

Value

Our value for this half term is: *Service.*

"Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little."
Edmund Burke

Welcome back everyone

We hope all families enjoyed a good break in spite of the disappointing weather. Welcome back to an exciting and very busy term ahead. Please ensure your child has their correct PE kit in school every day this term as we will begin our Sports' Day preparations almost immediately. Pupils will be trialling from this week onwards apart from Reception, but they still need their full PE kit including their house t-shirts in the correct colour.

Holiday work

Thank you to Mr Stockton for organising so much useful repair and improvement work this holiday.

- Reception now have a new internal door and a new sand pit cover.
- KS2 have a playground clock visible from the dining room.
- KS1 boys' toilets are upgraded.
- CD1 lighting is up to date.
- A new leaflet rack for parents has been installed near our school office.
- A new display area has been created near the gym to celebrate the history of our lovely school.

KS2 library

We are looking at the best use of our KS2 library and have decided each class would access books more easily through individual class libraries. As a result the books are being shared among classes and topped up where required. This also gives us the benefit of creating study space outside the Year 5 class rooms.

LCVAP application

We are delighted to say that we have been successful in our grant application for funding to replace all the windows on the south side of the building. O4 have already had theirs done through our own budget but all the rest will be done through external monies. Work will commence in the May half term holiday.

Garden Room

Work to extend the Garden Room will begin next month. This will give us welcome additional space for Breakfast and After School Club, packed lunches and art and craft activities. Regular updates will follow once the project is underway. Contractors will be on site during term time but the area will be safely fenced off so no pupils can access. All contractors will be DBS checked. Key Stage 2 parents please take additional care on the slip road as there will be a skip in one of the parking spaces. Thank you.

Sweden

Thanks to the Hansson family, whose boys attended Welwyn St Mary's while they were resident in UK, Mrs Westley, Mrs Phillips and Miss Mansfield will be visiting a Stockholm primary school during the May half term holiday. We hope this will develop into a useful cultural exchange between our schools.

Staffing

It is with sadness that we have to report that Mrs Ottaway will be moving to Lincolnshire after a distinguished 14 years working at the school. She has been lead midday supervisor in Key Stage 2, Year 3 teaching assistant, After School and Breakfast lead as well as support for countless pupils - and teachers.

Whatever she does has been with 100% commitment and kindness. We wish her well in Lincolnshire and send her huge thanks and much gratitude.

Parent Council

We are hoping to meet again soon. Please contact our school office if you would like to come along and let us know the best time of day for you. Choices include just before pick up or an evening.

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.

Craftea at St Mary's Church

The next Craftea is on Monday 16th April 2018 from 3:30 - 5:15pm. The cost is £2.50 per child. All primary age children and their parents/carers are welcome, with the session now being split into two age groups. There will be games, a Bible story, singing, craft and a healthy cooked tea for all the children. Please email stewartbishop@hotmail.com as soon as possible if you can come and the ages of your children to help with preparations.

The dates for the rest of the term are:

16th April
30th April
14th May
4th June
18th June
2nd July
16th July

Summer Term 2018	
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	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
w/c 11 th June	PTFA Father's Day Gift Shop
12 th June	Year 6 Crucial Crew
13 th June	Year 6 Athletics at Gosling
14 th June	Year 3 trip to Celtic Harmony
15 th June	Fun Run
18 th June	Reception trip to Standalone Farm
20 th June	Year 2 trip to Kew Gardens
22 nd June	INSET Day - school closed
25 th June	INSET Day - school closed
27 th June	Year 6 trip to RAF Hendon
2 nd July	Year 6 Leavers' Disco
12 th July	Secondary transfer day
14 th July	PTFA BBQ 4 - 8 pm
19 th July	Leavers' Eucharist
20 th July	Term ends 1.20 pm
23 rd - 27 th July	Occasional Days - school closed
Autumn Term 2018	
3 rd Sept	INSET DAY
4 th Sept	Autumn Term commences
2 nd Oct	Harvest Festival
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
2 nd Jul	Year 6 Leavers' Disco
19 th Jul	Term ends 1.20 pm
22 nd - 24 th July	INSET Days - school closed