

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Our Christian Value for the term: Thankfulness

*"It is not happy people who are thankful; it is thankful people who are happy."*  
(Anon)

Dear Parents,

Year 6 are off to Morfa Bay next week with Mr Meadows, Mrs Cartledge and Mrs Lee. I am sure they will have a great time – the weather forecast looks good and I know the children are very excited!! So are the staff!

Year 5 will be taught by Mr Godfrey and the remainder of the Year 5/6 staff.

The PTfA are holding their Annual General meeting at 8pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September in school. The PTfA are a really essential part of our school. They fund raise a lot of money over the year so that the children can have all the 'extras' we can't always afford to pay for and they are a good social group. Over the years they have paid for school trips, visiting theatre companies, playground equipment and iPads. Without them the children wouldn't have so many enriching experiences. Unfortunately this year they are struggling to recruit members. Please, please, please if you can spare some free time speak to Katie McGrath and put your name forward – the more who volunteer the less work there is for individuals to do. You don't have to be a parent – you could be a grandparent or just a friend to the school. Thank you!

**Mrs Jo Woolley**  
Headteacher

## School Diary

<b>18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept</b>	<b>Yr 6 Morfa Bay in school for 8.30am</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Parents Evening 3.30pm – 5.30pm</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>'Grab a Crown Up'! 8.40-8.50am KS1</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Parents Evening 4.00pm – 7.00pm</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>School Photos</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas in Tetbury -Switching on the lights</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>'Grab a Crown Up'! 8.40-8.50am KS2</b>		
<b>18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Open morning 9.30 – 11.30 For prospective parents</b>	<b>2017</b>	
<b>20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Last Day of Term</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Bikeability - Yr 5 (Bikes and Helmet needed in school)</b>

## *Free school uniform and support for your child!!*

*As you may know we receive funding from the Government to provide additional support for every child who is registered for Free School Meals. This funding doesn't just provide your child with free school meals but is also used to enhance your child's whole primary school experience, including pastoral and educational needs. If your child is eligible they will attract this support every year, for the whole of their time at primary school, even if your situation subsequently changes. Universal Infant Free School Meals is different to Free School Meals and does not attract this same support and funding.*

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*If your child is in Reception, KS1 or KS2 and you think your child/ren may be eligible for Free School Meals and this support please check by logging on to [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals) (you will also need your national insurance number). You can check your child's eligibility at any time and if you are not eligible today but your situation changes it is worth rechecking their eligibility.*

*If you have any questions about this support you can discuss it confidentially with Mrs Silins. We will fund a school jumper and tie for all children who are registered for Free School Meals from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017*

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## Parent/Carers

The newsletter will be available on our Website after 2.30pm every Friday.

The link is: <http://www.stmarystetbury.com/the-office/newsletters>

If you require a paper copy, please come to the main office and the newsletter will be available on the leaflet stand in the main entrance.

## Letters Home

Please take the time to read letters carefully as they are our main way of keeping you informed about what is happening in school, all letters home can now be found on our Web site via the following link:

<http://www.stmarystetbury.com/the-office/letters>. If you are requested to complete a slip on any letter it makes life a lot easier for our office staff if the slips are returned promptly. This is also the case when sending money into school – this should be in a sealed envelope clearly labelled with your child's name, class, the amount of money and what the money is paying for.

## Medication

Please ensure medication your child requires is handed into the school office at which point you will be asked to complete a Medication Form. Please do not send medication in with your child without seeing a member of staff and completing the form.

## Absences

In order to continue to ensure the safety of your child/ren we will need contact from a responsible adult if your child is absent. This should be done via a telephone call to the school office, or popping into the school office if you are bringing other children into school. If we have no confirmation of their absence by 9.15am we will contact you via your home and emergency numbers to ensure your child is safe. This is a time consuming task for our busy office staff, so please remember to contact us! For safety's sake you need to contact the school each day your child is absent.

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## Holiday/Absence Request

All requests must be made on a form available from the school office, for any time off of school other than illness. Unfortunately holidays cannot be authorised during school time and holidays taken will be marked as unauthorised. Please ask the school office if you are unsure of the Government's Policy on holidays taken during term time.

## Appointments Medical/ Dentist etc

All appointments where possible should be made outside school hours. If your child has an appointment please bring a copy the appointment card/letter into the school office, so this can be put with the class register.

## School Lunches and Parentpay

Reception children have now received their activation letter. The menu choices can be booked up to Christmas, so please do this as soon as possible as this helps with the registration process in the morning. (We do check on the day if your child is still having a school lunch or sandwiches, so you can change your mind!)

## Milk

Reception Children whose parents have registered them for Free school milk (under 5's) are receiving milk in class at the moment, it is not an automatic registration. If you would like to take advantage of the free school milk scheme, please register your child at the link below. As the children turn five this will become chargeable and an invoice will be sent to the parent/carer from Coolmilk. If you do not want your child to receive milk in school, the parent/carer will need to cancel it. This should be done via Coolmilk. We are unable to do this in the school office.

There is also free milk for anyone entitled to free school meals. Please register via the link below.

Milk is available for children from when they are 5 years old through to Year 6 with payment being made to the company who organise the "Cool Milk for Schools". you can also access details at [www.CoolMilk.co.uk](http://www.CoolMilk.co.uk).

## Grab a Grown-up Every Friday

All year groups Alternate weeks 8.40am

Grab a Grown up to every week alternating between KS1 and KS2. All parent/carers are welcome, next week Friday 22<sup>th</sup> September will be Grab a Grown Up for the KS1 children. 29<sup>th</sup> September will be Grab a Grown Up for the KS2 children

We look forward to seeing you.

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## Cycling to school

As with previous years we are allowing Y6 pupils who have passed their cycling proficiency test to cycle to school if they complete a "St Mary's Cycle Permit". This can be requested from the school office.

## Peripatetic Music lessons – KS2

KS2 children will start their music lessons in the next couple of weeks. Mrs Nicholas (flute/recorder) will start on Monday, Mr Hopkins (guitar) will start on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September and Mr Adkins (piano) will start on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September (Taster Sessions available). The School Office will have sent information via an email to all KS2 parents. If your child expresses an interest in either continuing or starting music lessons, please return the form to the school office as soon as possible.

### Music Tuition Lessons 2017 – 2018

**(If you are interested please see the school office for full music letter)**

My child ..... Class ..... Year .....

Please delete as appropriate.

- Had music lessons last year for Guitar, Recorder, Flute, Piano (\* please circle appropriate instrument) and would like to continue their lessons next year.
- Would like a taster lesson for the Guitar, Recorder, Flute, Piano (\* please circle appropriate instrument)

If opting for piano lessons please circle the length of lesson you would like your child to have:

Ten minute individual lesson each week costing £5 per lesson

Twenty minute individual lesson each week costing £10 per lesson

Signed ..... (Parent/Carer)



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## Clubs TERM 1

Day	Club	Person Responsible	Key Stage	Time	Start date
<b>Monday</b>	Young Voices	Mrs May	Yr 5/6	3.15 – 4.00pm	25 <sup>th</sup> September
	Yoga and Healthy Cooking Club	Miss Jackson	Yr1 – Yr 6 (Max 12)	3.15 – 4.00pm	25 <sup>th</sup> September
	Chess Club	Mrs Royle	Yr 4/5 (Max 16)	3.15 – 4.00pm	18 <sup>th</sup> September
	Rugby Club	Mr Knight/ Miss Snell	KS2	3.15 – 4.00pm	18 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>Tuesday</b>	Netball Current members only	Mrs Harper/Mrs Smith	Yr 4/5/6	3.15 – 4.15pm	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September
	French* (paid for club) contact direct for full cost and details on ak@clubs4kids.com	Mrs Fuller please email Mrs Fuller Paid for club invoiced termly	Rec Y1 - 3	3.15 – 4.00pm	12 <sup>th</sup> September
	Football Club (max 16)	Mr Hainsworth	Yr 3/4	3.15 – 4.00pm	19 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Faith Explorers Club</b>	Rev Poppy	Yrs 3-6	3.15 - 4.20pm	13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> Sep 4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> October
	<b>Book Club</b>	Mrs Cartledge	Yrs 5/6 (Max 12)	12.45 – 1.15pm	27 <sup>th</sup> September
	<b>Coding Club</b>	Mrs Wheeler	Yrs 5/6 (Max 12)	12.45 – 1.15pm	27 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>Thursday</b>	Nature Club (Max 12)	Mr Meadows	KS2	3.15 – 4.00pm	28 <sup>th</sup> September
	Gymnastics (Open to members not attending an outside gym club)	Mrs Lee	Yr 3/4	3.15 – 4.30pm	28 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>Friday</b>	Homework/Mathletics (Willow class)	Mrs Silins	KS2	12.30pm	15 <sup>th</sup> September
	Basketball	Mr Godfrey	Yr 3/ 4	3.15 - 4.00pm	15 <sup>th</sup> September

\*Paid for Clubs

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## St Mary's Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

Please support the PTFA! If you are interested in helping, please let us know your interest by emailing [ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk) or by attending the **AGM on Tuesday**

**19<sup>th</sup> September (8pm at school).**

The PTFA raise funds for the school which are not provided through formal funding. Last academic year we raised **£9842**. The committee are all parents of children at the school and we organise events and help at school functions on a volunteer basis in our free time. We are starting this year with a small group of volunteers of just 5 people. We represent just 5 families out of the approximately 200 families that attend St Marys School.

Unfortunately, we need more help to be able to put events such as the Christmas Fayre and Summer Fete. These events are our biggest fundraisers of the whole year and last year raised a total of nearly £6000.

These large events cannot be organised with just 5 people so please support the PTFA otherwise we must unfortunately discontinue the PTFA.

It would be a shame for the children not to experience fun events such as the termly school discos, the fayres, leavers party, dress-down days, leavers BBQ or ice-cream Fridays.

Joining the committee involves; attending meetings approximately every 6 weeks/2 months, helping at events, volunteering some time before the large events for preparation. However, you can volunteer to help at some events or just support us with an hour of your time every now and then.

Katie McGrath – Chair of PTFA

**Easyfundraising.com** You can support St Marys school without it costing you a penny. Do your online shopping via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarystetbury/> and the retailer pays a percentage of your total without any charge to you. Retailers include Amazon, Ebay, John Lewis, Tesco, Expedia, Waitrose, flybe and many more. Sign up today!

## Parent/Teacher Representative

St Marys PTFA have started a parent representative scheme. A parent volunteer liaises with the class teacher / TA to pass on information to all the parents in each class to ensure everyone is fully informed about activities within each class.

We have found that this is especially useful for parents that are unable to drop off and collect their children due to work commitments.

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A parent representative eases the responsibility on the teacher of reminding kids and parents about special events within the classroom; E.g. Welly Walks, Non-uniform Days, Harvest festival etc. A parent representative also saves time for the teacher and office staff, and prevents disappointment children.

Please register for the parent rep app - [www.classlist.com](http://www.classlist.com) (available on the Click 'Join Here' and search for 'St Mary's CE VA Primary School, Tetbury'



for the  
app store).

If you would like to be the representative for your class, please register as above and let the PTFA know by emailing [ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk)

## Gardening / Work Days. Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Proposed time 10am-4pm

The Governors and PTFA will be having a gardening/work day on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October to help tidy up areas of the school E.g. spruce up the garden areas.

If you can spare some time please let us know by emailing [ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk) or come along from 10am on Sunday.

NB Children are welcome but are the responsibility of their adult. Childcare cannot be provided.

## Community

**This Sunday 17th September at 2pm, come to Tetbury Goods Shed for Curious Creatures.** A fun and inventive puppet show for children aged 5 and their families. Tickets are just £6 each and available online at [www.shed-arts.co.uk](http://www.shed-arts.co.uk) or from Tetbury Tourist Information. Curious Creatures is performed by the Squashbox theatre company and you and your little ones can expect to meet animals of all shapes and sizes, find out how animals evolved, how their amazing adaptations help them to survive in the wild and how animals can help us to learn more about ourselves.

## CLUB APPLICATION SLIP - One slip per club and child please

CHILD'S NAME ..... CLASS .....

I give permission for my child to attend the ..... club

I do/donot wish my childs photo to appear on the school newsletter/Website

I will collect them from school\* Emergency telephone no:

They have permission to walk home from school\*

(\*please delete as necessary)

Signed ..... Date .....