Welcome to our newsletter. We hope that you had a lovely, relaxing half term and are settling back into the second leg of our Spring term. Spring couldn't feel further away, with cold snaps being forecast for the week ahead. Please make sure your child is sent to school with the appropriate warm clothing and footwear.

"Be humble and gentle in every way. Be patient with each other and lovingly accept each other.†Ephesians 4:2"

Collective Worship

This week in Collective Worship we have been discussing our new value: acceptance. We thought about Lent and how we could fast from our wrong choices and be more accepting of others. We discussed being more accepting with our friends, our family and our loved ones. What will you be accepting of this week?
MUFTI DAY
On 16th March 2018, we will be holding a mufti day. This time, instead of bringing in money, we kindly ask you to bring in a chocolate bar to donate for our Chocolate Bingo night! Please give these chocolate bars to your child’s teacher on this day.

CHOCOLATE BINGO
This year, we will be holding our Chocolate Bingo event on 23rd March. Please keep your eyes peeled for more information on this in the next newsletter!

GET FIT FRIDAY
On 23rd March 2018, we will be holding another mufti day, but this time, we would like you to come dressed head-to-toe in sports gear! This is in aid of Sports Relief and we will be running fitness activities throughout the day.

EQUIPMENT FOR THE PLAYGROUND
Our plan this year is to buy some new equipment for the playground. We can only do this through your help and support through the PTFA organised events. Please come along to any PTFA organised events and show your support!

THANK YOU
Thank you to everyone who came along to the disco, it was lovely to spend an evening with the children. Without your continued support, these events wouldn’t be possible, so thank you. Keep your eyes peeled to find out how much money we made in the next newsletter! Thank you to Tristram Tomlinson from PC Discos and Paul Stacey from SPS Elec Ltd. for your donations of the disco and glow accessories. Without you it wouldn’t have been possible!

MOTHER’S DAY SALE
The Mother’s Day Sale will be held on 8th and 9th March. Children can bring £1 to spend on these days and buy a lovely treat for their important female role model. You can find more information about this in the newsletter.
Review of Safer Internet Day 2018 #SID2018

This year’s Safer Internet Day was on Tuesday 6th February and was titled ‘Create, Connect and share respect: A better internet starts with you! The theme encourages young people to work together to be positive, safe and respectful online.

During a whole school assembly, we thought about how we connect with our friends and family online and thought about the effect our behaviour online can have on our own feelings, and the feelings of other people.

We discussed what the key ingredients are to feel happy and good about ourselves online?

We agreed:
• Sharing things with each other to cheer our friends up or make them laugh
• Making positive choices online
• Knowing what to do if something goes wrong
• Taking regular breaks from the internet
• Checking with others before about the things we share.

We also agreed we can be a good friend to others online by:
• Supporting our friends online and helping them if they need it.
• Being respectful even if you disagree with someone online.
• Asking before you send or share something that involves another person.
• Sharing positive, kind things online that will make other people feel happy.
• Asking for help if you are ever unsure about something online.

For more information visit:
www.saferinternet.org.uk

Mr Maddams
ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY

Congratulations!

Well done to all the children below who were nominated by their class teachers to receive Achievement Awards. Please encourage your children to keep up the good work.

Kyson Maher  Evie Smart  Joe Nicell-Foster  Joshua Richards
Lexie Coales  Leo Lumsden  Alfie-Lee Andrews  Keegan Lewis
Zion Thompson  Luca Oliver  Emily Wilson  Billie Manning
Evie Cheaney  Bella Threadgold  Lyla Gray

BEHAVIOUR AWARDS

Congratulations must also go to the children who were picked as great role models for the school. These are:

Billie Manning  Jake Mitchell  Alfie Coles  Logan North
Brandon Groves  Charlie Toppin  Latifah Masoud  Ellie Richards
Elle Clark  Samuel McNab  Aidan Currall  Lily-Ann Mulan
Keera Gray  Kylie Wooding  Riley Wood  Finley Bannard-Howes
Riley Wood  Christian Brock  Sofia Massimo  Meadow Bannard-Howes
Harlow Franklin  Benjamin Haynes  Macie Tomlinson  Harvey Lawson
Mason Edwards  Bella Threadgold  Abigail Innard  Alfie Church
Elsa Nicell-Foster  Daniel Borrett  Emmie Nash  Keziah Swift
Phebe Kilbourn-Wagg  Lily-Grace Fabian  Emily Cooper  Zoe Simmonds
Summer North  Radek Radomyski

HOME ACHIEVEMENTS

It’s so wonderful to see children outside of school as well as inside. Well done to the following children for their out of school achievements.

Jayden Gotts—Just started modern dancing
Emily Wells—Stage 2 swimming certificate
Mia Barnett—Best dancer at street dance club
Emir Salim—Kick boxing trophy
Alfie Coles—Man of the Match—saving the scoring goal
George Simmonds—1 of only 40 chosen to represent Northamptonshire in basketball squad
Boccia Competitors—Alfie Coles, William Whitenett-Cann, Ryland Cooke, James Wakefield, Paul Jones, Lucas Richards and Chloe Mercer
Nicole Short and Kaci Wilson—Swimming award
Layk Maher—Football with PR Sports
Holly and Emily Wilson—Cheerleading
Abby Pither—Street dance trophy
Keziah Swift—Gymnastics
READING CHALLENGE

We have raised the importance of reading at school and now need your help at home. Each week we expect the children to read between 3 and 5 times a week and for you to put comments in their reading records. The reading records will be checked once a week by the class teachers and the average score is then taken to Collective Worship. The winning class will be awarded a trophy to keep for the week.

Over the last fortnight, the trophy was won by:-

Mrs Baker’s Bonsais with a score of 5.6 reads

GOLDEN TABLE

Well done to the following children who (for exceptional behaviour) got the chance to sit at the Golden Table and enjoy lunch with Miss Whitlock. The children also got to experience waiter and waitress service from the catering team.

Mason Webb-Parker    Miley MacDonald    Kayden Cole    Eleanor Donlevy
Riley Granger         Violet Draper       Riley Molcher   Abby Pither
Alexis Barrow         Jude Roberts         Lexie Coales    Robert Bloomfield

100 % ATTENDANCE

We wanted to share with you that other the last couple of weeks, 2 classes have won the 100%attendance trophy. We are very pleased with this and thank all the parents for encouraging your children to come into school and not miss 1 single day. We know it can be hard because children do get poorly, but if we can all limit the amount of time the children miss school through doctors appointments and medical appointments, we may one day have a whole school of 100% attendance.

A very big well done to every child in the following classes:

Miss Anderson’s Birches    Mrs Simpson’s Silver Birches

If your child is off poorly for any reason please can you follow up your phone call to school with a letter on the first day they are back in.
Northamptonshire Winter Games Boccia Finals

Team A started well but we rushed in our first game, rolling the ball a bit too fast without thinking. Then we missed some chances in our second game by throwing the Boccia balls too hard missing the jack (white target ball). James did well by laying shots to block our opponent’s turns. Alfie and Paul improved and threw the ball closer to the jack. The third game was best game for us we drew 5-5, we blocked well and got close to the jack. I was happy that we kept on going, trying our best even if we were behind. We persevered and showed respect to our opponents. We finished in 4th place in our group.

Team B worked as a team to take it in turns with Ryland acting as team captain. The young leaders gave them stickers for teamwork and self-belief. Lucas was very accurate as we won our first game 4-2. We won our second game with 2 great shots form Chloe and Ryland. Ryland said “I really enjoyed working as a team to try and win!” We won 5-3. We narrowly lost our next game finishing in joint 2nd but missing out on the semi-finals on points difference!

I would like thank Mr Maddams, Miss Watson and Chloe from Southfields for supporting us. Also thanks to our parents for coming along and cheering us.

By Alfie Coles, Year 5
Archery Interview with Lucie Sanday

Lucie Sanday a local archer who trains with a club based here in Burton Latimer. She competes at a national level and has recently earned her Master Bowman rank (meaning she is a very good archer). She gives up her time to volunteer with our Friday archery club here at St Mary’s. The club is open to any Year 5 or 6 child and are currently preparing for an upcoming competition. If you are interested ask Mr Maddams.

What do you enjoy most about archery?
I find archery relaxing and feels it improves my social and archery skills.

What inspired you to start and carry on archery?
I wanted to try something new and unique. It is also great meeting new people and learning from them.

How long have you been doing archery?
I have been doing archery for 4 years and plan to keep doing it for many years.

What kind of bow do you find best to use?
My favourite bow to use is recurve because it has a good sight and I get better scores with it.

Where do you do most of your archery?
I train in a few local places but at the moment I am mostly train at Montsaye in Rothwell because it is the indoor season. However for the outdoor season I do archery at a lot more places.

by Cadiya and Rachel

FUTSAL

Well done to the 7 children who attended the Futsal activities on Tuesday 20th February. These children worked as a team, were all engaged and supportive of each other and had the biggest smiles there. Well done, we are all very proud of you!

Jamie Smith, Megan-Rose Harrison Llewellyn, Abigail Innard, Emily Ambler, Lili Hartsgove, Brooke Knight and Amber Porter.
IMMERSION AFTERNOON

YEAR 1
Year 1 had great fun exploring the great fire of London through art on this term's Immersion day. We looked at 17th Century buildings and designed printing blocks and created designs on our class whiteboard.

YEAR 2
Year 2 had a very exciting start to their Victorian Britain unit when a parcel from Queen Victoria in 1894 was delivered to St. Mary’s! Inside were a range of Victorian toys and treats, from jam tarts to ginger nut biscuits and wooden merry-go-rounds to old teddy bears; we even saw some photos of Miss Price’s Victorian relatives! We experienced what life was like and the food that would have been eaten in Victorian Britain. We learnt about the amazing life of Florence Nightingale and how she helped others. We also created collages of Florence Nightingale, finishing with our Year 2 Florence Nightingale masterpiece!

YEAR 3
The Mystery of History! The children enjoyed carefully excavating soil to find Stone Age through to Celtic artefacts. Some were broken and some were whole. The children rescued these finds and discussed the stories behind what they were, what they were used for and why they had become broken. The children could then use these artefacts to create a time line of early man. The following afternoon the children looked closer at the Stone Age and Skara Brae, in the Orkney Isles. What had caused all the people to flee suddenly, leaving their possessions behind? Year 3 linked their learning with two new stories they will look more closely at during the term. We know that there have been many Stone Age, Bronze and Iron Age finds found in the area and have encouraged the children to look more closely around them, so don't be surprised if they ask to dig up a bit of the garden!
**YEAR 4**

Year 4 had fun during their immersion days. They found out about the vicious Vikings' longships. Great skill and resilience was shown when they made their own longship models. They designed their own templates, including their own dragon head prows and refined their ships with impressive sails and shields.

**YEAR 6**

Year 6 were lucky enough to have a whole two days of immersion this week. During their first immersion day, they were transformed into time travellers and were firstly given the task of designing their own TARDIS. Using these time machines the children were transported to the 1950s where they learnt to Jive. On the Second immersion day, the children were asked to imagine what it would be like to meet the real Dr Who and go time travelling with him. After a fun filled morning of drama, they then wrote the beginning of their own story. Here is one of those stories by Stanley Matthews:

**Doctor Who**  
*Chapter 1*  
*Chased*

Everything is swirling around me and we're being chased by a strange creature with flailing tentacles and hundreds of eyes (the doctor said they're called Narglaches). He is dragging me to what he calls his home - a navy blue, rusty, worn down police box that is sitting in the middle of the patterned town square. As the doctor rips his electrum plated sonic screwdriver from his cobalt coloured coat, I circle the decaying wooden structure wondering if this person is mad. Surely only an eccentric crackpot would think that you could live in such cramped space. He is finishing unlocking the door when a group of the gruesome creatures start crashing towards the door. Someone pulls me inside...

**Chapter 2**  
*The Tardis*

I stand in amazement as my blinded eyes take in my bright surroundings. It is bigger on the inside than the outside. My brain nearly explodes with all the questions. Is this maniac an alien? How is this possible? What kind of onions did that chef put on my burger? The walls are covered in a mismatch organization of squares, diamonds, triangles and circles. Each a brown, orange or black. The centerpiece of the amazing phenomenon is a large circular panel that surrounds a tube filled with strange liquid that bubbles. The Doc is saying that it was the blood of the police box. How could a police box have blood I start to wonder. "Come along now" the doctor is shouting as he starts pressing countless buttons, turning knobs and flicking levers.
NSPCC
A huge Thank You for all your support with our NSPCC speak out stay safe programme last term. Our school raised a total of £189.00 to help other children – well done! Thank you for your hard work and efforts to help the NSPCC. It costs the NSPCC £1600 to recruit and train a ChildLine counsellor who within their first year of work will help over 200 children and go on helping children year after year – and St Mary’s C of E Primary Academy have contributed towards this!

BEFORE SCHOOL
A gentle reminder that children and parents should remain outside on the playground until 8:50am when the whistle is blown. No parents or children should be inside the buildings or classrooms, unless a prior arrangement is agreed with the teacher. If you have a concern and wish to speak to your child’s teacher, please wait until the teacher is on the playground, or arrange a suitable time to meet after school. Thank you for your support with this.

MOTHER’S DAY PERFORMANCE
Please join the KS1 children at the church on Thursday 8th March 2018 at 9:30am to watch their wonderful Mother’s Day performance. There won’t be a dry eye in the house! If you would like to send a photo of your child with their female role models in, please hand the named photo to your child’s teacher by Friday 2nd March.

MOTHER’S DAY SALE
With Mother’s Day just around the corner, there will be a sale held on 8th and 9th March 2018, during school, for children to buy gifts for their important female role models. Children can bring in a £1 to spend on these days.

**EYFS, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 4 will be attending the sale on Thursday 8th March.**

**Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 will be attending the sale on Friday 9th March.**

**There will also be catch-up sessions on Friday 9th March for anyone who missed their allocated time slot.**

If you have any questions or concerns about this, please speak to your child’s teacher.

TWITTER
Please check out our St. Mary’s twitter account to see all of the exciting things happening at school! This is where you will also find updates about snow closures. Visit @st_primary for any updates!

WALK IN WEDNESDAY
The next Walk in Wednesday will be taking place on Wednesday 7th March. EYFS will be focusing their session on Maths, whilst Year 2 can tell you all about their new Creative unit, Victorian Britain. Other year groups will also be hosting general drop-ins, so come along to see what your child is learning about!

GET FIT FRIDAY
On 23rd March 2018, we will be holding a mufti day to fundraise for Sports Relief 2018. We would like you to come to school dressed head-to-toe in sports gear! We will be running various fitness activities throughout the day to get us up and moving around. Join in, have some fun and donate what you can to a good cause!
World Book Day celebrates the joy and value of books, supporting our children to develop a lifelong love of reading. As a Christian school, we would like to celebrate the importance and influence of one book in particular, the Bible. During the day we will be taking part in a range of engaging activities inspired by parables. This will involve drama, artwork, reflection time and more.

There are a few elements of the day that we would love your help with...

**Big Book Swap**
We would like to enable the children to have access to a wide range of books and are therefore asking for you to donate your pre-loved books. For each book that you donate, you will receive a ticket to choose another book to keep. If you would like to donate some books, please hand them to your class teacher by **Wednesday 28th February**. Your tickets will then be given to you on Thursday, when you will have a time slot to choose your new books.

**Big Book Breakfast**
We will start our day off with a Big Book Breakfast from 8:15am in the school hall. This involves the children spending time reading books and engaging in activities with their families. Please come and join us for some delicious croissants and juices, kindly donated and served by the PTFA.
Caught you reading!
We love to celebrate the children’s engagement in reading outside of school, so please send in any photos of you and your families caught reading. This could be any type of reading - the more creative the better! It could be your child reading an information sign at a museum, a menu at a restaurant or even road signs when going on a trip. If you haven’t got access to print these photos yourselves, please email them to emma.farrer@stmaryscebl.info so we can make sure everyone can take part.

Costume Competition
We have asked your child to dress up as their favourite character from a book. This could be inspired by any book, including the Bible, autobiographies, traditional tales, non-fiction, magazines and more! We will select one winner from each year group who will be announced in Collective Worship on Thursday afternoon. Look out for their photos in the next newsletter!

If you have any questions regarding the World Book Day events, please speak to your child’s class teacher. Thank you for your continued support.
SNOW PROCEDURE

For future snow days, please check your text messages and on the school website to see any updates about our closure. Alternatively, you can check our twitter account @st_primary for updates.

A PRESENCE ON THE PLAYGROUND

We are starting to see an increase in the amount of parents that are popping into the school office first thing in the morning before school to drop forms in. You can return forms via your child’s book bags and they will put into class trays that come up to the office. Also either Mr John Currall or Mrs Emma Simmonds will be available on the school playground from 8.45am to answer any queries or take messages at the beginning of the school day. You will be able to spot them easily as they will be wearing their Hi-Vis jackets. From 8.50am they will be located at the gate by Latimer Close. They can both take any messages and action them for you and also take any forms/medication from you.

Please do speak to whoever is out on duty to help us to free up the office space first thing in the mornings for any urgent or confidential issues only.

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING ANY CONCERNS

If you have any concerns regarding your child’s education please could we ask that you in the first instance come to the class teacher and have a chat. More and more issues are getting put on social media sites without us having the chance to investigate this issue and try and help. We would like to work with parents and pride ourselves on being very approachable and open to any concerns parents may have. If you feel the class teacher has not looked into your complaint or you are not happy with the outcome you can then go to a member of SLT (listed below) who will look into it and escalate to the Deputy or Principal if necessary.

SLT Members:-

Melanie Barron
Michelle Evans
Emma Baker
Emma Farrer

If you are still not happy with the outcome of your complaint you can then go to
Head of Governors:-

Mr Neil Dorothy
School Year Sept 2017—August 2018

Wednesday 28th February 2018—Year 6, Big Bang trip
Thursday 1st March 2018—Big Book Breakfast @ 8:15am
Thursday 1st March 2018—Word Book Day
Wednesday 7th March 2018—Walk in Wednesday
Monday 5th March—Mother’s Day practice—All school
Thursday 8th March 2018—Mother’s Day Service @ 9:30am at church (EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2)
Thursday 8th/Friday 9th March 2018—PTFA Mother’s Day Sale
Friday 16th March 2018—Mufti Day for Chocolate Bingo
Friday 23rd March 2018—Get Fit Friday
Friday 23rd March 2018—Easter Practice - All school
Friday 23rd March 2018—PTFA Chocolate Bingo
Wednesday 28th March 2018—Easter Service @ 9:30am at church (Years 3 to 6)
Thursday 29th March 2018—Training Day

Half Term Friday 30th March 2018—Friday 13th April 2018
Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th April 2018—Parents Evening

Monday May 7th 2018—Bank Holiday

Monday 28th May 2018—Bank Holiday

Half Term—Tuesday 29th May 2018—Friday 1st June 2018

End Of Year—Monday 23rd July 2018—Friday 31st August 2018