



# Welwyn St Mary's Primary School



## Newsletter - January 2021

### Value

Our value for this half term is:

**Courage**

**"A person cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore."**

*Andre Gide*

**"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."**

*Deuteronomy 31:6*

### Welcome Back

A warm welcome to the new term to all our families, whether you are in school or at home. We wish you a happy and healthy new year.

### House Points

Well done to Saxons for the most house points for the Autumn term. House points can be given by any adult for good work or good behaviour.

Saxons	2041
Normans	2018
Romans	2018
Vikings	1796

### Gym windows

We are pleased that we will be replacing the windows in the gym over February half term. This will improve energy efficiency as well as better ventilation when in use for our PE lessons.

### Thank you for Chromebooks fundraiser

Thank you to all have so generously donated to our fundraiser for Chromebooks to support home learning. If you would like to make a donation you can still do so on our GoFundMe page:

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/rkdrm-chromebooks-for-home-](https://www.gofundme.com/f/rkdrm-chromebooks-for-home-learning?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1)

[learning?utm\\_source=customer&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link&utm\\_campaign=p\\_cf+share-flow-1](https://www.gofundme.com/f/rkdrm-chromebooks-for-home-learning?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1)

### 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.

### Covid-19 information

If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms please notify the school at the earliest opportunity -

[admin@welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk) - and also notify us of the results of tests. This is **ESSENTIAL** so that we can carry out our track and trace actions should others need to isolate as a result.





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To protect our whole school and particularly our extremely vulnerable families, please do not send your child into school if:

- they have Covid symptoms
- anyone in your household has Covid symptoms
- anyone in your household, including your child, has had a test and is awaiting results

### Plastic Busters

Green group had planned to run a Plastic Busters Week this week. Our aim is for there to be no single-use plastic in lunch boxes to help us move towards being a plastic-free school.

We know that not everyone is in school at the moment, and not everyone has a packed lunch, so we are also hosting a poster competition. The poster needs to encourage everyone not to use single-use plastic in their lunchbox. The closing date is 25<sup>th</sup> January. There will be prizes for the winners.

Thank you

*Green Group*

### Medication in school

Please may we remind parents to ensure that the medication that is kept in school (inhalers, Epipens, Piriton etc) is in-date, and that replacements are provided as soon as possible when these expire.

### Music lessons

Mid Herts Music Service are offering online instrument lessons during this lockdown period. If you have already registered for lessons with them, please ensure you contact them directly to arrange your online lessons.

### Hertfordshire Libraries

Despite the current lockdown situation, Hertfordshire libraries are open for Ready Reads.

Families can order books for their children and themselves using the online form and then collect

from a selected library. To access the form, click on: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/other-library-services/ready-reads.aspx> or alternatively call 0300 123 4049.

The library requests service is fully operational, and so specific books can be ordered through the library catalogue and picked up in the same way. You can also borrow eBooks and audio books via BorrowBox.

Please visit their website: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/libraries-and-archives.aspx>

### Reception Places 2021

The window for applications closes 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Please be aware that we require our own Supplementary Information Form to be completed and returned to the school office (via the post box outside class S3) as well as an online application to county.

### Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

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





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of additional benefits, including extra help in class, additional resources, items of uniform, 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 inform the school office.

The government have confirmed that free school meals will be provided to eligible children throughout lockdown. We await guidance on the launch of the supermarket voucher scheme rather than food parcels.

## Diary Dates

	Spring Term 2021
15 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term holiday
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Term ends at 1.20 pm
	Summer Term 2021
12 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer term commences
31 <sup>st</sup> May - 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Half term holiday
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Term ends at 1.20 pm
19 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	INSET days - school closed
	Autumn Term 2021
1 <sup>st</sup> September	INSET day - school closed
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Autumn term commences
25 <sup>th</sup> - 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Half term holiday
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Term ends at 1.20 pm
20 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> December	INSET days - school closed
	Spring Term 2022
5 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET day - school closed
6 <sup>th</sup> January	Spring term commences
14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term holiday
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Term ends at 1.20 pm
	Summer Term 2022
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer term commences
30 <sup>th</sup> May - 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half term holiday
24 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET day - school closed





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27 <sup>th</sup> June	Occasional day - school closed
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Secondary transition day
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>Term ends at 1.20 pm</b>

