



'Curiosity is the wick in the candle of learning.' William Arthur Ward

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of Term 3 already and what busy term it has been. One of the highlights of the term has to be the 'I Sing Pop' concerts - we haven't stopped singing the songs - they are in our heads 24 hours a day! Some children have been to the Young Voices event in Birmingham, Pete the poet has visited school to teach the children in Year 6 about diversity and equality and we have enjoyed cold and frosty Forest School sessions. Cricket coaches have been working with the children in their PE lessons and we have participated in gymnastic competitions and cross-country events. We were delighted to welcome women's rugby player, Abbie Brown, into school today.

#### **Teacher Strikes**

You will be aware that members of the National Education Union have voted to strike. The next planned teacher strike day is on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.** Due to teacher shortages on that day the school will be <u>closed</u> to all year groups **except Year 6**. Year 6 children should come to school as usual. Lunches will be available for children eligible for benefits related free school meals - further information will be sent out to parents about booking and collecting these on the Monday after half term.

The next industrial action has been planned for 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of March. Please be aware that the school may be closed or partially closed on those days. I will let parents know what the arrangements will be as soon as possible.

#### Ash Wednesday

Poppy will be leading an Ash Wednesday service in school on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Poppy will be explaining about how sometimes Christians have the sign of the cross marked in ash on their forehead on Ash Wednesday and children will be invited to do this. If you do not want your child to participate in this please email the school office on admin@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk

#### World Book Day

We are looking forward to <u>World Book Day</u> after half term. We have moved WBD to <u>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</u> because of the planned industrial action. The children have voted overwhelmingly to dress up as book characters so we will be embracing this on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. You may like to have a think about costumes over half term - we would urge parents not to buy ready made costumes from supermarkets or online retailers. Please save your money and the planet by dressing your children in things you can find around the home, old dressing up clothes or charity shops. There are lots of ideas on different websites

eg. <u>https://www.madeformums.com/toddler-and-preschool/last-minute-easy-world-book-day-costumes/</u>









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# 103 easy last-minute World Book Day

# costume ideas

We've loads of brilliantly simple costume ideas for World Book Day. There's no sewing involved (although there may be some glue!) and we've included lots of clever ways to reuse princess, witch and pirate outfits, as well as great props for children who don't want to do dressing up www.madeformums.com

We reopen for children on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February at the usual time. I hope the children enjoy their week off and get lots of rest in preparation for the new term. Spring is definitely in the air!

Mrs J Woolley Headteacher

#### SPORT AT ST MARYS - Olympian Abbie Brown visits St Marys





What an incredible way to end the term with a very special visitor to school. We were delighted to welcome double Olympian Abbie Brown to school.

Abbie currently represents GB at rugby 7's and is hoping to compete at her third Olympics next year in Paris. In a brilliant career so far, that has seen Abbie travel the globe representing England and Team GB, it was great to hear her inspire our pupils as she started her visit with a very motivating assembly.









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The children then took part in some exercise circuits in their classes with Abbie, in the hall. To see every child being able to be participating with a current Olympian was amazing to see. We were very proud to hear the feedback from the children throughout the morning, about how inspired they felt and how they wanted to try new sports. We hope that this very special opportunity will further inspire our pupils with a love of sport.

As part of the day we encouraged children to wear the uniform of those they represent in our community. It was very humbling to see how our wonderful pupils connect our school with the representation within our community with Tetbury Rugby Club players, Tetbury Town FC, Tetbury Cricket, Tetbury Gymnastics, Beavers, Guides, Rainbows, Cubs amongst others.

If you would like any details on how to join any of our community clubs please email the school office and I will be more than happy to help.

Mr Knight and Miss Browning

Abbie Brown Rugby 7's

Year of Birth: 1996 Representing: Great Britain England



# Young Voices choir sing to residents at Upton Mill Care Home



The Young Voices choir had an opportunity to visit the residents at Upton Mill Care Home yesterday. They sang some of their favourite songs beautifully: Rockstar, Sing from your heart, Milligantics and Disney Medley. Residents were very impressed with the lovely singing and we look forward to visiting them again soon.









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# SCHOLASTIC

Book fair returns to our school! Open to year 6's on Thursday  $2^{nd}$  March and to all the school on Friday  $3^{rd}$ , Monday  $6^{th}$  and Tuesday 7ths March – children

will view books during the school day and parents and friends can purchase books from 3.15pm until 4.00pm on these days– preferred payment by card or app. Please note all books need to be scanned out of the fair even if purchases are made on your app.

More information will be sent at the beginning of term.

#### R.E Workshop in Year 4

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, Year 4 enjoyed a visit from Daxa. She came to share with the children her life as a Hindu in Britain today. Telling us all about the festival of Navratri, she taught us a special dance with Dandiya sticks as part of the celebration. In the classroom, we learnt so much about what puja (worship) means to her and how it is important in her everyday life. The children were able to look at objects used in puja and ask questions that they had prepared prior to her visit. We thoroughly enjoyed the whole morning with Daxa, who really helped to enrich our learning of what it means to be a Hindu in Britain today.

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Ren said, "I enjoyed tapping the sticks together and making a cool rhythm. It was amazing when we worked together."









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## **St Marys Church**











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A new course exploring Christianity using life experience

An inclusive experience, all welcome, no special knowledge or religious language needed, just what you have learned so far from life.

Wednesday evenings, 7-9pm 10 weeks in 2 blocks March 1st — March 29th 2023 April 19th — May 17th 2023 Venue — to be confirmed on booking Cost — there is no cost to participants For more details go to: www.tetburychurch.co.uk To pre book a place contact the church office office@tetburychurch.co.uk, 01666 500088









HARY DIE VIC

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Our Christian Value for the term: Curious 'Curiosity is the wick in the candle of learning.' William Arthur Ward



The Being With course is an introduction to Christianity with a difference. Rather than being a Bible study or series of arguments to try to convince you that God exists, it starts with the conviction that you already have a wealth of understanding of truth, beauty and goodness that will help you, in the company of others, to recognise God's presence in your life and your everyday experiences. At its heart is the idea that God's greatest desire is to be with us in Jesus. That's the reason the world was created; that's why you were created.

Over a period of ten weeks, you will discover dimensions of this presence and what it means to live abundantly with God and with one another with creation.









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#### PTFA

We had such fun hosting discos across the school for all of our children to enjoy. We are very grateful to staff and parent helpers, who volunteered their time and help to make the discos happen, the smiles and giggles heard throughout made it all worthwhile!



The fact that we raised an amazing £1,100 to directly benefit our school doesn't hurt either!!

Watch out for more fundraising events coming soon...

We wish you all a fabulous fun half term.

Thank you,

St. Mary's PTFA

(ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk)

#### **PTFA - Get involved!**

We are always looking for more helpers and fresh ideas, please contact us on <u>ptfa@st-marys-</u> <u>tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk</u> if you are able to help.











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#### Ice Cream Fridays are back!!

We will be selling ice creams after school every Friday in front of main reception.

- Cones, rocket lollies and Fabs are £1.
- Mini milks are 50p.
- We accept cash or card.
- We start selling at 3pm so please consider buying before you collect your child/ children.

If you are ever able to help sell ice-cream's, please contact us on <u>ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk</u>, it only takes half an hour of your time.

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#### Easyfundraising.com

Easyfundraising is an easy way to support your child's school at no cost to you!

When you are doing any online shopping, click via Easyfundraising.com to support St Mary's school without it costing you a penny.

Do your online shopping via <u>http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarystetbury/</u> and the retailer pays a percentage of your total without any charge to you.

Friends and family can also use Easyfundraising as an easy way to support your children's school.

#### **Textile Recycler**

The bin is located in the carpark by the Yr3/4 playground. All funds raised by St. Mary's PTFA go directly towards benefiting each and every child that attends our school.



#### **Amazon Smile**

Amazon Smile is an easy way to support your child's school at no cost to you! When using the Amazon app or website to make purchases, select our school as your chosen charity and **Amazon will donate 0.5%** of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases at **no cost to you!** Please be careful to select: St. Mary's Primary School Parents Teachers and Friends Association (Tetbury) For information on how to set up AmazonSmile please visit:

https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonsmile



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# Community

Press Release Children and young people across the Cotswolds can enjoy free activities this February Half term

The Cotswold Youth Network working in partnership with Cotswold District Council and local community organisation World Jungle will be delivering a programme of holiday activities for eligible children across the Cotswold district this half term.

Children in the Cotswold will have access to free activities during the half term holidays with activities such as circus skills, rally driving, archery, forest skills holiday camps right across the district from Fairford to Chipping Campden

Helen Edwards (Deputy Director of Primary Care and Place from NHS Gloucestershire) said: "Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board received funds from NHS England South West Region this winter in recognition of the impact that the rise in the cost of living may have on health over the coming months. In Cotswold district we are delighted to issue some funding to support an additional Holiday and Activity fund programme in February half term to benefit eligible children and families.

Ben Ward Director World Jungle said: "Our previous holiday programme have been a great success, and it's great that this is recognised by other organisations and to have secured additional funds to run this during the half term is fantastic. It will no doubt be a big help to those impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. We have an incredible range of providers across the Cotswolds so we are confident there will be something for all ages in all areas. "

The Half term activity programme will run between 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> February in venues across the Cotswold . The programme, which has strict guidelines on eligibility, is only accessible for those children in school reception class and up to year eleven, who receive benefits-related free school meals.

However, using grant funding we are also able to run the Holiday Activity Programme (HAP) which means there will be some activities which are open to all children and young people including a special programme in Tetbury and a free community fun day in Cirencester on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Ful details of what's on offer visit and if you'd like to book your child onto an activity or event in the Cotswolds, please visit: <u>https://www.worldjungle.org.uk/februaryhalfterm23</u>









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#### February Half Term

World Jungle is an award winning social enterprise all about bringing people together, creating healthier communities and sharing the best of our world. We have three key activity areas (Creative, Health, Community), fusing culture and creativity, dynamic health and wellbeing, inspiring events and a long term strategic commitment to improving our community and environment. We work to build effective partnerships, connect communities and deliver creative solutions to challenges facing our society. For more information, please visit <u>www.worldjungle.org.uk</u>





St Mary's CE VA Primary School St Mary's Road, Tetbury, Gloucs GL8 8BW Tel: 01666 502 275 Office 9am - 3.30pm WeAreStMarys www.stmarystetbury.com





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WeAreStMarys
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It's just a couple of days to go until Atlas Camps will be running their award-winning holiday clubs this February, with a selection of places still available to book!

Rating Outstanding by Ofsted, Atlas Camps specialise in multiactivity clubs for children ages 4-14. With a focus on fun, activities on offer span everything from arts and crafts to sports and active play, all in a safe, enjoyable environment designed to cater for all. Highlights include:

- Ofsted rated 'outstanding'
- Childcare vouchers accepted from a variety of providers
- Early drop-off/ late pickup options
- Sibling discount available

For further information, please watch this video



<u>https://atlascamps.co.uk/promo/generic-16x9.mp4</u> or check out the attached poster. Head to the Atlas Camps website at <u>www.atlascamps.co.uk</u> to book.









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