



ST MARY'S CE FIRST ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO: 112 11.03.2022

"SHINE AS A LIGHT IN THE WORLD"
Matthew 5:16



Dear Parents and Carers

In school this week the children have been taking part in assessment week. All of the children have been completing appropriately pitched assessments which ensure the children are learning as much as possible in their lessons. Children in Year 1 & 2, Year 3 and Year 4 have been completing NTS assessment tests. These are new to our school but have already shown a great impact as they allow the children to show what they know in this point of the academic Year rather than completing an assessment that is due to be taken at the end of the year. As the government recently confirmed that Year 2 will be completing SAT's and Year 4 will be completing the times tables check in the summer term getting use to these new assessments will help build confidence particularly in these year groups.

Next week we have the PTA Spring disco on Thursday 17th March. A big thank you to everyone who has taken time to plan the disco and thank you in advance to all our PTA members who are supporting children during this event. Please may I remind you that if you are not collecting your own child from the event school staff must know who will be collecting them in advance. Please call Mrs Johnson in the school office with these details.

We also have Red Nose Day on Friday 18th March Children are invited to dress up as a super hero or wear their own clothes with a pound donation towards the charity.

RED NOSE DAY

Like so many of you I am unable to fathom the news coming from Ukraine Our thoughts and preys go to all of those impacted by conflict. Working with St Mary's church we are collecting donations for the DEC Ukraine appeal. Should you wish to make a cash donation a collection box is in the school office. St Mary's church are also able to take donations via PayPal should this be a chosen method of payment. In school, during class and whole school worship, we have been and will continue to pray for peace in our troubled world.

Many Thanks,

Mrs N.R Brennan
Head of school



Thursday 29th March

Academy Photography will be visiting St. Mary's to take whole class and year 4 individual Leaver photographs. Please ensure full school uniform is worn on this day and bring those lovely smiles!



STAR OF THE WEEK

Class	Pupil
Nursery	Layla
Reception	William
Year 1 & 2	Lucy
Year 3	Sophia
Year 4	Freya

A massive well done to all children for all their hard work this week. We are proud to call you a part of our St Mary's Family.





Year 1 & 2



Year 1 and 2 have been learning all about the wonderful weather over the world. We were very excited to try and create our very own rainbows! We also had a little visitor in the classroom but we are still hunting for him. Do you think we will find him?





St Mary's CE First Academy
Marston Road, Wheaton Aston, Stafford ST19 9PQ

Lunchtime Supervisor

1 hour 10 minutes per day, Monday – Friday, term time only

Staffs Grade 2 - £18516 pro rata – currently £2307 dependent on service history

Commencing

The Local Academy Committee wish to appoint an enthusiastic, self-motivated person, who adheres to the ethos of our happy Church of England Academy, to assist in the care and supervision of pupils in both indoor and outdoor situations during the lunchtime break, under the direction of the Senior Leadership Team and/or Senior Lunchtime Supervisor.

The Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and will be required to provide two suitable references.

Application forms and job descriptions are available from: -
St. Mary's CE First Academy school office
or e-mail: office@st-marys-wheatonaston.staffs.sch.uk

Contact for this post:
Mrs L Johnson
St. Mary's CE First Academy
Marston Road
Wheaton Aston
ST19 9PQ

Tel: 01785 840 314

Closing date for applications will be 12.00 noon 17 March 2022.
Interviews will be week commencing Monday 21 March 2022.



PTA Event's

Spring Disco Thursday 17th March 6.00pm till 7.30pm £2 per child

Snacks & Drinks will be available to purchase
Please complete and return form and money in a sealed envelope marked Spring Disco By Monday 14th March to PTA Postbox in school office

Child(rens) Name & year:	
Parent Contact Tel No:	
Any Medical Conditions/ Allergies:	
Who will be collecting your child(ren):	
Signature of Parent/Guardian:	
Print name of Parent/Guardian:	
Payment Enclosed:	

Any personal data provided on this form will be used solely for the purpose of the disco and will be destroyed after the event



It's Mother's Day on Sunday 27th March!
Why not visit our ...

Mothers' Day Secret Shop!

**On Monday 21st March
(during the school day)
The PTA are running a secret gift shop.**

Children will be able to choose and buy **beautifully** wrapped gifts for Mums, Grandmas and all the lovely ladies in their life.

All gifts are **£4.00 each (or 3 for £10)**

How this will work.
Please complete the order form on the reverse and return with the correct money in a sealed envelope marked 'PTA - Mother's Day' to the school office
(your child will then receive token(s) in school to visit the gift shop & choose their very own special gift(s) for Mother's Day)

Please return by Friday 18th March.
Children will bring home their special Mother's Day gifts on Friday 25th March.

**ROBLOX**

Powering Imagination

According to the Roblox website, 'Roblox is the world's largest interactive social platform for play.' For those of you who are unfamiliar with the game, it is a multi-player online gaming platform which allows children to play and create a variety of games in a 3D world. Roblox is free to play and available on all modern smartphones, tablets, desktops, Xbox One, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive.

**AGE RESTRICTION**
13+

What parents need to know about ROBLOX



ROBLOX STUDIO

The Roblox Studio allows users to create their own games and 'worlds' for others to play on the platform. As the games are user generated, it gives users the freedom to potentially include things you do not want your child to be exposed to, for example, weapons, violence and even pornographic content. There are no age restrictions on the games created in the Roblox Studio and to remove games from the platform Roblox relies on people reporting negative/violent content.

CHATTING & FRIEND REQUESTS

Whilst the games in Roblox are aimed at 8 to 18-year-olds, there are currently no age restrictions for signing up. This means that both adults and young people can play and communicate with each other and send friend requests through the platform. Once a friend request is accepted, this means that they can communicate with each other outside of gameplay.

ROBUX ONLINE PAYMENTS

When a user creates a game, they earn something called 'Robux', which works as a currency within the platform and enables the purchase of upgrades and memberships. If the created game is of good quality and attracts multiple players and in-game adverts, children have the ability to earn a lot of Robux. Once a user has earned a certain amount of Robux, they can convert this to real cash and withdraw it to a PayPal account. To withdraw money, users need to be over 13, have a PayPal account and have paid for the Roblox premium subscription.

**National
Online
Safety**

Top Tips for Parents

ALERT!

Tell your children to be careful and to think twice before they click any random advert or pop-up. There's a lot of phishing scams that advertise free Robux etc, with the intent of stealing your child's personal information.

UNLIST SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

Make sure your child's social media accounts are not listed in the settings/account information. If they are, advise them to set them to private or remove them from their account. This will ensure that nobody will be able to find and contact them on their social media platforms outside of Roblox.

CHECK SHARED INFORMATION

In the account settings, check that your child is not giving away any personal information in their bio/profile. For example, their full name, phone number or snapchat name. If you see that they have, explain why this is potentially dangerous and remove immediately.

2-STEP VERIFICATION

Roblox has a great two-step verification security feature which we recommend you enable to add an extra layer of security to your child's account.

HAVE A CHAT ABOUT 'GRIEFING'

Griefing is when someone purposely upsets another player in a game. This can be done by setting traps, damaging or stealing something from another player, intentionally killing them and generally doing something in the game to spoil their gameplay. Essentially, 'Griefing' is a form of cyberbullying and can be extremely frustrating and upsetting for players.

RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Roblox is a free to play game, but there are still options to make additional in-game purchases. If you do not want your child to make payments, ensure your card is not associated with their account. If you are happy for your child to make payments in the game, but want to restrict spending, we suggest using a games console gift card. These can be purchased in specific amounts, which will enable you to restrict how much your child spends and removes the need for a credit/debit card to be used with their account.

DISABLE IN-GAME CHAT

Roblox is great for children to play together and chat to each other. However, if you want to completely turn off in-game chat for your child (meaning they cannot contact anyone, including their friends) you can do so by following these steps: When logged in, go to the Account Settings page by clicking on the gear icon at the top right corner of the page, then click Settings. Next, click on the Privacy tab and under 'Who can chat with me in games?' select 'No one' and this will disable in-game chat.

IS YOUR CHILD UNDER 13?

Unfortunately, there are hundreds of YouTube videos showing children how to change their age settings on Roblox, so firstly, you should talk to your child to set up some rules/an agreement. There are additional safety features for children under 13, for example having their posts and chats filtered for inappropriate content and behaviour, so it is worth checking that your child has set up their account with the correct age. You can find this in their account settings.

St Mary's CE First Academy
Term Dates and Holidays 2022-2023
Dates are subject to change.

Spring Term 2022

Thursday 17th March - School disco (PTA Event)

Friday 18th March - Red Nose Day - come dressed as a Superhero £1.00 donation for charity.

Monday 21st March - Mother's day secret shop (PTA Event)

Tuesday 29th March - Whole class and School leaver photograph's

Thursday 31st March - Reception, Year 1/2 Trip to Lichfield Cathedral - Information to follow.

Term ends: Friday 8th April

Holiday: Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 17th April

Summer Term 2022

Inset Day: Monday 25th April

Term Starts: Tuesday 26th April

May Day: Monday 2nd May

Half term: Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June

Term ends: Thursday 21st July

Holiday: Friday 22nd July - Friday 2nd September

Autumn Term 2023

Inset Day: Monday 5th September

Term Starts: Tuesday 6th September

Holiday: Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

Term ends: Friday 16th December

Holiday: Monday 19th December - Monday 2nd January

Inset Days (School Closed to Pupils)

Monday 25th April 2022

Monday 5th September 2022