

Friday 9th February 2024

Our Christian Value for the term: **Curious**

'Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding' Proverbs 3:13

Dear Parents,

Here we are at the end of a short but very busy term. I have had a lovely day today walking around school looking at some of the lovely things the children have been doing. Year 6 children have made some amazing models of adventure playgrounds in DT and children have been having a great time in Forest School, despite the weather.

It was really lovely to welcome Reverend Poppy and Pauline into school on Wednesday for an early Ash Wednesday service. The children enjoyed singing together and reflecting on forgiveness and preparing for Easter.

Year 5 children having been enjoying their Bikeability lessons which will continue after half term for Elm Class. Well done to all the children who have shown courage and perseverance this week.

The school closes this afternoon for the half term break and Atlas Camps will be running over the holiday. Monday 19th February is a DGAT training day for school staff, so school re-opens for children on **Tuesday 20th February** at the normal time.

Mr Walters will not be in school after half term as he will be recovering from surgery. We are hopeful he will be back towards the beginning of March. I am sure you will join me in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Cars driving into the school site.

Whilst we are not in the business of making life difficult for parents, the safety of children has to be our absolute priority. Parents should under no circumstances be driving their cars onto the school site between 08.30 and 09.00 and 15.10 and 15.40. There are too many children walking, scootering and cycling around and the risk of injury is too great. Parents and carers with mobility issues who are dropping off and have blue badges can park on the road or in the layby. The gates will be closed during drop off and pick up to prevent people driving in. If you are having problems dropping off or picking up your child, please telephone the school office and we will do what we can to assist.

We ask parents and carers please to support us in this policy and not put school staff in the difficult position of having to challenge parents who disregard our request. Many thanks.

Have a very happy and restful half term,

Mrs J Woolley
Headteacher

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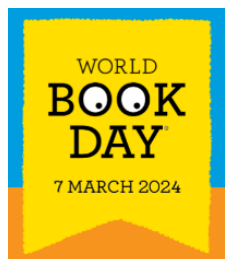
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Upcoming Diary notes:

9 th February – Last day of term	7 th March – Scholastic Book fair 3.15 – 4.00pm
19 th February – Inset day	8 th March – Scholastic Book fair 3.15 – 4.00pm
20 th February – First day of term	11 th March – Scholastic Book fair 3.15 – 4.00pm
20 th February – 23 rd February Yr 5 Bikeability continues	12 th March – Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm
29 th February – PTFA school Disco	14 th March – Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00pm

World Book Day

Coming up after half term...



This year, we are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. We want to have a day filled with lots of 'book fun' so we would like you to come to school dressed as your favourite book character.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be open after school in the school hall on World Book Day Thursday 7th – Monday 11th March – please come along the children love to look at the books, as this raises a lot of funding for the school.

Tetbury Library - World Book Day Costume Swap

In the spirit of promoting sustainability and creativity, Gloucestershire Libraries is organising a World Book Day Costume Swap. We invite students, parents, and staff members from across the county to participate in this fun and eco-friendly initiative.



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Gymnastics Festival

On Tuesday 6th February, 9 children across Years 3 and 4 took part in the annual Gymnastics Festival. This year, it took place in a brand new purpose built gym in Cirencester.

Quotes from the children..

"It was amazing. We got to do so many different activities"

"Swinging and climbing over the bars was fun"

"My favourite part was doing the 'Free Gymnastics' especially when I ran up the wall"



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Everyday Super Heros

The children in Cherry and Lime classes have been very busy this term meeting some of our local everyday superheroes! Eli's daddy, Alex came to school and everyone had the chance to test their heart beat and investigate first aid equipment. PCSO Ed visited our classrooms. He told us all about the things he does working for the Police. We tried on some uniform and looked at his police car. He even put the lights and sirens on for us. We also had a visit from Tetbury firefighters. We all sat inside a fire engine, tried on the uniform, sprayed water from the hose and learnt a lot about what firefighters do. The children had been thinking of questions to ask in their Literacy lessons - a fantastic opportunity for them all. Thank you to everyone who helped make the visits possible 😊



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Martial Arts

We have been very lucky to have Miss Fisher from Matt Fiddes Martial Arts come to the school and teach some of the children some martial arts. They were taught of the importance of respect and patience whilst also keeping physically active in the fighting and guard stances they were performing. The children from all the year groups had a brilliant time and were still talking about their experience for the rest of the week.

Thank you Miss Fisher!



PTFA – Thank you!

A big thank you to the PTFA for the purchase of some bike racks to safely and tidily store the children's bikes during the school day.



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Year 5/6 attended a cross-country pacing event at SWR school

Children from Year 5/6 attended a cross-country pacing event at SWR school. They were taught on the importance of pacing yourself correctly when facing a long-distance race. They had to work in teams to complete laps of the SWR sports hall in the quickest time possible. Hopefully these children will be able to take what they have learnt and not only apply it in their P.E lessons, but possibly challenge themselves to completing some cross-country races in the future.

Mr Bartrop



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Swimming lessons

Maple class swimming session **Wednesday 21st February 2024**

Next class swimming;

Oak class Wednesday 28th February – 17th April 2024

Rowan class Wednesday 1st May – 12th June 2024

Swimming lessons take place on Wednesday afternoons, taking place at Malmesbury Leisure Centre. The voluntary contribution for swimming is £4.75 per week. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum for PE which says each child should be able to swim at least 25 metres by the end of Key Stage 2.

Free school Meals (FSM)

If your **child is not** receiving free school meals at the moment and you think you may be eligible – apply now!

Please do not reapply if you are already receiving FSM.

All children in EYFS & KS1 receive Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) which you do not apply for. However, it is worth checking if your child is eligible for FSM. Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, we will receive extra funding if your child is eligible, you will need your National Insurance number to hand and your child's date of birth.

Parents can apply for free school meals via the following link-

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>



Apply online for
FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Check to see if your child is eligible using the confidential online portal available on our website
www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Your child's school receives extra funding for each eligible child registered.

If you do not have internet access speak to your child's school

You may also be able to get extra support for free milk, reduced contributions for school trips and uniform grants – check with your school.

You could save up to **£437** per year

Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL

Coolmilk – Please confirm with your child they still would like to receive their school milk. It is now a good time to review if you would still like this for your child or if you would like to register your child. If you would like to cancel or register for cool milk please go to <https://www.coolmilk.com/>

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FGR Ambassador

Since I last wrote Forest Green Rovers have had 2 changes of Manager, David Horsmand and Troy Deeney have both left and our new Manager is Steve Coetterell. Troy Deeney was only in charge for 6 matches!

I have been a ball retriever twice in matches either side of Christmas, this means I get really close to the action. I also get a free sausage roll and chips at half time. One of the times I did this it was Green football weekend which aimed to draw attention to climate change and get footy fans to do more to help.

In March, my football team - TTFC are visiting The New Lawn, having a tour and watching the match against Sutton United.

On the pitch our season is not going well, in 2024 we have drawn 4 matches and lost 2, we remain at the bottom of the league and need to start winning to stay in the league!

Last Saturday we drew 3-3 away at Colchester United with a thrilling last-minute equaliser from one of our new signings – Dominic Thompson. The next match I will be attending is this Saturday at home to Mansfield Town, this is going to be a tough match as they are second in the league.

Wish us luck – 'Come on you Rovers!'

George (FGR Ambassador)



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**st
mary's
ptfa**

We
hope everyone is looking forward to half term.

We've been busy finalising the timings for the school disco on 29th February. Please see the times on the poster below.



Reception children will have their own disco during the school day.

We will send a more detailed email closer to the date to inform you of prices, how to pay and drop off/pick up information. As always, these events cannot go ahead without the help of parents/volunteers. If you are able to help out at this event, please email us.

Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to know how you can get involved with helping us at future events.

St. Mary's PTFA

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

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Ice Cream Fridays

We will be selling ice creams again 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 ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk, it only takes half an hour of your time.



Easyfundraising.com

Easyfundraising is another 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 <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarystetbury/> 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.

(Facebook: @wearestmarys)

Textile Recycler The bin is located in the carpark by the Yr 3/4/5/6 playground. All funds raised by St. Mary's PTFA go directly towards benefiting each and every child that attends our school.

Please let the school office know if you find the bin full.



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Community Atlas Camp

Book now for February half term;

Atlas Camps February Half-Term Camps (www.atlascamps.co.uk)

With half-term now just 3 weeks away, Atlas Camps will be back with a bang with our award-winning multi-activity camps running every day during the February break! Joining them will be two fantastic new Atlas Camps Sports Academies, too – ideal for football and netball lovers – allowing sports-mad All-Stars aged 7-14 to hone their sporting skills over a fun-filled two day camp session.

Rated Outstanding by Ofsted, Atlas Camps specialises in multi-activity clubs for children aged 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.

- Ofsted-rated 'Outstanding'
- Childcare vouchers accepted from a variety of providers
- Early drop-off/ late pick-up options
- Sibling discount available
- Multi-activity and sport-specific camps available

For further information, please watch [this video](#) or check the attached poster.

Head to the Atlas Camps website at www.atlascamps.co.uk to book our multi-activity camps. Atlas Camps Academies can be found at <https://www.atlascamps.co.uk/sports-camps>.

atlas camps
HERE FOR YOU IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE
EVERY SCHOOL HOLIDAY

LOTS OF HOLIDAY FUN
WITH GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S
AWARD-WINNING
CHILDCARE PROVIDER
FOR CHILDREN AGED 4 - 14*
RUNNING 8AM - 5PM DAILY

WWW.ATLASCAMPS.CO.UK
*SPECIALIST EVIS CAMPS FOR CHILDREN AGED 3+ ALSO AVAILABLE

SCAN THE QR CODE
BELOW TO JOIN THE
SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

Ofsted
Registered

CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS

Ad Government
Childcare
Choice logo

QR code

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French Club

The cost is £5.80 per session if you are interested please email admin@clubs4kids.com to register your child's details so that they can be included in the register for after half term:



FRENCH CLUBS
learn a language whilst having fun!

FRENCH CLUBS TO INSPIRE CHILDREN'S LOVE OF LANGUAGES AND BUILD THEIR CONFIDENCE THROUGH STORY-TELLING, GAMES, SONGS, COOKING, CRAFT & FUN ACTIVITIES

ST MARYS TETBURY
TUESDAYS
12.30 - 1PM
YEAR 1 & 2

Book a taster session or for more information about our weekly zoom clubs contact Anna-Kate on 07375306881 admin@clubs4kids.com

Term time school clubs - packed full of fun activities!

Club de Cuisine - learn to cook real French dishes - weekly zoom lessons

Holiday Clubs - spend the day immersed in French with cooking, craft, sport & drama

Zoom French clubs - for those who prefer to continue learning from home

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Community

Tetbury Library

What's On at the Library Guide: We also have a range of upcoming events for both children and adults at our sites across the county. Events are open to everyone, membership isn't required. Our January – March dates can be found here in this online magazine: [What's On at The Library January - March 2024 by Gloucestershire Libraries - Issuu](#)



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Community

St Mary's Church are holding their Sunday morning services temporarily in the school hall every Sunday until Sunday 11th February. The service begins at 10am and lasts about an hour.

All are welcome

The last service in the school hall will be Sunday 11th February.

We are doing this as we are seeking a little respite from the cold in the depths of winter and to explore further what it means to be church together.

Lots will be familiar.

LITTLE FISHES (our Sunday school) continues to meet ... and there's tea & coffee after the service

So please do come along and join us in the school hall!!


Poppy, Steve and Pauline



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GIRLS ONLY RUGBY DAY


£FREE @ TETBURY RUGBY CLUB £FREE





**NEW TO RUGBY OR FANCY GIVING IT A GO,
COME ALONG TO OUR GIRLS ONLY SESSIONS.**






TETBURY GIRLS RUGBY IS FLOURISHING

TWO ESTABLISHED TEAMS BOTH HAVING GREAT SEASONS

**DEDICATED & EXPERIENCED GIRLS ONLY COACHES
FIRST AID TRAINED, WITH REFEREEING QUALS**



TO BOOK CONTACT
LEONHORTON82@GMAIL.COM

GIRLS (YR 5 & 6) – 9AM - 10AM
GIRLS (YR 7 & 8) – 10AM - 3PM

**THURS 15TH FEB
2024**

**NEW GIRLS ONLY TEAM (YR 5 & 6) – TRAINING
STARTING WED 20TH MARCH**

**TETBURY RFC,
THE REC,
16 HAMPTON STREET,
TETBURY
GL8 8JN**

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Families Gloucestershire Magazine

Please follow the link to the next issue of [Families Gloucestershire Magazine Jan/Feb 2024](#) ;

Our Jan/Feb 2024 issue is packed full of useful information for parents including:

- How to make pancakes downloadable
- The importance of art in curriculum
- Best new books for kids around the world
- Helping your child with spelling
- and much more.....

