

## Value

Our value for this half term is Forgiveness  
"Forgiveness is a funny thing, it warms the heart and cools the sting."  
William Arthur Ward

## SMART

Huge thanks and congratulations to the director, Helen Curnow, cast and support team of SMART for another excellent production. This year we were treated to a delightful recount of the story of Noah's Ark. It was put together very cleverly with great casting and such effective sets and lighting. Light humour, dance and singing all brought the story to life. They played to four very appreciative audiences who were lucky enough to enjoy a lovely night out. Particular mention must go to all the children, who starred as the animals and stole the show with their beautiful tableau, and Mr Anstey and Mrs Jameson who played brilliantly as Mr and Mrs Noah. As ever we were indebted to Bill Parker and his team for the stunning lighting and effects. Well done everyone and roll on 2018!

## Decorated Egg winners

Congratulations to the following for their creativity and imagination:

Prize	Name of winner	Name of Egg
Best reception egg	Lotty	Little Tiger
Best Year 1 egg	Emily	Bumble Bee
Best Year 2 egg	Millie	The Hungry Caterpillar
Best Year 3 egg	Jasmine	Eggcellent Ball
Best year 4 egg	Emma	Which egg-moji are you?
Best year 5 egg	Abigail	The Eggcellent Jump
Best year 6 egg	Freya	Albert Egg-stein
Best Theming	Grace and Morgan	The Eggcident: Traction Man v The Evil Broom
Best Easter Theme	Ruby	One Spring Morning
Funniest	Riley	Sparkle
Most Stylish	Poppy	Crayons
Cutest	Erin	Eggter
Most realistic	Lena	B'egg'er and Chips
Most original idea	Bryn	War and Peace
Prettiest	Abbiegale	Egg Plant
Most work	Luke	Luke's Eggcellent Balloon Adventure
Best use of materials	Stella	Eggcellent Ice Creams
Most Informative	Rafferty and Felix	Our Eggciting Planet Project
Best Adult Egg	Anne Hale	Donald Trump

## Return of School Sports Team Kits

Please return to school as soon as possible any Welwyn St Mary's maroon sports kits, netball skirts and football shirts.

## Football



Our football team took part successfully in the fixtures evening at Monks Walk School. A special mention goes to Abigail who represented the school, being the first girl doing so in over seven years!

Our football team entered the District Tournament at Monks Walk School. Seventeen schools in total participated, entering a group stage. After winning two and drawing two games, Welwyn St Mary's qualified for the quarter finals, winning 1-0 against Panshanger School. After the next hard-fought match, we won on penalties to reach the final! We played against Green Lanes School and beat them 3-0. The team was James HT6, Edward HT6, Harrison HT6, Thomas HT6, Matthew P6, Luke P6, Jamie P6, Lennon JT5, Ethan JT5 and James JT5. Congratulations to our WSM District Champions!

MS4 also played in a football competition and won each match. All players worked well together and they were really pleased with the results. The team were Luke, Louie, Thomas, Dylan, Harry, Arvin and Jacob. The scores were 3-0, 1-0 and 2-0, to Welwyn St Mary's.

## Netball

Our netball team is developing nicely, thanks to Charlotte Viccars, training every Thursday. They played at Stanborough in a couple of friendly fixtures, producing some excellent team performances. We look forward to competing at the High-5 tournament on the 26th April.

## Cross Country

The Cross Country team took part once again in the annual Sherrardswood race. Children put their training and hard work into action, producing excellent individual and team results. Overall we came first in the boys and girls B races and second in the boys and girls A races. Congratulations on an outstanding achievement. In addition, Caitie and Mimi competed for Hertfordshire in the National Cross Country Race. They finished in 52<sup>nd</sup> and 51<sup>st</sup> places individually, which contributed to Hertfordshire finishing in second place over all. Well done.

A special thanks to Mrs Gutteridge, Mrs Heaney, Mrs Reid, Mrs Oliver, Dr Cox, Mrs Hutchinson and Mr O'Neill who help inspire our children to run further and achieve their personal goals.

## Year 6 Indoor athletics county final

Congratulations to our athletics team for reaching the county final. After participating in a range of different track and field events, the team finished 5th overall. Well done on an incredible achievement.

## Year One Abbey trip

Many thanks to Mrs Dunstan for organising an excellent outing to St Alban's Abbey for year 1.

## Attendance Award

Congratulations to class MR who won the March attendance cup. They also won in February!



Top Five Classes and attendance figures for March:

MR	96.3%
H3	95.6%
M1	95.4%
RR	95.1%
A4	94.1%

## Speakers' Cup 2017

Congratulations to all the finalists. The standard was higher than ever this year and each class representative did an excellent job speaking in front of such a large audience making the judges' job very difficult. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Manoy back to be our main judge, she was formerly our chair of governors, and the competition trophy is named after her. This year's winner was Eve in MG5, who spoke about Slime, and the runner up was Stella in GB3 who spoke about books. Very well done also to:

Katrina H3	Magic
Thomas MS4	Pokémon
Christopher A4	Space
Serena JT5	Artificial Intelligence
Kaleb P6	Space
Harmone HT6	The Saxophone

## PTFA Mothers' Day gift shop

The PTFA Mothers' Day gift shop was a fantastic success and virtual sell out. This was not surprising given the beautiful gifts to choose from and the gorgeous packaging to set them off. Thank you PTFA very much indeed.

## KS1 Easter Egg hunt

Thank you to the PTFA for organising another enjoyable Easter Egg Hunt this week for our Key Stage 1 children.

"We all decorated a card egg, then they were hidden around the playground and we had to find our own. It was quite difficult to find them but lots of fun. Our prize was a chocolate bunny." Rebecca.

## Year 3 and 4 Easter disco

Year 3 and 4 had a wonderful time at the Easter disco and behaviour was excellent. Thank you to PTFA and staff for making this possible.

## Meal Price Increase

A reminder that Herts Catering have notified schools of their decision to increase meal prices from 1st April 2017.

This increase will impact those children having school meals from Year 3 and upwards. We are aware that there was a 5p increase in September 2016 and following discussions with Governors, we will need to increase the meal price by a further 5p to £2.40 effective from 1st April 2017.

If you have a child in Year 3 and above and decide that you no longer want to continue with school dinners please inform the School Office by email or telephone by Friday 31st March 2017.

## Lost Property

There are a number of items in the lost property box in the school office, such as glasses, watches, earrings, purses and even car keys. Please come to the office before the end of term if you think you may have lost something.

## 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](http://www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals) Once you have registered your child, please speak to the School Office to claim a new school jumper or cardigan.

## Tesco Grant

**TESCO**

## Bags of Help

We are delighted to announce that we have been chosen as one of the charities to be supported through the Tesco "Bags of Help" scheme. The money will be used towards the renovation of our Nature Reserve and running a Forest School. **Please vote for us** when shopping at Tesco during March and April. Just put your token in "our" box, which is the one on the right in the Welwyn Village Tesco.

Tesco teamed up with Groundwork to launch its Bags of Help initiative across England and Wales. The scheme sees three community groups and projects in each of around 200 Tesco regions awarded grants of £5,000, £2,000 and £1,000 - all raised from the 5p bag charge.

[www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp](http://www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp)

Term Dates: 2016-17	
	<b>Spring Term 2017</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Dress Down Day. Term ends 1.30 pm
	<b>Summer Term 2017</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Summer Term commences
19 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Year 4 tennis competition
20 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Year 4 Verulamium Museum

24 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Year 4 cricket coaching starts
26 <sup>th</sup> Apr	High 5 netball competition - Stanborough School
26 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Year 2 Great Fire of London
1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday - school closed
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	KS1 Gymnastics Competition
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2 Cake Sale
8 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage 2 SATS week
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Quicksticks competition
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 tennis competition
12 <sup>th</sup> May	PTFA Indulgence Evening
17 <sup>th</sup> May	TAP event
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Globe Theatre
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 Handball festival
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Quicksticks final Welwyn Garden City Choral Festival - Campus West
29 <sup>th</sup> May - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jun	Half Term Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 PGL residential trip
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 trigolf tournament
9 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Year 1 Cake Sale
12 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Top up swimming week
12 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> Jun	PTFA Fathers' Day Gift Shop
14 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Gosling athletics
15 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Music Evening
15 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Cricket tournament
16 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Reception Standalone Farm
16 <sup>th</sup> Jun	PTFA Fun Run
17 <sup>th</sup> Jun	10.30 am Choir sing in church for Welwyn Festival
21 <sup>st</sup> Jun	Swimming gala
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	French Day
28 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Year 2 Kew Gardens Trip
30 <sup>th</sup> Jun	INSET day - school closed
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	INSET day - school closed
5 <sup>th</sup> July	6.30 pm Choir concert in church
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Commonwealth Games event
8 <sup>th</sup> July	PTFA end of year family barbecue

10 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers' Disco
12 <sup>th</sup> July	7-side netball tournament
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Budge Up day
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Production
20 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30 am Leavers' Eucharist in church Year 6 Leavers Production
21 <sup>st</sup> July	Term ends 1.30 pm
24 <sup>th</sup> July	Occasional day - school closed
<b>Term Dates: 2017-18</b>	
	<b>Autumn Term 2017</b>
30 <sup>th</sup> Aug	INSET Day - school closed
31 <sup>st</sup> Aug	INSET Day - school closed
1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	INSET Day - school closed
4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Autumn Term commences
23 <sup>rd</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Half Term Holiday
17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	INSET Day - school closed
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Term ends 1.30 pm
	<b>Spring Term 2018</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Spring Term commences
12 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term Holiday
29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Term ends 1.30 pm
	<b>Summer Term 2018</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Summer Term commences
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday - school closed
28 <sup>th</sup> May - 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Half Term Holiday
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	INSET Day - school closed
25 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Day - school closed
12 <sup>th</sup> July	Secondary transfer day
20 <sup>th</sup> July	Term ends 1.30 pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	INSET Day - school closed
24 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> July	Occasional days - school closed