

St. Mary's CE Primary School

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TERM DATES

**School Year
2018- 2019**

Autumn Term

INSET DAYS

Monday 3rd September

Tuesday 4th September

First day of Term

Wednesday 5th September

Half Term

Monday 22nd October -

Friday 26th October

INSET DAY

Monday 29th October

End of Term

Friday 21st December

Spring Term

INSET DAY

Monday 7th January 2019

First day of Term

Tuesday 8th January

Half Term

Monday 18th February -

Friday 22nd February

End of Term

Friday 12th April

Summer Term

First day of Term

Monday 29th April

Bank Holiday: 6th May

Half term

Monday 27th May -

Friday 31st May

Last Day of Term

19th July 2019

IN TOUCH

Friday 28th September



Issue 491

I have just had the pleasure of chatting to some of your lovely children. Each week, during Friday worship I turn my brand new bingo cage and out pops a number! Each child in Year One upwards, has been given a number one to thirty in class and if their number is called they are invited to bring their classwork (this week it was English books) with them and have a discussion with me about learning and anything they would like to ask/say. We enjoy some juice and a biscuit, I stamp and sign the children's books and it is a lovely opportunity for me to be able to engage with a random group of pupils each week. My thanks to the children who shared their work with me today—I'm already looking forward to the next Miss Payne's Bingo Book Look!

As many of you will know, we have welcomed Miss McCrone to join our staff team. Miss McCrone is a qualified Yoga instructor and so we have asked her if she will share her expertise with us. Every other week, all of the children and their teachers have a thirty minute Yoga session, an opportunity to increase our flexibility and increase self-awareness. Thanks to Miss McCrone for sharing her skills and talents with us all.

Next Friday we have our Harvest Festival at St. Mary's Church. Mrs Bishop and I are attending the Diocesan Head Teacher's Conference in Canterbury on Thursday and Friday and so we will miss what I am sure will be another wonderful service. I have told the children they need to sing so loudly that I will be able to hear them all the way along the M2! Mrs Livingstone will be leading the service in my absence and I thank her in advance. I'm looking forward to seeing photos and videos of the service... We are collecting for Wandsworth Food Bank from next week and will establish an altar for offerings in the Hall.

Following the work undertaken with Diversity Role Models last week, we have been taking on board your views. Thank you for making contact with us and letting us know what you think. Should we continue to work with the organisation, then in future we will ensure that more notice is given to parents about the sessions in advance, along with an automatic option to withdraw your child/ren. We are also considering a parent workshop in advance of the children's sessions—please let us know if this would be useful. I have given a lot of thought to how we will approach our work on Diversity going forward and hopefully you will all notice some welcome changes. Thank you for your feedback.

I had the pleasure of attending the Southwark Diocesan School's Eucharist on Wednesday evening. I was accompanied by our Chair of Governors, Mrs Sally McGeachie. The Archdeacon of Southwark, the venerable Jane Steen, spoke in the absence of Bishop Christopher, who is currently on sabbatical. The School's Eucharist is always a lovely service and a great way to celebrate the previous year's achievements and to look at the challenges and joys ahead in the current one! Thank you to everyone at the Southwark Board of Education and Southwark Cathedral for organising this service for school leaders.

Today we have bid a very fond and sad farewell to Mrs Gifty Pometsey who, it feels, has not been with us nearly long enough. Gifty and her family have relocated to Northampton and we thank Gifty for all of her hard work at St. Mary's and wish her and her family all the very best in their new home, schools and jobs!

As I write Year Five are currently at the British Museum to explore their learning outside of the classroom in their IPC Topic, The Great, The Bold and The Brave. I hope they are having a wonderful time!

Speaking of a wonderful time, have a great weekend! See you on Monday!

Cheryl Payne
Head Teacher