



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Thursday 22nd October 2015

### New School Uniform

A reminder that the Governors would like to offer a FREE new sweatshirt or cardigan to every child whose parents complete a free school meals form. This is open to every family—whether you think you are eligible for free school meals or not.

If you don't have a form, please ask Ms Cahill or Ms Lo in the school office. You have until December 18th (last day of term) to complete it, in order to receive your new item of school uniform in January.

We have also sent out a consultation before we finalise the uniform design with the suppliers. It is very important to us that everyone is proud of our school uniform, so please do tell us if you have comments to make. Responses can be submitted to the school office up until Friday 6th November.

### Dates for November

➔ **Monday 2nd November: First day of term**

➔ **Wednesday 11th November: Open Day for new parents** 10am and 6pm—featuring performances from our school choir. Please invite your friends and neighbours to come and find out about our school.



➔ **Friday 13th November: Child in Need day**  
Children can dress up as a superhero of their choice to raise money for Children in Need (please bring in a £1 donation).

Please use your imaginations—the more unusual, the better! There will be prizes for the children who have the most creative superhero names and costumes. We don't expect anyone to go out and buy a costume; it's the idea that counts, not how fancy the costume is 😊 There will also be a **DISCO** organized by the Friends after school. This will cost 50p, and children must be accompanied by an adult.

### Golden Assemblies:

Friday 6th November—Y1

Friday 13th November—F2

Friday 20th November—F1

### School Improvement Priorities

We are very pleased with the progress we have been making at St Mary's towards achieving Good at our next Ofsted. We are also looking at what the school needs to do to be Outstanding.

Therefore, our priorities for this year are:

- Sharing our new vision of 'Excellence with Compassion' with the whole community—this includes helping children to achieve in all areas of the curriculum
- Securing good attendance for **all** children
- Helping all children to achieve as highly as possible in Maths (we are using schemes such as 'Inspire Maths' from Singapore and 'Maths & Drama' workshops to make Maths even more relevant and fun)
- Changing the way we assess children, to match the new national curriculum
- Promoting 'British Values' and our school's Christian values with the whole community
- Securing as much 'outstanding' teaching as possible

There is more information about this on our website.

Ways parents can help are:

- *talk to your child about our school vision, values and golden rules*
- **make sure your child comes to school on time every day**
- *help your child with his/her homework, and ask the school for support if you would like it*
- *look at the Topic Webs and curriculum plans the teachers send home (and at the curriculum maps on our website) and research topics in advance to enhance your child's learning*
- *come to one of our parent workshops about how to help your child with: Maths, Reading, online safety, road safety...*
- *tell us straightaway if you have a problem, so we can help you sort it out as soon as possible*

Thank you!

Have a great half term. All best wishes,  
**Emily Norman—Headteacher**