



## Newsletter - February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

The February half term holiday is the halfway point in the school year and it's already been a busy year with lots more to come in the second half of the year.

May I firstly thank everyone at St. Mary's for their very warm welcome this week as I start my new role as the Head of School. I am working hard at learning as much as I can as quickly as I can and that includes everyone's name. This is my challenge! Thank you too for your warm welcome. I am really looking forward to working at St. Mary's and building on all of the great work that has been going on.

### World Book Day

World Book Day is coming up again and this year it is on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**.



**WORLD BOOK DAY**

We would like to invite all of the children to dress up as their favourite book character for the day. The children will have a fun day with lots of book related activities.

Children will also be bringing home a blank piece of bunting. We would like them to decorate the bunting on the theme of reading. Maybe they could draw their favourite character, copy their favourite book cover...etc...etc... Be creative! **We would ask for the completed bunting to be returned on World Book Day so that we can then put it together to go up in the school.** It would be fantastic to see everyone completing a piece of bunting for the display.

### Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is also coming up too. This year it is on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. We like to support these national events whilst also thinking about other worthwhile charities and so, across the USF we will be raising money on the day and then sharing it between Red Nose Day and the 'Toilet Twinning' charity which supports the provision of clean and safe toilets for communities in the third world. For more information take a look at [www.toilettwinning.org](http://www.toilettwinning.org).



At the moment some of the toilets in school are already twinned but we still have some needing to be paired up.

We'd like the children to think 'FUNNY' and 'RED' for Comic Relief. As well as their red noses, what outfits can you find that are either 'funny' or 'red'? Can you even find an outfit that is 'funny AND red'?

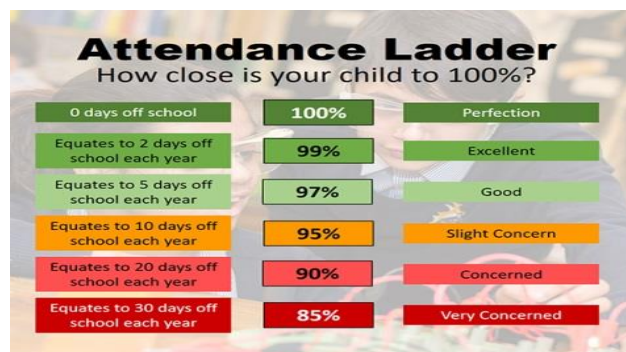
See what you can come up with and we look forward to having a fun day in school. Please can we ask for a minimum donation of £1, but of course, we'd love more if you can!

Many thanks for your support with our fundraising.

### Holidays

Can I please remind you that if you are planning on taking your children out of school for a holiday you will need to complete an 'Absence Request Form (S2)', which is available from the school office. We are unable to authorise any holidays unless there is an exceptional circumstance that you make us aware of on the form. A significant amount of unauthorised absence may make you liable to a penalty notice for each child.

Please work with us to make sure that your child has good school attendance.



### And finally...A message from Mr. Arnold.

Welcome back, I hope that everyone had a great half term and have all returned ready and raring to go.

I just wanted to say a huge thank you for all the kind words, cards and gifts at the end of last half term and for making my last day at St Mary's so special. The school is a wonderful place to have been a part of and I will always look back fondly at the time I spent there. I would like to thank the staff and yourselves for all of the support through the last year and, most importantly of all, the children for making St. Mary's such a special and welcoming place.

I know I leave the school in safe hands with Mr Clements and look forward to hearing about its continuing journey.

Best wishes,

Jon Arnold

## Dates

<b>March</b>	
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Bigbury House non-uniform day
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 to Marlton - PSHE event
<b>April</b>	
Week of 1 <sup>st</sup>	Parents Evening - Days TBC
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Class Photographs
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Spring Term
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	First Day of Summer Term

Regards,

Adrian Clements

Head of School

World Book Day - bunting

