

Value

Our value for this half term is: Truthfulness.
"Truth is complete, it needs no exaggeration."
Anon

After School Club

Please note that following a review of our pricing, which has remained unchanged since the club opened, the session price will increase to £12 from September. The session cost for Breakfast Club will remain unchanged.

Welwyn Street Parade

Welwyn St Mary's will be taking part in the Welwyn Street Parade on Saturday 30th June. Please join us at the Civic Centre at 12.50 pm, dressed as a circus animal. Remember to return the permission form by Friday 22nd June.

2k Fun Run cancelled

Unfortunately the Welwyn Festival 2k fun run scheduled for 24th June has had to be cancelled due to the high water levels on Singlers Marsh.

Please note that the Welwyn 10k event **will** still be going ahead.

Music Evening



Music Evening was even lovelier than ever. Thank you to all parents for attending and supporting music in our school. Thank you to our very talented peripatetic music teachers and our own excellent music staff. But especially thank you to our talented pupils who performed so well and made sure this very important dimension to our school flourishes. The wide range of performances is further illustration of how we won our Music Mark earlier this year. There is a quote in our music room: 'Music is life. That's why our hearts have beats' and this sums up one of the many ways that we feel music is central to all we do. Well done to Mrs Harrison and team for inspiring us throughout the year.

Cricket

Our girls' Kwik Cricket teams came in first and third place, and our boys' team came second at the cricket festival in Welwyn Garden City on 14th June. Great sportsmanship was shown and good prospects for future competitions with our teams made up of a number of children in lower key stage 2.

Gosling District sports

Welwyn St Mary's had a very successful afternoon at the District Athletics competition at Gosling on 13th June. We came in first place overall, with a magnificent total of 19 first place medals. Well done children for all your practice and dedication and for trying your best.

Fun Run

Well done to all our children who took part in the PTFA fun run and thank you to all who sponsored them. All funds raised will be used for resources that all children at Welwyn St Mary's can enjoy. Thank you PTFA for organising and for parents for supporting.

Sons of Pitches

What a treat we had on Friday 15th June when The Sons of Pitches visited our school. They are one of the premier vocal groups currently working in the UK. In November 2015 they won the BBC's Naked Choir competition, hosted by Gareth Malone. They have won multiple awards and their videos have had over two and half million views on their YouTube channel. They led workshops for years 3 to 6, culminating in a wonderful, interactive performance at the end of the day for all our children. We hope that this has inspired our children to explore how they can express themselves through music.

Use of staff car park

Please avoid the staff car park for any pupil drop off as it is not safe, especially at lunchtimes when some staff may be leaving. We must always leave space for emergency vehicles, so never double park. Please use the drop off zone if it is free, or Ottway Walk car park. Thank you.

Disabled Parking Spaces

It has come to our attention that the disabled parking bays in the Ottway Walk car park are being used by cars without a blue badge. Please be considerate when parking, and leave these spaces for those who need them.

Golf

On Wednesday 6th June, Year 4 sent a team to play at Mill Green Golf Club in the Trigolf competition. The children played really well and came third overall out of 10 schools.



Term Time Absence and Penalty Notices

A reminder that Hertfordshire County Council issues Penalty Notices which meet the Hertfordshire Code of Conduct regardless of the overall level of the pupil's attendance. Please be advised that the Governing Body has agreed that Welwyn St Mary's will be following this guidance.

This means that unauthorised absence exceeding 15 sessions (each day is two sessions) over 2 consecutive terms risks a fine of up to £120 per parent for each individual child. The Local Education Authority may issue you with a Penalty Notice under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996, for failure to secure your child's regular attendance at school. One session is equal to a morning or an afternoon.

So that parents are aware of the risk of receiving a Fixed Penalty Notice, Welwyn St Mary's will issue warning letters to all parents who request term time holiday, regardless of the length of holiday.

Please note that:

- Even brief term time holidays can affect children in school adversely for some weeks. Both before and after the actual vacation.
- Very few children can afford to miss aspects of the school curriculum.
- Staff are unable to provide activities for your child to complete during unauthorised absences from school.
- It is also highly unlikely that your child will be able to 'catch up' on the work undertaken by classmates whilst your child is on holiday.

We appreciate your understanding and thank you for supporting us in maintaining our high attendance record.

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.

PTFA news

SAVE THE DATE!



The Welwyn St Mary's PTFA Summer BBQ takes place on **Saturday 14th July 4-8pm**

There will be:

Glitter Box face painting, traditional rides and games, refreshments and butcher's fayre for a barbecue feast. Look out for the flyers coming soon with more exciting details.....

Volunteers are needed to help in serving the food and running the stalls and games. Please speak to Jenny or Tracey in the playground, or contact chair@wsmpfta.org.uk if you can help.

Next meeting

The next PTFA Committee Meeting is on Wednesday 4th July 2018 at 7.30 pm in the staff room, and all are welcome to attend.

Outdoor gym

As part of a government initiative, Welwyn St Mary's has recently been awarded a £2,000 "sugar tax" grant to use to help encourage physical activity by our children. Welwyn St Mary's plans to purchase some outdoor gym equipment (similar to the pictures below), and the PTFA hope to donate a further £1,000 to boost the project.



Costume Library

The PTFA has a good stock of costumes to hire for use on school themed days.

Visit the school website and go to 'PTFA Costume Library' (<http://welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk/parents/ptfa/costume-library/>) which has great photographs of all the costumes available. The costume library is run by Sinead Thorpe (sin.thorpe@gmail.com) - please contact her for further information or to hire!

Summer Term 2018	
18 th June	Visit of Swedish teachers
19 th June	Year 6 trip to RAF Hendon
20 th June	Year 2 trip to Kew Gardens Year 4 trip to Welwyn Roman Baths
22 nd June	INSET Day - school closed
25 th June	INSET Day - school closed
2 nd July	Year 6 Leavers' Disco
4 th July	7.30 pm PTFA meeting
5 th July	9.30 am Key Stage 2 Sports' Day
9 th July	6.30 pm Charity Choral Concert at St Mary's Church
10 th July	6.30 - 7.30 pm Open Evening
12 th July	Budge up day Secondary transfer day
14 th July	PTFA BBQ 4 - 8 pm
17 th July	Reserve Key Stage 2 Sports' Day
18 th and 19 th July	6.30 pm Year 6 Leaver's Production
19 th July	9.30 am 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



NEWSLETTER June Interim 2018



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

