



# Welwyn St Mary's Primary School



## End of term newsletter - April 2022

### Value



Our value for this half term is: **Justice**



"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed."

*Mahatma Gandhi*

"Follow justice and justice alone, so that you may live and possess the land the Lord your God is giving you."

*Deuteronomy 16:20*

### End of term arrangements

Term ends at 1.20pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April. After School Club will close at 4.20pm.

We wish you an enjoyable and restful Easter break and look forward to the start of term on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

### Music Lessons

Music lessons will re-start in the first week of term.

### DEC Ukraine non-uniform day

Thank you for your generous donations for Green Group's "Green for Growth" non-uniform day. We raised a fantastic £651, which we donated with match funding.

### Art Competition

Thank you to Mrs Newstead for organising and well done to all entrants. The standard was very high. The winners were:

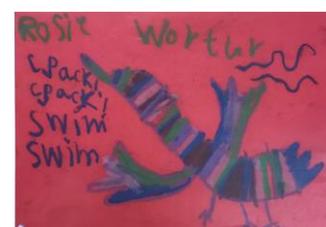
Helena HT6



Nancy AT2



Rosie Rec





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### Decorated egg competition



Thank you to all who entered the decorated competition - the standards were eggstremely high and we enjoyed all the creativity on display.

Prize	Name of winner	Name of Egg
Best Reception egg	Harriet - MR	Fishy Friends
Best Year 1 egg	Evelyn - M1	The Farm
Best Year 2 egg	Freddie - M2	Egghurst Park
Best Year 3 egg	Sophie - BC3	Minion Car
Best year 4 egg	Sienna - O4	Queen's platinum jubilee
Best year 5 egg	Lottie - A5	Eggcellent Art Gallery
Best year 6 egg	Lola - P6	The Eggcellent World of Disney
Best theming R & KS1	William - LR	Circo Dos Ovos





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Prize	Name of winner	Name of Egg
Best theming KS2	Sebby - S3	Stop! Eggstinct!
Most funny 1	Maisie - O4	Egg Sheran
Most funny 2	Scarlett - S3	Cruegga DeVille
Cutest KS1	Ella - MR	Ella's Eggery
Cutest KS2	Zoe - HJ5	Woodland Eggventure
Most realistic R & KS1	Isabella- LR	Eggtastic Farm
Most realistic KS2 (1)	Ellie - HT6 Helena - HT6	Birth of Venus Duke of Egginburgh Eggspedition
Most work	Eddie - LR Lottie - O4	Celebrating 13 Eggsceptional Years Train Station
Best use of materials R & KS1	Fred - MR	Family of spiders
Best use of materials KS2	Melissa - A5	Where's W-egg-y?
Most ingenious	Morgan - HT6	Be-egg Careful





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Prize	Name of winner	Name of Egg
Most imaginative R & KS1	Liliane - M1	Caroline Herschel
Most imaginative KS2	Nicholas - HJ5	Veggstables
Best springtime egg	Poppy - HT6	Winnie the Pooh and Piglet
Best animal egg	Ben - MN2	Eggsciting sea creatures
Most topical	Ethan - CD4	Tears and Ukraine
Best Easter theme	Alba - MN2	Easter Garden
Best adult	Katie (Toby's sister)	Humpty Dumpty

### World Thinking Day



Thank you for all the children who came to school in their guiding and scouting uniforms to celebrate World Thinking Day. World Thinking Day is an important date in the guiding calendar, and every year the theme of the event encourages members to think about the big issues affecting them and their global community. Previous World Thinking Days have tackled the subjects of poverty, gender inequality, environmental sustainability and access to education.





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### Faith Tour



Year 4 spent a day meeting faith leaders and exploring places of worship in Queen's Park in Bedford. The morning began at the Jamia Masjid Gulshane Baghdad Mosque where the children learnt about the Five Pillars of Islam and were able to explore the building. They were shown pictures of different types of mosque around the world and heard recordings of the call to prayer.

After that, the children were welcomed at All Saints Church where they were encouraged to explore the building to look for signs of Christianity and community outreach. It was a much bigger church than St. Mary's but a lot was recognisable too.

Lunch was had sitting on carpets in the Langar of Guru Nanak Gurdwara. The afternoon was spent inside the Gurdwara, learning about the 5 Ks. The highlight was being allowed to walk past the Guru Granth Sahib (and receiving a wrapped sweet as a gift at the end).



Our Year 6 children enjoyed their trip to RAF Hendon this month, finding out more about air raids as part of their history lessons looking at World War 2.





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### Year 5 Dance Festival



Last Wednesday, Year 5 danced at the Hawthorne Theatre in the Welwyn and Hatfield Schools' Dance Festival. All the children were so excited to be dancing on a big stage with spotlights and costumes. Welwyn St Mary's danced along with St Michael's Woolmer Green, Homerswood and Peartree schools. The theme this year was 'Dance Around The World'. HJ5 did an American themed dance and A5's dance was based on a South African gumbboot dance. The children danced so well and really enjoyed the whole experience as they hadn't performed on a stage for such a long time. We can't wait for next year.

### Year 2 Great Fire of London Day



On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March, Year 2 had a Great Fire of London history day in school. The children worked in their house groups and participated in three activities. The children made a great fire of London scene in a glass jar, lit with an LED tea light. They aged paper, using tea which will be used to write up a diary entry for the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666. Year 2 also enjoyed a dance and drama session, which re-enacted events in the fire. The year 2 team delivered the activities. All children enjoyed the morning and look forward to sharing their vast knowledge about the fire at their assembly on 29<sup>th</sup> April.





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### Attendance cup

Despite the challenges that Covid is having on our children's attendance, we continue to celebrate with them to encourage a commitment to coming to school when they are well and in line with government guidance.

Our March attendance cup was won by class LR.

1 <sup>st</sup>	LR
2 <sup>nd</sup>	CD4
3 <sup>rd</sup>	HT6
4 <sup>th</sup>	P6

### March birthdays

Happy Birthday to all who celebrated in March: Douglas, Ava, Olivia, Evelyn, Ethan, Bear, Louie, Chantelle, Rebecca, Charlotte, Sam, Teddy, George, William, Connie, Imogen, Isla, Milo, Charles, Nico, Tianna, Jack, Abigail, Jonathan, Omari, Charlie, Teddy, Antonia, Tymon, Mrs Lansberry, Mr Stockton, Mr Anstey, Mrs Primrose, Mrs Mather, Mr Hawley and Miss Milnes.

### Charitable Activities

On 20<sup>th</sup> March, Ella, Monty, Fin, Poppy M and Freddie ran a 1km race, and their mums ran 5km, in order to raise money for Garden House Hospice. Well done everybody.

If you would like to make a donation in support of this local charity, please click the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/madmummies>

### School Meal Price Increase – Summer Term

We have been notified by Herts Catering Ltd that the cost of school meals is increasing. As of 19 April 2022, the price of a meal will be £2.88. All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 will remain eligible to receive meals for free under the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) initiative. For children in Key Stage 2, if you are entitled to certain benefits, then you may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM). To find out more and to register, please visit [www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals](http://www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals) Once you have registered your child, please inform the school office, as you may also then be entitled to Pupil Premium, which provides additional support for your child's learning in school, as well as covering the costs of school trips and one school based club per term.

### Mental Health support services – Just Talk Herts

In Hertfordshire, over 35 teams and organisations work together to develop and share useful tools, training and information to support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing. This ranges from self-help tools to information on how to access support if it's needed. This is known as the 'Just Talk' programme - named by Hertfordshire young people. Public Health, Education, NHS, and voluntary sector partners all work together to ensure we develop and share the most useful information possible with young people, parents/carers and professionals.

You can find out more about Just Talk on their website [www.justtalkherts.org](http://www.justtalkherts.org)





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For ongoing up-to-date information, training and webinar opportunities, and links to useful resources, please follow on Facebook: @JustTalk Herts

### Covid-19

When we return after Easter the following rules will apply:

- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature and they feel well enough to attend.
- Children who have tested positive for Covid should remain at home and avoid contact with others for 3 full days. After this they may return to school if they are well enough. Adults are advised to remain at home and avoid contact with others for 5 full days.

There is no requirement for your child to test negative before they return to school after a confirmed case of Covid, but we would ask that you keep them at home if they still have a temperature or are not well enough to attend.

### Foodbanks help

We have links with local foodbanks so, if you are struggling financially at the moment, please contact the school office in confidence and we can refer you.

### 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.





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- 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.

### Diary Dates

	<b>Spring Term 2022</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>Term ends at 1.20 pm</b>
	<b>Summer Term 2022</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer term commences
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 2 assembly - 9.30am and 2.30pm
w.c.9 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATS week
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Class photos
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 trip to Woodhall Estate
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 & 4 production - afternoon and evening
26 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 & 4 production - evening
26 <sup>th</sup> May	Jubilee celebrations
27 <sup>th</sup> May	Sports Day
30 <sup>th</sup> May - 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	<b>Half term holiday</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 PGL trip
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Sports Day
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Celtic Harmony trip
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 trip to Knebworth
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 trip to St Albans Verulamium Museum
23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Reception trip to Standalone Farm
24 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>INSET day - school closed</b>
27 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Occasional day - school closed</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Music evening
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Open evening
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Secondary transition day - all children will spend some time with their teachers for next year





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20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 leavers' show to parents - evening
21 <sup>st</sup> July	9.30am Year 6 Leavers' Eucharist in St Mary's Church
21 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 leavers' show to parents - evening
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>Term ends at 1.20 pm</b>
<b>Autumn Term 2022</b>	
5 <sup>th</sup> September	Autumn term commences
24 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Half term holiday</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET day - school closed
21 <sup>st</sup> December	<b>Term ends at 1.20 pm</b>

