

**St Mary's Church of England Primary School**  
**Newsletter No. 28 April 20th 2016**



Dear Parents, Guardians and Parishioners,

On behalf of all of the staff and children we would like to welcome the new children who have joined us recently including Amia, Skye, Joseph, Grace, Lola, Oliver, Noah, Erica, Lucy and Tilly. We hope you feel welcomed and supported as you begin your first few weeks of school.

**Our School Value for this term:**

Our value that we are exploring in Assemblies and in class assemblies focuses on **Perseverance.** We are going to explore with the children, examples of people who have shown grit and perseverance despite challenges. All of the key stage 2 pupils will be asked just before half term to interview someone in their family who has shown grit despite various challenges.

**Dates for your diary:**

Year5/6 Cricket Club – Thursdays after school until 4:15pm

Home School Project Day– April 25<sup>th</sup>

**Class Photos April 27<sup>th</sup> – please make sure children come to school in their smartest uniform!**

Bank Holiday – May 2<sup>nd</sup>

KS2 STATS – W/C May 9<sup>th</sup>

PTA FILM NIGHT – May 13<sup>th</sup>

U9 Cricket Festival – Casterton May 18<sup>th</sup>

Year5/6 Cricket Inter School Tournament

SPORTS DAY (Weather permitting) May 25<sup>th</sup>

CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN – June 7<sup>th</sup>

Hawes End Residential - June 9<sup>th</sup>

Athletics Tournament – Casterton June 9<sup>th</sup>

Queen's Official Birthday Celebrations June 10<sup>th</sup>

**E SAFETY – Parent controls**

We are regularly revisiting the issue of e safety to ensure that parents are supported in trying to keep our children safe whilst online. Recently a parent has reminded us of the police warnings regarding online gaming eg Minecraft which has raised concerns with child safety and chatting to others online. On our school website we have a whole page of advice

booklets for Facebook, Instagram etc. and also how to ensure children are using the internet safely. We will continue to maintain our teaching on this issue in PSHE and Computing lessons. <http://www.stmarys-kl.cumbria.sch.uk/e-safety/>

### **Year 6 – SATS and HAWES END**

Well done to our Year 6 children. I have been talking to the teachers who have noticed a noticeable improvement in the children's confidence for children who have clearly had a good Easter break but who have also been preparing for the SATS. Well Done!

Please note - could parents please think about the need to complete the balance of payments for this residential as we draw closer to the Hawes End visit.

### **Well Done**



- Congratulations to Neve who has received another Blue Peter Badge! Very impressive Neve.
- Congratulations to Kelsey who has achieved a Merit in her Grade 2 Ballet Exam – Very Well done!
- Congratulations to Esmee who competed in Ireland gaining a *silver* in a recent International Judo competition. What this space as she heads off to Sweden for another competition!

### **Hedgehogs**

Cumbria Wildlife Trust is launching a new survey website <http://hedgehogs.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk/> which is asking the general public to record sightings of hedgehogs in Cumbria. As part of this, those submitting sightings or signing up to receive emails, will receive a series of emails (one a month for six months) on what they can do to help hedgehogs in their gardens.

### **Values consultation:**

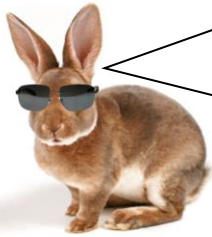
Thank you to everyone who contributed to our consultation about which values we should have as a school. We have collated these and we are now discussing these with the Governors and staff. We will share these with you in the near future.

### **Radio 2 – 500 Words Competition**

Please do go onto the Radio 2 500 Words competition to hear the top 50 stories being read out.

Please note attached is our SPAG (Spelling Punctuation and Grammar) chart which was given out before Easter. We have attached this again if you are new to school or did not receive it. I hope you find it helpful. It covers all of the knowledge and vocabulary required as children progress through school.

Word of the week:



**Gimcrack**

**meaning – showy but useless**

Just as Mr. Farquar's house was gone, replaced by a **gimcrack** sort of castle that was the weekend home of some people from Toronto.

Have a lovely weekend. Mr Jones

