

# St Mary's RC Primary School

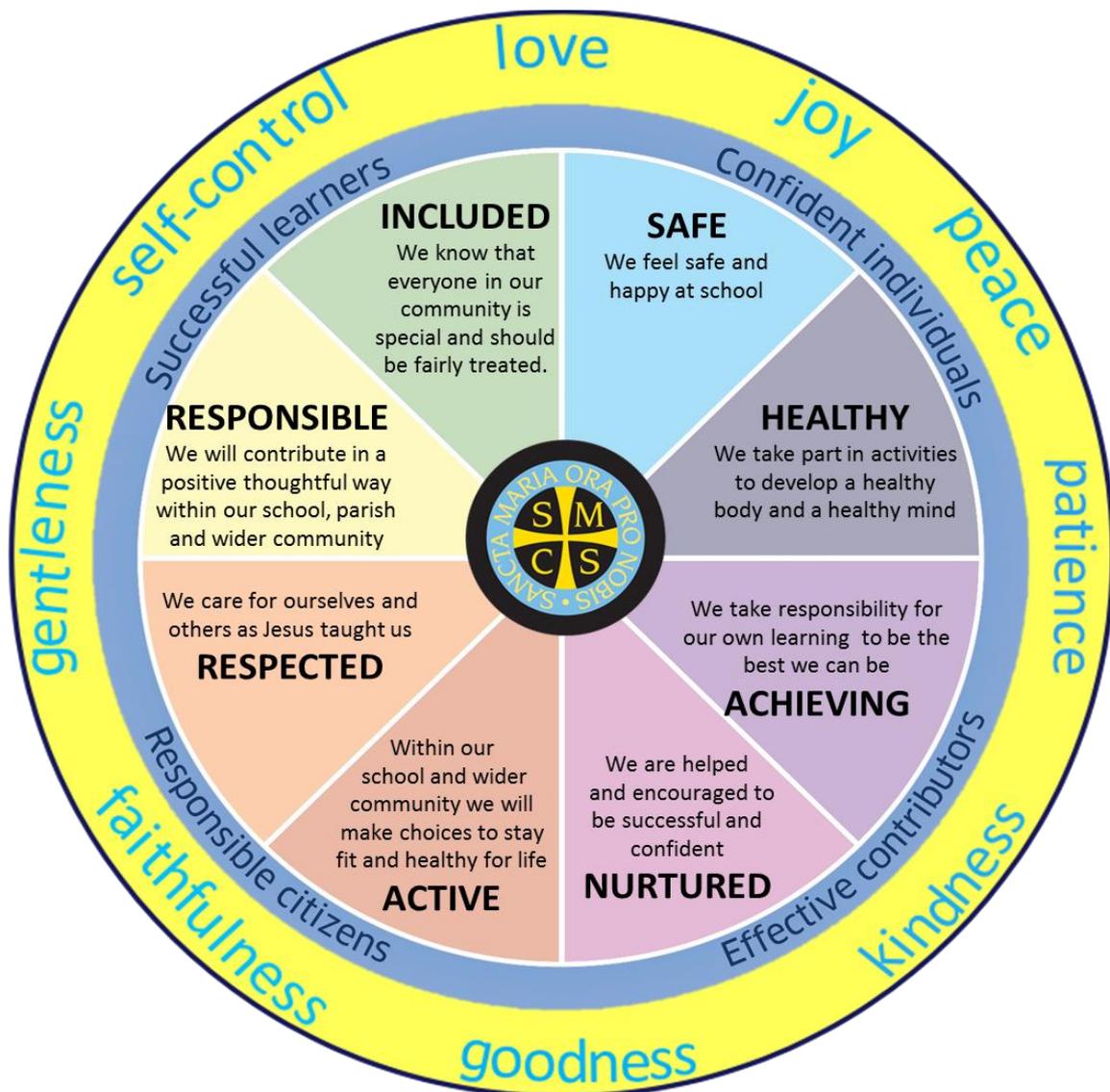
## February 2019 Newsletter

At St Mary's our vision is to work together as a strong, vibrant community to create a positive, inclusive and productive place where children will be nurtured to grow and learn; a place where all pupils, staff and parents are supported and encouraged to develop all positive opportunities in and out of school. In our school, all children will be provided with high quality and challenging learning experiences to meet their individual needs and to help them be the best they can be. In St Mary's we grow together with respect and love.

*Our School Motto: 'Respect, Cooperate, Achieve!'*

*At St Mary's our values reflect the Fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control.*

*Our aims embrace the SHANARRI principles of Getting it Right for Every Child.*





Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome back everyone. A cold and frosty start to the New Year.

## Achievements

**Ines** P1 achieved Scottish Gymnastics Level 1.

**Aifric** P4 has completed Swim Skill level 4.

**Elise** P5 came 1<sup>st</sup> in the Jump, Two, Three and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Premiership dance at the Edinburgh Irish Dancing Feis in December.

**Aoife** P5 won a medal for Gymnast of the Month at Meadowbank Gymnastics.

**Isaac** P4 achieved his first Kai at Judo.

**Lucia** P4 passed Grade 1 ballet exam with Distinction.

**Kristen** P6 took part in the City of Edinburgh Trampoline Club Championships and achieved a 1<sup>st</sup> Individual DMT, 2<sup>nd</sup> Individual Trampoline, 3<sup>rd</sup> Individual Synchronised DMT and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Synchronised Trampoline.

**Chloe** P4 is now a 9<sup>th</sup> KUP at Taekwon-do and has achieved Grade 1 Ballet.

**Chloe** P6 received medals for participating in 2 football tournaments and a Footsole tournament.

**Kate** P5 was awarded a trophy for Pupil of the Week at Judo.

**Alex** P7 raised £12 for Chest, Heart & Stroke Scotland.

**Massimo** P6 achieved his Red Tab in Karate.

**Ava** P7 passed her Advanced Butterfly skills in Swimming.

**Gabia** P4 achieved Scottish Gymnastics Level 3 Certificate.

**Ailie** P6 and **Lily** P5 both achieved Yellow Belt, 8<sup>th</sup> KUP in Taekwon-do

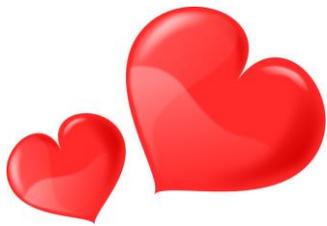
**Edvinas** P7 has achieved 8<sup>th</sup> KUP in Taekwon-do

**WELL DONE** to everyone and remember, if your child has achieved something outside school do let us know so we can celebrate with them.



## DIARY DATES

FEB			APR		
Thur	07	PTA Valentine Party	Fri	05	Break for holiday
Fri	08	Break for holiday	Tue	23	All return
Mon	18	Staff in-service/Pupil holiday	Tue	30	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Tue	19	Pupils return			
Thur	21	PTA Meeting 7.30 - 9 pm	MAY		
Tue	26	P1 & P7 Group photos	Thur	02	Parent/Teacher Consultations
			Mon	06	Holiday
MAR			Mon	20	Staff in-service/pupil holiday
Thur	07	World Book Day	Tue	21	Pupils return
			Fri	24	Meadowmill Athletics P6/7
			JUN		
			Fri	28	Break for holiday



The PTA Valentine Party will be held on Thursday 7 February in the Movement & Dance Room.

Entry through the Community Door.

P1 - 3 6.30 - 7.30 pm

P1 - 7 7.40 - 8.40 pm

Entry £1

### SICKNESS BUGS

The Norovirus is particularly prevalent at this time of year.

This virus is easily transmitted and symptoms can include nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, high temperature, headache and aching limbs. Good hygiene is important in helping to prevent the spread of the virus. This includes thorough handwashing and the need for those who are affected to remain away from school for **48 hours after symptoms have stopped**.

If you need any further information please look at the following link:

[www.nhsinform.co.uk/norovirus](http://www.nhsinform.co.uk/norovirus)

Or call the NHS inform helpline free on 0800 22 44 88.



### SCHOOL ABSENCE

If your child is not attending school due to illness, hospital, dental appointments etc, please ensure that you contact school prior to 9.30 am to inform us of the reason for your child's absence. You can contact the school office either by phone on **01620 823298** or by the school text messaging service on **07860049096**. If we do not hear from you, or are unable to contact you, we will contact all emergency contacts listed for your child.

### CHRISTMAS 2018

Thank you to everyone who supported all our Christmas events.

Both performances of our Christmas Concert were very well attended by family and friends. We hope you enjoyed the show! Our Christmas Fair was also well supported and thank you to the parents who donated cakes and biscuits to sell.

Thank you to everyone for your very generous donations towards the PTA Christmas Hampers which were raffled at the Christmas shows. Overall your support at all our events raised just over £1800 for school funds.

Finally a **BIG THANK YOU** to the staff and pupils for all their hard work in making all our Christmas events a big success.

### WORLD BOOK DAY

To celebrate World Book Day this year we will be holding a Book Swap.

We would like each child to bring in a minimum of one, maximum of 3 books that they no longer read. The books should be in good condition and age appropriate.

When your child brings in their books they will be given a token per book. On the day of the Book Swap the children will be able to exchange their token for a 'new' book.

The Swap will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March between 2:30-3:30pm.

**Please bring books in by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February.**

### RELAX AND READ

We would also like the children to bring in their favourite book or a book that they are currently reading along with a comfy cushion as there will be time during the day to get comfy and read their book.



## SCHOOLPAY

### Online payments for school meals, trips, nursery snack and other school-related purchases

The new on-line payment system SchoolPay (formerly known as iPayimpact) has been available to parents/carers at St Mary's since June 2018. The new system provides our parents/carers with the opportunity to make school related payments online, including school meals. This system provides reports for parents which can show outstanding balances for any school trips, and multiple payments can be made in one transaction, for more than one child.

Currently 68% of families in school have registered to use the system. We would like to increase this to as near to 100% as possible. Those families who have not yet registered will shortly be receiving a reminder of their child/children's registration numbers and details of how to register. Please consider using the system which enables you to:

- Create your own personal account and see at any time what your balance information is.
- Pre-order and pay for meals (payment required for P4-7 pupils only) for your child in advance, giving you full visibility and control over their lunch.
- Make and track instalments payments for larger items such as school trips.
- Manage costs for all of your children - across nursery, primary and secondary schools - from the same account, making things easier and faster for you.

If you have not yet registered and set up your child's account please follow the link below for details on how to do this and some useful FAQs. If you have misplaced your child's account reference number, please contact Mrs Soulsby in the office who will be able to assist you.

[www.eastlothian.gov.uk/schoolpay](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/schoolpay)

### SCHOOL/HOME COMMUNICATION

One of the way in which East Lothian Council schools like to communicate with parents is via email. The Group Messenger service, which we already use for text messages to parents, has the ability to also send out emails with and without attachments. We would like to make better use of this and become more efficient in getting information, flyers etc out to parents in this way. We still have a few parents who have not provided an email address and if you are one of these you will have received a letter home via your child's school bag. If you have already given us your e-mail address please ensure it is up to date and advise us of any changes.

### SCHOOL UNIFORM

Just a reminder that our school uniform, which is supplied by Patricia Bewsey Designs, is available to order on line at:

[www.garmentprinter.co.uk](http://www.garmentprinter.co.uk)

At the moment we have a very small amount of stock still in school but once this has gone parents/carers will need to order online.

Patricia supplies a number of schools in the East Lothian area and please be aware that she is very busy during the run up to the summer holidays. Please place your order early. Thank you.