



FORTHCOMING FIXTURES/EVENTS

Monday 25th January 2016

Burns Assembly

Melrose Primary School Netball and
Football P7 training 1:40 – 2:40pm

Tuesday 26th January

SMT Meeting 8:30am

Full Cast Rehearsal, *Porridge* 4:00-5:30pm

Wednesday 27th January

U13 Football v Merchiston (H) 2:30pm

U11 Football v Longridge (A) 2:30pm

U9A Football v Merchiston (H) 2:30pm

U9B Football v Merchiston (H) 2:30pm

1st Netball v Mowden (A) 2:30pm

2nd Netball v Mowden (A) 2:30pm

Wednesday 27th January (cont'd)

U11 Netball v Mowden (H) 3:15pm

U10 Netball v Mowden (H) 3:15pm

U9A&B Netball Triangular with Mowden
and Belhaven (H) 2:15pm

Thursday 28th January

Code Club for Forms 4 and 5, 4:00-5:00pm

Choosing a Senior School Talk - HM, 5:00pm

Friday 29th January

Hockey Training 1st and 2nd Girls - Queen

Margaret's York 1:30pm (**girls will need all
hockey kit, mouthguards, shin pads & stick**)

We began the week with news from the weekend. Some might think that the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue activity on the side of the Eildon Hills, which included a helicopter from Her Majesty's Coastguard, was the most exciting event: not a bit of it. Mrs Fresle provided the world with Annabel Sandie Frances Fresle, weighing in at 9lb½oz. I was thrilled to report, and can continue to do so, that Annabel, Mum and Dad have all settled in to their new routine very well.

Continuing with the welcoming theme, Form 5 were joined by Libby B, Form 3 were joined by Anna B, and Form 1 welcomed Callum B. All three have settled into their new school day very well, and we are delighted they have joined us.



On Tuesday evening, teaching staff received "Prevent" training from Crime Prevention Officers Nick Walker and Jeff How. This training is part of Scottish Government's approach to identifying young people who might be vulnerable to recruitment from extreme groups. Though largely aimed at school teachers of older senior school pupils, the course proved informative and enlightening, if a little concerning at times.

We had an excellent day of fixtures on Wednesday. Please see website for individual match reports. Mr P and Mrs Letts then headed to Glenshee with our skiers and an entourage of supportive parents, to compete in the Scottish Prep Schools Ski Championships.



This morning I congratulated our team (Molly, Samuel, Stephanie, Cameron, Wilfie, Thomas, Matt and Chloe-Marie), not because they had won any medals, nor arrived back to St. Mary's with a trophy, but because I had received feedback from various sources about how positive, polite, cooperative and appropriately competitive the team had been. Well done to all involved for making this a worthwhile venture.

Much to Miss Simpson's delight, I then went on to talk about collective nouns for animals, fish, birds and insects. For example; a shrewdness of apes, a troop of baboons, a cete of badgers, an unkindness of ravens, a destruction of wild cats, and a clat of worms. I then invited suggestions for a collective name for a group of school teachers, with a prize due to be awarded to the best, if not correct, answer on Monday. Do feel free to enter by dropping Julie an email in the office if you wish. No anonymous entries will be accepted!



Following on from Assembly, the Morrison Hall was a buzz of activity as Ms McRae set about a full day of rehearsal with Forms 3, 4 and 5 for the forthcoming middle school production of 'Porridge'.

As the week draws to a close, I would like to wish our Form 8 pupils sitting scholarship exams in the coming week all the very best.

I would like to remind parents of Forms 5, 6 and 7 that I will be giving a talk on Choosing a Senior School in the Hamilton Building on Thursday 28th January at 5:15pm.

We have had encouraging news that Chef was discharged from hospital earlier this week, and is at home recuperating whilst reading all the cards offering good wishes. Meanwhile, Pam and her team are doing their very best to cope and, with a little extra help from our graduate assistants James and Rowan, are managing to keep the “pack” of St. Mary’s wolves fed.

Finally, if you are out and about this weekend, look out for a bevy of roe deer, a paddling of ducks, a murmuration of starlings, a mob of kangaroos, a tiding of magpies...

HM

BURNS ASSEMBLY

Normal uniform (boys don’t need to wear kilts) but girls may wear tartan hair ribbon!

SMT

PARENT/TUTOR MEETINGS

A reminder, that parent tutor meetings begin the week commencing Monday 29th February (see the school calendar).

SCHOOLSHAPE

Only Form 4 have Schoolshape to complete this week. It is a task on German numbers to 60 for Monday 25th January, please.

Frau Hutchison

MUSIC AND DRAMA

Porridge tickets

Many thanks for the forms received so far. Please hand in ticket orders to Ms Birdsall in the school office at your earliest convenience.

Ms McRae

MELROSE SEVENS CAR PARKING TICKETS

Forms are available from the school office for those parents wishing to book parking for Melrose Sevens.

BANG GOES THE BORDERS

The Bang Goes the Borders! team have met to discuss the 2016 event, and we are recruiting!! We're looking for a couple of new members with fresh ideas and enthusiasm to add to our established team.

Experience in almost any field would be useful, but we are especially keen to find someone with some design experience for posters and programs.

Please email raecleugh@btinternet.com or chat with Miss McRae, Mrs Stuart, Wendy Salvesen or Rebecca Fraser for more information.

In the meantime, please put Saturday 17th September in your diaries, as we'll be looking for volunteers nearer the time.

Many thanks

The BGTB! team

MISSING

Izzy A has lost her green shorts - they are named.

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S

Cake Sale - Friday 5th February 2016, 3.00 pm - 5.15 pm

Come and stock up on cakes for half term. All donations gladly accepted and please provide children with coins.

St Mary's - Swap Shop

There is a Facebook page set up as a closed group for all St Mary's parents to join, should you wish to buy/sell/give outgrown items. Simply search for 'St Mary's - Swap Shop' on Facebook and click to join - but please note: not to select 'St Mary's School Uniform Swap Shop' which belongs to a different school.