



St. Mary's Preparatory School

A love of learning for life

St. Mary's Newsletter — 8th March 2019

Dear parents,

We have had a fantastic week at St. Mary's. The poetry slam on World Book day was a particular highlight for me. You can see the performances on our St. Mary's [private Facebook](#) group along with more photos from the day.

The final results are in for Year 6 pupils seeking their next schools and I am delighted to announce that Oscar Scannell has been offered a place at Abingdon School with a Music Exhibition award and he has also been offered an honorary music scholarship from Leighton Park. I was also thrilled to hear that Alexandra Marthinusen and George Blumfield have both been offered Buckinghamshire Grammar School places at William Borlase and John Hampden respectively. Superb!

Many thanks once again to those of you who completed the Voice of the Parent survey. Please see attached letter which outlines our key findings.

Thank you for your ongoing support.
Rob Harmer, Headmaster



MONDAY 11TH MARCH:
Y5 STEM EVENT @
LEIGHTON PARK
Y6 HYF EVENT

TUESDAY 12TH MARCH:
Y3 / Y4 HYF EVENT
Y5/6 HYF EVENT
Y4 CROSFIELDS
NETBALL / RUGBY

WEDNESDAY 13TH
MARCH:
Y3/4 HYF EVENT
Y5/6 HYF EVENT
Y2 SOCCER FESTIVAL
ELSTREE
U10/11 GIRLS FOOTBALL V
REDDAM

THURSDAY 14TH MARCH:
K / Y1/ 2 HYF EVENT
Y3 / 4 HYF EVENT
KINDERGARTEN TO SWISS
FARM
OUTDOOR CLUB

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH:
COLLAPSED
CURRICULUM MORNING
NURSERY TO SWISS FARM
U8/ 9 RUGBY V
PAPPLEWICK SCHOOL
COMIC RELIEF (THIS IS A
SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY,
CHILDREN CAN OF
COURSE WEAR RED
NOSES)

KEY DATES FOR THE COMING TERM (ALL YEAR GROUPS)

4TH—17TH MARCH: HENLEY YOUTH FESTIVAL (RANGE OF EVENTS PLANNED)

15TH MARCH: COLLAPSED CURRICULUM RELIGIOUS STUDIES MORNING

15TH MARCH: COMIC RELIEF (RED NOSE DAY). WEAR YOUR RED NOSE AND SCHOOL UNIFORM
26TH MARCH: ST. MARY'S MUSIC CONCERT (2PM—3.30PM) CHILDREN WHO ARE LEARNING TO PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT WILL BE INVITED TO PERFORM

29TH MARCH: LIGHT UP DAY, DONATIONS OF £1 REQUESTED FOR SOLAR AID CHARITY, SEE P2 OF NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS

2ND APRIL: Y3 & Y4 DRAMA PRESENTATION

5TH APRIL: LAST DAY OF TERM (SCHOOL CLOSURES AT USUAL TIME OF 3.30PM)

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Following a year of fantastic fundraising efforts, the School Councillors presented a cheque to Alexander Devine Charity this week for over £1,000. Thank you to everyone who supported our efforts.

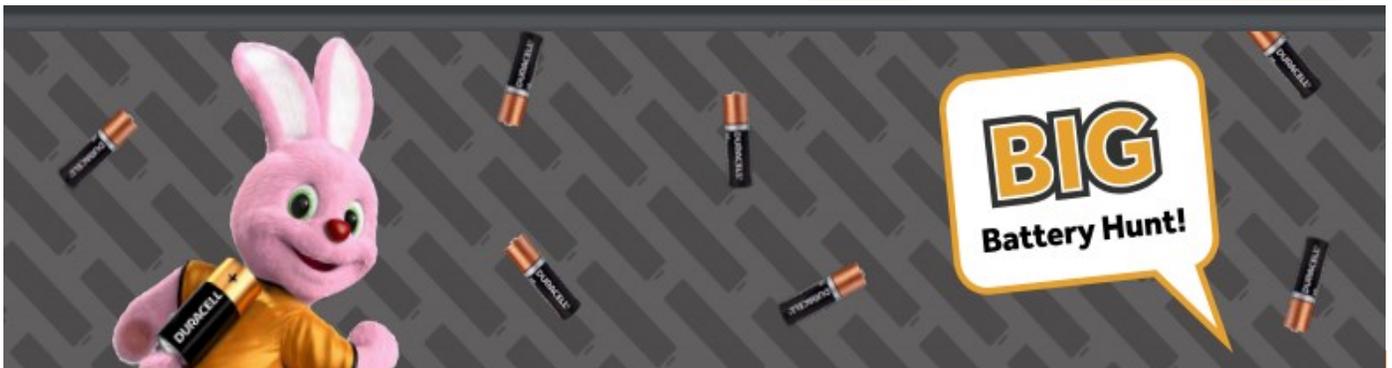
We have now decided to support two different charities for 2019/2020. Footsteps is a local charity aiming to provide support to families who have children with special needs or disabilities, whilst SolarAid is a global charity that aims to combat poverty and climate change by providing access to solar lights in some of the most remote regions of the world.

Friday 29th March will be a Power Off—Light Up Learning day at St. Mary's. Cognita schools across the globe will be supporting this day also in the lead up to Earth Hour on Saturday 30th March. We will be asking pupils to bring in a £1 donation on this day for Solar Aid and we will be building solar buddy lights which will be sent to children living in poverty to help them study with after dusk. It's a shocking fact that an estimated 4.3 million people die from using kerosene lanterns to help them perform everyday tasks such as reading, studying and cooking. The effects of these lamps kill more people every year than Malaria and HIV combined.

We will be aiming to use as little power as possible on this day whilst we stick to the usual timetable. I pads and whiteboards will not be switched on and while we will ensure a filling lunch is provided to everyone, we will not be using the ovens.



Charlie Wilks and Daniella Southgate present a cheque to the Alexander Devine Charity



The Big Battery Hunt

We have been talking to children about the importance of recycling batteries and what happens when people do not. Your child has been challenged to find and collect as many batteries as possible and we would appreciate your support with this. They can be as creative as they like by going to work spaces, places of worship, local businesses and the wider community to enlist everyone to help make sure that no battery ends up in landfill. Children from Kindergarten to Year 6 have been given a battery collection box, please get them to bring this into school when it is full so that we can add it to the main container.

We will be entering the Big Battery Hunt competition, so the more batteries we collect the better! Please visit <https://nationalschoolpartnership.com/initiatives/bigbatteryhunt/> for more information about the campaign plus a break-down of all the prizes that the school and your child could win. Please see the base of your collection box for safety instructions. The competition ends on Monday 3rd June, so please make sure your child brings in their batteries before then. Happy Hunting!

CILIP KATE GREENAWAY LONGLIST 2019



Library News

We have recently purchased some of the books on the CILIP Carnegie Prize Longlist for 2019 that are suitable for Upper KS2 - please encourage the children in Year 5 and 6 to take a look at the display in the Library and borrow some of the books. We have also bought a couple of the books suitable for younger children some of which are on the Blue Peter awards list and thought you may be interested in looking at the titles for the CILIP Kate Greenaway award (see photo attached).

On World Book Day your child came home with a £1 book token. These can be exchanged for the World Book Day books available in local bookshops or why not put them towards one of these potentially award winning books which you will also find in all good bookshops.

Our Library is run on an 'honesty' based system and once the children are on 'Free Readers' they can borrow any of the books. If younger or indeed the older children would like to borrow books from the non-fiction section to supplement their reading they are most welcome to do this. There are returns boxes in the Library which are maintained by our Year 6 Librarians and our Volunteer Librarian Mrs Southgate so they can be popped in there once they have finished reading them. Please do encourage your children to use our wonderful resource.

As a school we are deeply aware of the increasing urgency of the need to tackle climate change. We would like to empower pupils to take positive action on this and we encourage you to support them through the platform of Young Climate Warriors (www.youngclimatewarriors.org).

Please could you help your child to:

- 1) subscribe at www.youngclimatewarriors.org;
- 2) undertake this week's challenge (not designed to be onerous and many will be cost saving!) - this week the task is simply to remember to turn off all lights before leaving for school, after watching TV and after using the bathroom. Do share the attachment with your children.
- 3) HIT THE RED BUTTON, to show your child has completed the challenge and become a 'Climate Challenge Champion'; and
- 4) Repeat in consecutive weeks.

Celebrating

Well done to St. Mary's alumni Kitty Whittam and Jigya Kashyap. The girls were the only two out of 110 Year 8 girls from The Abbey to be selected to represent their year group at the regional finals of the UKMT Maths Challenge. Great news!

Alexander and Lorenzo Bowater-Rubio have been getting creative at home. The boys came up with this design idea entirely by themselves and used acrylic on canvas to bring their vision to life. We are impressed!



Well done to Leo Osbourne, Alex Benarr and Lorenzo Bowater-Rubio who were all presented with gold merit certificates in assembly today!

Young
CLIMATE
Warriors

World Book day—poetry competition winners

We embraced World Book day and thoroughly enjoyed watching the children perform in the poetry slam (see facebook for the videos!). The winners of the Key Stage 2 poetry competition were announced at the end of the 'slam'. The standard of entries was very high. Well done to everyone who entered.

Upper KS2: First place Genevieve McLellan

Second: Aoife Lynch, Oscar Scannell

Third: Charlie Scott

Commended: Ben Woodbridge, Emily Southgate, Lily Whittam, Thomas Butterworth, Harry Waldron

Lower KS2: First place Lilia Wright

Second: Caleb Marchant, Daniella Southgate

Third: Polly Johnston

Commended: Eleanor Borlase, Noah Baiarda-Harris, Matilda Darrah, Alexander Bowater-Rubio, Pippa Whittam



Football news—boys

ISA U11 5-A-Side Football. St. Mary's took part in a 24 team tournament on Monday afternoon where the weather conditions were particularly challenging. Some excellent football saw the team top their group with 11 points to progress into the quarter finals of the Cup. We dominated the game but lost out to Parsons Green School who beat us with two counter attacking plays with clinical finishing.

St. Mary's 2 Cranford House 0 Scorers: Drummond Seraille, George Blumfield

Claire's Court 0 St. Mary's 0

St. Mary's 1 Heathfield House 0 Scorer: Tommy Lane

Lyndhurst 1 St. Mary's 0

St. Mary's 3 More House 0 Scorers: Drummond Seraille x 2, George Blumfield

Quarter Final: Parsons Green 2 St. Mary's 0

Player of the Tournament: Charlie Oldham

Well done to everyone who took part in the Cross Country at Chiltern Edge last weekend!

Football news—girls

Great team work by St. Mary's which led to some brilliant goals against Dolphin School.

Dragons 2- 1 Dolphin A Scorer Charlie Wilks

Dragons 5- 0 Dolphin B Scorer Charlie Wilks 3, Pippa Whittam 2

Dragons 3 - 0 Dolphin C Scorer Charlie Wilks 2, Lily Wildgoose. Player of the Match -Charlie Wilks)

Fantastic play by Charlie Wilks and Pippa Whittam who kept the game in our half for the majority of the game.

Pegasus 0- 0 Dolphin A

Pegasus 1- 1 Dolphin B Scorer Abigail Lawrence. Player of the Match -Sophie Broom)

Pegasus 2- 0 Dolphin C Scorer Kalypso Vogel, Daniella Southgate. Player of the Match Polly Johnston

Brilliant attacking play by Kalypso Vogel and Ginevra Tayler. Well done.

Tigers 0-2 Dolphin A

Tigers 1 - 0 Dolphin B (Goal scorer Eleanor Borlase)

Tiger 1 - 1 Dolphin C (Goal scoer Kalypso Vogel pPOM= Eleanor Borlase)

Super defending by Eleanor Borlase and Matilda Darrah, who took their time read the game and knew when to clear the ball .

