



FORTHCOMING FIXTURES/EVENTS

Monday 7th March

Assembly with Guy Steele Bodger, Rugby School

Tuesday 8th March

SMT Meeting 8.30am

Parent/child "See Me" afternoon in Kindergarten 2:00-3:00pm

Form 8 Parents Meetings

Wednesday 9th March

1st XV Rugby v Earlston HS (H) 2:30pm

U11A Rugby v Clifton Hall (H) 2:30pm

U11B Rugby v Clifton Hall (H) 2:30pm

U9A Football v Loretto (H) 2:30pm

U9B Football v Loretto (H) 2:30pm

WOSPS v Dandylions Netball (A) Fettes 2:30pm

2nd Netball triangular with Fettes & Craigclowan (A) Craigclowan 2:30pm

Wednesday 9th March (cont'd)

U11 Netball v Craigclowan (A) 2:15pm

U10A Netball v Fettes (H) 3:00pm

U10B Netball v Fettes (H) 3:00pm

U9A Netball v Fettes (H) 2:15pm

U9B Netball v Fettes (H) 2:15pm

Thursday 10th March

'Dragons' Den' - Form 7, 6pm

Friday 11th March

Full rehearsal Annie Jnr Forms 6, 7 & 8

1st Rugby v Aberlour (H) 1:30pm

1st Hockey v Aberlour (H) 1:30pm T'Bank

2nd Hockey v Aberlour (H) 1:30pm T'Bank

Saturday 12th March

U13 & U11A Hockey Tourn. Kilgraston 9:30am

NOTE FROM THE HEADMASTER

On Monday morning, we celebrated the achievements of two teams that had represented St. Mary's the previous weekend. Our Primary 7 equivalent hockey team had done very well in the George Watson's College Hockey Tournament at Peffermill, to the delight of a proud Mr Purvis and Miss Pariente. I then paid tribute to Mrs Bell's intrepid cross country runners, all 35 of them. Our runners benefited from the best weather I have known at this event in the 15 years I have been going. All St. Mary's pupils ran with courage and determination, but our elite performers stood out, with Molly M winning the girls U14 race, Lucas coming second in the U14 boys race, and Freyja coming third in the U10 girls race. Well done to all three for

providing podium finishes. Our U12 girls team also finished third in the team event. I am as grateful to you, their parents, for the support you showed the team, as I am to the runners themselves. Mrs Bell and Mr Mill would like me to pass on their thanks for your help and support on the day. Thanks also go to Mrs Hardie, Mrs Runciman, Mrs Scott Aiton and Matt.

Parent/Form Tutor meetings have taken place throughout the week for Forms 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. It is pleasing to hear staff talking about the positive collaboration with you, the parents of their pupils, which can only serve to benefit all concerned.

Standout performance from Wednesday's fixtures: the U11 girls' netball team were runners up in their tournament. Please see website for match reports.

Miss McRae took a cohort of talented singers to the Edinburgh Music Festival, and both Miss McRae and Mrs Harvey reported that our pupils did us proud, both on the stage and in their conduct throughout what was a long but fulfilling day for them. Dr Morgan, meanwhile, attended the Merchiston Maths Day with a team of Form 5 pupils. Pleasingly, our team performed creditably, and made the most of their excursion to Colinton Road.



Whilst World Book Day did not involve our pupils dressing up this year, appropriate focus was given to the Travelling Books sale coordinated by Miss Renwick, and it is always a pleasure seeing our pupils enjoying the vast array of books on display.

Today, Form 7 performed an assembly detailing the history of St. David's Day, and St. David's journey from monk to saint during and after his lifetime. We were then treated to Anna H and Libby R performing a musical piece on their flutes, for the first time in front of a large audience. Well done to Form 7, Anna and Libby for providing us with such an uplifting assembly. Congratulations to Sophie E for producing ten book reviews, and thank you to Libby B who found out that Eric Melrose "Winkle" Brown received his proper middle name because Melrose was his mother's maiden name, and that she apparently lived in Gattonside.

This weekend we look forward to the FP dinner, for which once again the ever-resourceful Mrs Ann Wright has been rewarded with a sell-out attendance.

We look forward to a visit from Rugby School's Registrar, Mr Guy Steele Bodger, on Monday morning, the first visit from a Rugby School representative in my time as Head here at St. Mary's. The Headmaster, Mr Green, and Mr Steele Bodger have heard great things about our proud little prep school, and I would be very pleased to have a number of parents come

along and listen to Mr Steele Bodger's assembly, and meet with him in the Hamilton Building afterwards.

Meanwhile, it has been a particularly busy period with visitors to the school. As our school roll is full, we are already having to plan ahead for a very busy academic year in 2016/17.

Finally, it is always a great pleasure to conclude with congratulations to our pupils. Annabel has been awarded an Academic Scholarship to Ampleforth College, George G-F has been awarded an Outstanding Talent Award to Glenalmond College, and Stephanie has been awarded a Sports Scholarship to Strathallan. Well done to all three.

Have a good weekend.

UPPER KINDERGARTEN VISIT RECEPTION CLASS

On Wednesday morning, the children in Upper Kindergarten went to visit Mrs Currie in her classroom. Mrs Currie spent some fun time the children telling the story about Sam and the Snake, practising the action and sound for the letter 's' before creating their own 's' shapes with playdough. Everyone did really well. We finished off the morning with some dancing and singing. Already, we are looking forward to next week when we will visit Mrs Currie again.



Mrs Berni and Mrs Currie

THANK YOU FROM MRS BLUNT

A huge thank you from Mrs Blunt for all the sacks of clothes donated towards the collection for the Syrian refugees. She has now uplifted them and taken them to Edinburgh – *no more donations*, thank you.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE SCHEME

Form 7 have been working on young enterprise projects since the beginning of the year. They will present these to a team of "dragons" on Thursday night starting at 6:00pm. The winning project will receive £150, second £75 and third £25. Whilst this evening is open for Form 7 parents, any other parents/children wishing to attend would be more than welcome. Refreshments will be provided.

Mrs Hardie

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT
29th February – 13th March 2016



Form 3 have enjoyed learning about The Fairtrade Foundation this week which was set up to help producers in poorer countries get a fair price for their work. When you buy something with a Fairtrade logo on it, you know that a fair amount of money is going towards helping the community where it came from.

Our hard work was rewarded with some delicious homemade Fairtrade banana muffins. Yum!

Mrs Wright

KINDERGARTEN ORCHARD WALK

On Thursday morning we headed over to the orchard for a walk. The children loved the freedom to run, pick flowers, 'try' and climb trees, collect sticks to make a fire and play hide and seek. Here are a few of our favourite photographs.



(more photographs can be seen on the website under latest news)

L Berni

FORM 5 MATHS NEWS



Libby, Finlay, George, Mhairi, Frederick, Archie, Jake and Theo travelled up to Merchiston Castle School on Thursday to take part in their annual Maths Fun Day. This exciting and fast-paced fun day of puzzles and maths challenges was attended by 128 of the brightest young mathematicians from Edinburgh and the surrounding area. Both our teams really enjoyed the day and in the final league table our top placed team was a very creditable 13th out of 32 teams.

Just as pleasing for me to see, was the positive team working approach adopted by our pupils on the day. We will soon be sending different teams down to another event at the Newcastle High School for Girls – watch this space!

Dr Morgan

PLEASE NOTE

Girls in Forms 6, 7 and 8 need mouthguards for hockey on Monday.

Mrs Bell

WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday was World Book Day and Forms 1&2 decided to host a book party to share their favourite books. They discussed what needed to be done to organise their party and set to work. Guests were asked along, biscuits iced for refreshments and extra cushions, sofas and chairs were laid out ready. They chose their favourite stories and spent time practising these at home before sharing them with Reception and Upper Kindergarten who joined us on the day.



The children enjoyed reading or telling their stories to each other and discussed their favourite characters and pictures. It was a fun afternoon capturing the enjoyment of books.

Mrs Kirkness and Miss Renwick

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

Cake Sales

Our last cake sale, held just before half term, raised a total of £275.65. Many thanks to all who contributed cakes, time and pocket money. Equally, thanks go to all our happy customers who came along and enjoyed the produce.

Our next cake sale will be held on Wednesday, 16th March. With this one we'll be supporting Sport Relief, so come and boost your energy levels with some cake before the sporting events of the week-end (Sport Relief 18th - 20th March).