

## Value

Our value for this half term is:

Thankfulness

"Every day may not be good, but there is good in every day" - Alice Morse Earle

## Summer prize winners

Well done to the following children who were awarded prizes at the end of the summer term:

### Key Stage 2

#### Year 6 Progress

Lewis J

Jean C

Ciara K

Oscar S

#### Courtesy

Charlie C

#### Endeavour

Oliver T

#### All Round Contribution to School

Zoe G

Thomas N

### Key Stage 1

#### Key Stage 1 Progress

Dylan S

Stanley K

Ella-Mae W

Katie M

## Year 5 Funning Festival

Congratulations to the following children for finishing in the top ten in the inter-schools running festival:  
Erin, Louie, Luke, Holi and Stanley.

## Parental Questionnaires

Thank you to all parents who took the time to complete our annual parental questionnaires. Your comments are very valuable so that we know what we are doing well at and any areas we can improve. 45% of families responded and 97% of responses to all questions were positive. You told us you liked: our Christian ethos, the dedication of staff ("caring and inspirational"), our clubs and activities, our welcoming atmosphere, high expectations and village links. In response to "Even better if " comments we will endeavour to send out communications with as long a run in time as possible, make sure we communicate clearly our response to any issues you raise along the way and continue to develop our communications in general through our website and social media.

## Letters/payments

To assist parents and avoid waiting at the school office parents may return slips, letters and payments via their child's book bag or through the school postbox located in the door near MS4. The postbox is emptied daily and is secure. Please ensure that all payments are returned in a named envelope. Thank you.

## Tickets for the SSE Women's FA Cup Final

Tickets are now available to purchase from: [TheFA.com/Tickets](http://TheFA.com/Tickets) for the SSE Women's FA Cup Final on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Wembley Stadium. Tickets cost £15 for adults, with children under 16 years old free of charge.

## Nut free school

Due to a number of our pupils suffering severe nut allergies please ensure your child does not bring nut products into school.

## PTFA Circus

The Circus is coming to Welwyn St Mary's Playing Field on Sunday 24th September. Gates open at 1pm for a 2pm start.

Tickets are on Sale NOW!!

Happy's Circus is a professional all human (no animal) circus. A fun packed show for all the family.

Please complete the slip distributed in book bags and send your payment into the school office. (Cheques made payable to Welwyn St Mary's PTFA)

Please note tickets are on a first come basis, and are strictly limited.

## Office position

We are looking to appoint an Administrative Assistant to join our busy school office team. As well as being able to ensure that the office is an efficient and friendly place for visitors, staff, parents and children, the successful applicant will have:

- excellent verbal and written communication skills
- an awareness of data protection and confidentiality
- the ability to work accurately under pressure
- a minimum of GCSE Maths and English at grade C
- a good working knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel.

Experience of working in a school environment with knowledge of SIMs is desirable.

Hours of work are Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 4.00 pm with a 1 hour lunch break (32.5 hours per week), term time only.

The closing date for applications is 22nd September 2017. Interview date: 29th September 2017.

Welwyn St Mary's is committed to the safeguarding of children and young people and therefore the successful applicant will be subject to suitable references, a medical and enhanced DBS check in accordance with Herts County Council guidelines.

Please apply via: [www.teachinherts.com](http://www.teachinherts.com)

## Secondary School Admissions 2018

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to secondary schools is fast approaching. Parents need to make an application online or on paper by the closing date of **31st October 2017**. It is vital that parents make their applications on time. The easiest way to apply for a school place for September 2017 is online by logging on to [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk) and completing the online application form. If you apply online, you can:

- Amend your application at any time up to the closing date
- Access your school offer before allocation letters are received
- Accept your school allocation online

Last year, 99 per cent of parents in Hertfordshire applied this way and found the system quick, easy and secure.

A quick and easy way of obtaining all the information you need about the secondary transfer process is by going to [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) Parents without internet access can request a paper application form that must be returned direct to the admission and transport team. Application forms cannot be returned to primary schools.

Before making an application, parents and carers are strongly advised to visit schools and attend the information evenings to help them make their preferences. Any applications received after 31st October 2017 will be considered as '**LATE**' applications and are considered after all of the on time applications.

## 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.

Term Dates: 2017-18	
	<b>Autumn Term 2017</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Individual school photographs
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 4 Tag Rugby at Welwyn Garden City Rugby Club
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Performance Drama workshop
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	50 things to do before you are 11
24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	PTFA Circus

26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	PTFA AGM
29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 3 cake sale
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Harvest Festival in church for years 1 - 6
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Street Food Festival Lunch
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby at Welwyn Garden City Rugby Club
6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Girls' football at Monk's Walk School
12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Under 11's Rugby at Welwyn Garden City Rugby Club
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Basketball at Stanborough School
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	PTFA Quiz Night
18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Parental Consultations 3.30 - 7.00
19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Parental Consultations 3.30 - 6.00
20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 6 Legal Eagles
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Half Term Holiday</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Reception to Year 4 Flu vaccinations
3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Bags2School, and PTFA fireworks
10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year 5 cake sale
11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Angela Bonner portraits
16 <sup>th</sup> November	Dress down day - donations for the Christmas Fair
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	<b>Occasional Day - school closed</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Christmas Fair
29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Key Stage 1 Christmas Production 1.30pm and 6.00pm
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Key Stage 1 Christmas Production 9.30am
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Choir Christmas Concert at St John's Church 6.00pm
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Key Stage 2 Production 6.00pm
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Key Stage 2 Production 6.00pm
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Key Stage 1 Pantomime trip
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Key Stage 2 Pantomime trip
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Years 5 and 6 Christmas Disco
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reception Production 9.30am
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Whole school Christmas service in church
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Years 5 and 6 Carol service in church. Attendance compulsory please.
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas lunch
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Term ends 1.30 pm

	<b>Spring Term 2018</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Spring Term commences
26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Year 6 Cake Sale
6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 3 Greek Day
12 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term Holiday
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Year 4 Cake Sale
5 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mothers' Day Gift Shop
21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Key Stage 1 Easter Egg Hunt
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Easter Church Service
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Reception Cake Sale
26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Year 3 and 4 Easter Disco
29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Dress Down day
29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Term ends 1.30 pm
	<b>Summer Term 2018</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Summer Term commences
27 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Year 2 Cake Sale
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday - school closed
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Cake Sale
28 <sup>th</sup> May - 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Half Term Holiday
4 <sup>th</sup> June	Class Photographs
6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 at PGL
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Fun Run
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	INSET Day - school closed
25 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Day - school closed
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Disco
12 <sup>th</sup> July	Secondary transfer day
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Eucharist
20 <sup>th</sup> July	Term ends 1.30 pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Occasional Day - school closed
24 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup> July	Occasional days - school closed