



St Mary's Newsletter



March 2018



During this fourth week of lent we strive forward in hope knowing our smallest effort is precious to the Lord. Thank you for your patience during the adverse weather, the children have been fabulous as always.



Lent is a time of preparation. In school we prepare by praying and coming together on a Tuesday afternoon. On Fridays we are reminded of Jesus' final journey before crucifixion when KS2 celebrate Stations of the Cross. Almsgiving is another important preparation and your children will soon be asking you to sponsor them for an activity. All monies will go to Mission Together who are supporting people in Sri Lanka.

You will be proud to know that our Year 6 pupils will lead Stations of the Cross in Church on 16th and 23rd March after the 9.15am Mass.

New Library Area

We have recently refurbished our library area to bring the outdoor environment indoors and to encourage reading and the love of books. Children are using the area now. The first children are pictured below with our Book Day Characters from Monday. They are all enjoying reading in style and comfort.



This project has only been possible thanks to your continued generosity and support of the Friends events. Enormous thanks from everyone at the school.



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100 CLUB - You need to be in it to win it!

The results of the March 2018 draw are as follows:

Drawn by Julia Pearce & Sharon O'Toole

	March 18		Prize
1st prize	13	Anthony Moran	£20.23
2nd prize	30	No winner*	£12.14
3rd prize	94	No winner*	£ 8.09

* Winnings rolled-over to the April draw

Well done to Anthony Moran! If you'd like to join the 100 club, you can pick up an application form from the school office.

Swimathon!

A big 'Thank You' to the St Mary's staff members who took part in the Swimathon for St Mary's and Homestart on Sunday. A whopping £1,450 has been raised so far and will be split equally between the school and Homestart.

It is not too late to donate, please contact the school office or on-line at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/ellachapman1>. The staff took part in the Swimathon in memory of Margaret Murray, a former TA at St Mary's who also did a lot of work for Home-Start and we thought it would be very fitting to take part in her memory as well as raising money for this charity and our school.





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NEWS FROM THE GOVERNORS

Balancing the budget – new challenges



It's about this time of year when the school starts putting together the budget for the next academic year.

For quite a number of years now, all schools have been asked to do more with the same amount of money.

A recent proposal has been put forward to award pay increases for teachers and support staff ranging from 2% to 9%. **The governors support fair pay increases for teachers but without the corresponding increases in government funding we will have a significant shortfall in our budget.**

The school works hard to live within our means and operate a sustainable budget. Nevertheless any extra funds we receive mean that we can focus our main budget on the teaching provision yet still enrich the education using these extra funds.

We appreciate everything you do, as parents and carers, to help the school and encourage you to continue supporting the Friends of St Mary's in arranging and participating in their fundraising activities. It really does make a big difference to the children.

If you feel able to, you can also make donations directly to the school either as a one-off or regular standing order payments. Please contact the school office if you'd like to know more.



*To learn more about who the governors are, what they do, and how to get in touch:
please visit <https://www.stmarysroyston.co.uk/our-school/governors>*



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The Friends of St Mary's News

We would like to welcome everyone to spring and send a special thank you to all the bakers and helpers at the Year 1 cake sale, it raised over £80 for the school.

All fundraising is going towards the development of outdoor learning activities. The long term plans are to create both an Amphitheatre and a small Farm, it's anticipated that around £20,000 is needed to achieve this goal.

We would like to thank you for your support and remind you of up and coming events:

- 8th & 9th March **Mothers Day sale, Gazebo, 15:15**
- 21st March **Fun Day Planning Meeting, The Banyers, 20:00**
(We urge anyone who is willing to help on the 7th July or in the run up to the event to attend. We need you!)
- 23rd March **Infant Party, School Hall, 15.30 to 17.30**
(With Mr Stripey Wipey, £5 per child. Tickets on sale now from your class representative.)
- 28 April **Kids Fashion Show, School Hall, 14:00 to 16:30**
(Models wanted, please email: friendsofstmarysroyston@gmail.com if your child is interested in participating. Please look out for the forms and photo consent letters in your child's book-bag.)
- 7th May **Royston May Fayre**
(Volunteers for the day still needed.)
- 14th & 15th June **Father's Day sale , 15:15, Gazebo**
(Volunteers needed from 15:00 to 15.45, if you're able to help please email friendsofstmarysroyston@gmail.com)
- Sat 7th July **Family Fun Day, 13:30 to 16:30**
(Volunteers required organising, running stalls and helping on the day.)
- Fri 21st Sept **AGM 20:00, School Hall**

Other ways you can help:

-If booking a holiday with Abbott's travel don't forget to mention St Mary's; £50 will be donated to the school for every holiday booked!

-If shopping online please use easyfundraising.co.uk website as this is another way to raise money for the school at no extra cost to you.

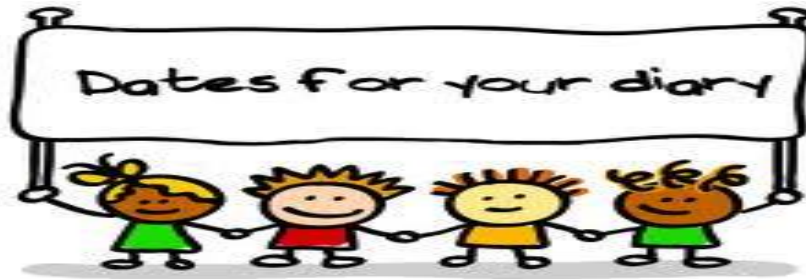
We look forward to seeing you soon, From The Friends of St Mary's



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DATES

Thursday 8th March

Friday 9th March

Sunday 11th March

Friday 16th March

Wednesday 21st March

Thursday 22nd March

Friday 23rd March

Monday 26th March

Thursday 29th March

Friends Mother's Day sale

Friends Mother's Day sale

Sir Oliver Heald MP Assembly, 9.15am

Choir, Royal Albert Hall

Year 6 Mass in Church

Stations of the Cross

Friends, Fun-Day planning meeting, 8pm The Banyers.

Tag Rugby Festival Years 3 & 4

Year 6 Mass in Church

Stations of Cross (to wear uniform then change)

Sport relief Non-Uniform day (sport theme)

Infant Party, 3.30 - 5.30pm, School Hall

Passion Play, Years 3 & 4, 2pm, parents welcome

Stations of Cross Y6, School Hall, 2.15pm, parents welcome

School Finishes 2.45pm

Easter Holidays 30th March - 13th April inclusive

Monday 16th April

School re-opens at 9.50am

Year 4 Phasels Wood

Thursday 19th April

Mass in school, 9.15am

Chocolate



Thursday 29th March

4.30pm to 6.00pm

Coombes Community Centre
Burns Road, Royston, SG8 5PT

Come and start the Easter Holidays
with fun for all the family!

No tickets needed just 50p a card for games
Tuck shop available and Tea/Coffee/Cake

All children must be accompanied by an Adult

For further information please contact
01763 262262 admin@hsrsc.org.uk



**Fund-raiser for
HOME-START ROYSTON &
SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE**
Charity No. 1105385