



# St Mary's Newsletter



January 2017



*Welcome back and Happy New Year*

*All the staff would like to wish you and your families a happy, healthy New Year. We would also like to thank you for your generosity and kind gifts at Christmas. It is a busy half term with lots to look forward to.*



In the event of snow closure, a decision will be made by 7.15am and you will be contacted by text message very soon after that time. Please ensure all mobile numbers are up-to-date with the office.



## **POPPY APPEAL**

Thank you to everyone who supported the Poppy Appeal this year. The school raised £476.42



## **R E News**

Once again the staff raised money for Cafod rather than exchanging Christmas Cards. We managed to raise enough for four school starter packs and three Teach someone to read packs! Last term KS2 classes were welcomed to Mass in Church and this will continue this term. As a way to strengthen links with other Catholic schools, Mr Pearce, Mrs Cartwright and Mrs Cox attended a play at Bury St Edmunds set in the Holocaust about a former pupil. Please come to our own assembly about this horrific event on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January.



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## Friends of St Mary's - News

### 100 Club

So far this year, the 100 club has raised £282 for the school. The results of the December draw performed by Mrs Pearce and Mrs O'Toole are:

	December 2016	
1st prize	2	No winner*
2nd prize	99	No winner*
3rd prize	8	No winner*

\* Winnings rolled-over to January prize fund.

With eight draws left, there is still plenty of time to join and be entered in January's bumper roll-over. Prices are now £8 per number. You can pick up a 100 club form from the school office.

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Thank you to everyone who has registered for easyfundraising. It's been just over a month since it was launched and you'll already raised £117 for the school.

If you are a regular on-line shopper or have some on-line big purchases planned (e.g. holidays) please do sign up. All you have to do is:

Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/HE3K18/> The school is listed as St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Royston. Every time you want to buy something on-line go to easyfundraising, find the site you want and start shopping. When you check out the school will get a donation.

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Finally, just a reminder that the next Friends meeting will be taking place on Thursday 19 January at 8.pm in the Old Bull.



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## ESafety Week 6-10<sup>th</sup> February 2017

At St Mary's we are very proud of the work we do with the children about how to stay safe online and visitors have been impressed with how confident the children are in explaining what they would do if they were upset by something they had seen online and how to protect themselves.

We use a variety of resources throughout the school from Nursery to Year 6, I have added a few of the links below for you to look at and discuss with your children if you would like to.

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/teachers/ks1/sources/projet/The-Adventures-of-Smartie-the-Penguin.pdf> - Nursery to Year 2

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/beingsmart/> - Year 1 to 4

<https://vimeo.com/29383001> - Year 3 to 6

<https://vimeo.com/85674695> - Year 4 to 6

On **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February**, Richard Maskrey, the Hertfordshire ESafety Advisor, will be working with the whole school to remind them about being safe online. At **2-3.15pm** he will be running a parent session to speak to you about the latest dangers facing children online. I attend his updates every six months and every time I do the latest websites or apps being used has changed. Last year when we offered this meeting to parents, sadly only a handful came, but I would like to share with you some of their feedback below which I believe explains how valuable attending the session could be.

- I found the ESafety evening to be very useful (and a bit scary!). Before the meeting a number of us thought that we were pretty clued up and that our internet protection was comprehensive enough to protect our kids. Richard soon dispelled those thoughts! I cannot emphasise how important it is for everyone to attend this training each year.
- First of all thank you for organising such an interesting evening (shame it can't be made compulsory for every parent to attend!)
- It was particularly interesting hearing about statistics for Royston and Hertfordshire as sometimes I think we live in a little bubble and believe that certain things will never affect us. Richard brought it home that these problems are happening everywhere - including Royston
- I learnt a lot even though I thought I was quite IT literate and there were useful tips for **controlling but not denying access to information**
- I will definitely go back next time this session is offered
- The e-safety evening was both interesting and valuable, thanks to a speaker who really knew his stuff

If you have any questions or concerns about E Safety, please feel free to speak to Mrs Pearce or myself. There is also information available on the school website, as well as the latest Herts ESafety Newsletter for parents.

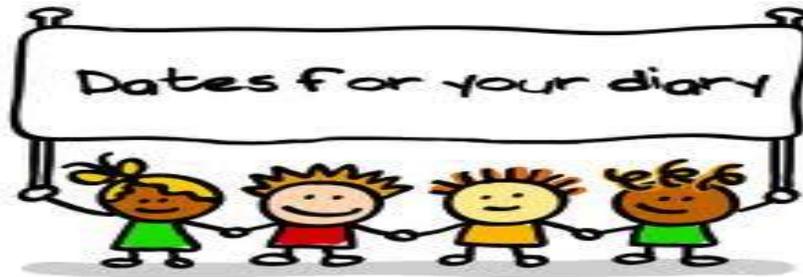
Thank you, Mrs Cooke



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## DATES

Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Y6 Pantomime, parents welcome Dress Rehearsal, 11am Performance, 1.30pm
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Holocaust Assembly, parents welcome. Please note this is not suitable for pre-school children, 2.30pm
Weds 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Y3 Burwell House Trip
Week Beginning 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	E Safety week.
Feb	E Safety talk to parents by the Herts Safety Advisor, Richard Maskrey, 2 – 3.15pm
Weds 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parents Evening, 6-8pm
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parents Evening, 3.30 – 5.30pm
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Country Dancing Day (Children only) <b>End of half term, 3.15pm</b>

## Half Term 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February

Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School re-opens at 8.50am
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# ***The Pride of Royston*** ***Announcing ...***

## ***The Pride of Royston Talent Showcase***

**Raising money for the Town Mayor's Charity;  
Royston Town Mayor's Community Trust Fund**  
*(Supporting local Clubs & Organisations)*

**To be held on Saturday 25th February at the  
Royston Town Hall**

**Singers, comedians, dancers, musicians, etc  
are invited to enter for a chance to perform!**

**Please email  
vice-chair@creativeroyston.org  
by 27th January for details**

**In association with Creative  
Royston and Royston Town Council**

