotion to deputy headship in Cheadle but are very sorry that she is leaving. She has brought energy and drive to our school. We thank her for this as well as her excellent planning and teaching. Mrs Robinson is also relocating to be nearer family. We totally understand but again are sorry. We thank her for her great teaching, amazing IT knowledge and equally amazing cakes. We also thank Mrs Malone for TA support in reception and wish her well in her career. Good luck and thank you to all.

Welcomes

We are delighted that Miss O Keefe will join us as full time teacher in Year 4. We are also delighted to welcome back Mrs Newstead to WSM. She has spent the last four years teaching in Australia but prior to that was a key member of our teaching team. A very warm welcome to them and we wish them every happiness at WSM.

Benefit-Related Free School Meals Applications for September 2017

If your child is moving into year 3 in September, they will no longer be entitled to Universal Free School Meals. If you wish them to continue receiving a school meal, please advise the office, and an invoice will be raised at the start of each half term. Otherwise, you will need to provide a packed lunch from home.

If you think you may be entitled to Benefit-Related Free School Meals, please apply online at

www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals

Benefit-related free school meals are automatically renewed for children who currently receive a meal. This means in most cases, eligible children will continue to get a school meal and parents need not re-apply.

- Parents/carers do **not** need to re-apply for a school meal for September 2017
- Any child receiving a free meal or 100% music remission will be renewed for both
- Letters from County will only be sent to families whose children are no longer entitled to receive a meal
- Anyone currently receiving 50% music remission will still need to re-apply from 7th June 2017 at

www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals

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.

Term Dates: 2016-17	
	Summer Term 2017
7 th July	Year 4 Commonwealth Games event
8 th July	PTFA end of year family barbecue
10 th July	Leavers' Disco
11 th July	6 pm Opening Evening
12 th July	7-side netball tournament
13 th July	Budge Up day
14 th July	Reserve Sports Day
19 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Production
20 th July	9.30 am Leavers' Eucharist in church - Year 6 parents very welcome Year 6 Leavers' Production
21 st July	Term ends 1.30 pm
24 th July	Occasional day - school closed
Term Dates: 2017-18	
	Autumn Term 2017
30 th Aug	INSET Day - school closed
31 st Aug	INSET Day - school closed
1 st Sept	INSET Day - school closed
4 th Sept	Autumn Term commences
24 th Sept	PTFA Circus
23 rd - 27 th Oct	Half Term Holiday
17 th Nov	INSET Day - school closed
19 th Dec	Term ends 1.30 pm
	Spring Term 2018

3 rd Jan	Spring Term commences
12 th - 16 th Feb	Half Term Holiday
29 th Mar	Term ends 1.30 pm
	Summer Term 2018
16 th Apr	Summer Term commences
7 th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
28 th May - 1 st June	Half Term Holiday
22 nd June	INSET Day - school closed
25 th June	INSET Day - school closed
12 th July	Secondary transfer day
20 th July	Term ends 1.30 pm
23 rd July	INSET Day - school closed
24 th - 27 th July	Occasional days - school closed