



**Headteacher Mission Statement**

At the whole school assembly today we presented the Headteacher Mission award certificate to the following pupils who have been actively living out our school mission statement:

**Cedar**

Ludovica Altamura

For always offering to help around the classroom and being a helpful friend to everyone in Cedar.

Camille Lynch

For trying hard to always be a good role model to all her friends in Cedar.

**Elm**

Luca Asan

For a huge improvement in his learning and demonstrating a much more positive attitude in all areas of the curriculum.

Riley Rosales

For always trying her best in all areas of the curriculum and for being a kind and caring member of our class.

**Fir**

Daniel Saunders

For being thoughtful, considerate and caring towards other children.

Vittoria Altamura

For always having a smile on her face and for her exemplary behaviour.

**Hazel**

Elizabeth Boylan

For continually challenging herself in her learning with a positive, can-do attitude.

Evan Castle

For being a great role model in Hazel class through the support and kindness he shows to others.

**Maple**

Fabio Abraham

For approaching every day with a readiness to learn alongside his use of excellent manners when speaking to all members of our school community.

Ava Crockett

For her resilient attitude towards learning across the curriculum and her caring nature towards all of those around her.

**Oak**

Kathryn Robertson

For being an excellent learning partner and helping others to achieve their best too.

Arianna Lazarra

For her lovely friendship towards others and for being a great learning partner.

**Pine**

Laura Malagoli

For her positivity, determination, resilience and unwavering smile. All of which have been ever present throughout this term.

Thomas Tran

For living out our mission statement every day. He is a true role model to all children and always helps those in need.

**Sycamore**

Genevieve Silvester

For her kindness, enthusiasm and willingness to challenge herself and the support and encouragement she gives to others. She is a valuable member of Sycamore.

Oliver Pinches

For his enthusiasm and commitment he shows towards his learning. He is a great role model.

## **Willow**

### Samuel Weatherhogg

For being such an excellent role-model to others. His fantastic attitude to learning is a pleasure to see !

### Amelia Thomas

For her kind and caring personality and her fantastic approach to school life. She sets a great example to all her classmates.

## **Girls' Trousers- Winter Uniform**

Following on from your feedback from our questionnaire at parent consultations, the Governing Body have agreed to amend the winter school uniform for girls to provide them with the option to wear trousers from January 2018. Following on from the last newsletter, four parents (Mrs O'Connor, Mrs Crockett, Mrs Carroll and Mrs Gregory) kindly offered to be on our working party with Rob Sherfield (parent governor) and myself. In terms of girls' trousers, there are a huge variety of styles and options. However the only suitable trousers that are acceptable should be equivalent in style to that worn by the boys.

### **Therefore girls' trousers must be:**

Grey

Plain without accessories attached

Either slim leg or regular leg

Girl versions of the standard trousers for boys- if they have a crease in the middle of the legs, they should be suitable

Examples can be found at Marks and Spencers –

<http://www.marksandspencer.com/l/kids/school-uniform/girls/trousers-and-shorts-n-c0y50>

Girls slim leg trousers; girls' regular leg trousers; girls easy dressing trousers (images at the end of the newsletter)

**Please do not send your child into school in fashion trousers/ jersey trousers/ boot cut / skinny leg trousers/ any other colour than school grey.**

**Can we remind parents to please label all belongings clearly, preferably using an iron on/sewn on label with your child's name. There is a lot of lost property due to unnamed clothing.**

**Behaviour Workshop- 'Secrets to Better Behaved Children':** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 19.00-21.00 at the school.

We will be hosting at school, a free behaviour workshop for parents/carers of children aged under 5 years, with topics covering: tips for calmer family life; how to build self-esteem and confidence in children; the power of positive language; strategies and practical tips on taking the "No" out of their vocabulary.

Whilst this is targeted for under 5s, many of the techniques are suitable for older children as well, so please do consider in your child is older.

## **HCC Health and Safety review of Security arrangements**

HCC recently undertook a security audit within the school at our request following some parental concerns. Following a thorough review, they were happy with our current arrangements in terms of the security of the site and our gate arrangements. One of their recommendations was to move the waiting area for parents/visitors to directly outside the school office. As a result, visitors and parents will be asked to wait outside of our internal doors on the green chairs.

## **St Mary's Admissions Consultation**

Please note that the Admissions Authority of St Mary's Catholic School are consulting on their admission arrangements for September 2019. All consulting schools are legally required to publish their proposed policies and paperwork. Please refer to [www.stmarys.net](http://www.stmarys.net) clicking on the tab Admissions/Consultation September 2019. Any responses to these proposals should be emailed to [AdmissionConsultation@stmarys.net](mailto:AdmissionConsultation@stmarys.net) by 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2017.

### **Catholic Education needs your help!**

The Government will be shortly making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. The Secretary of State has acknowledged this policy has been ineffective and has adversely affected Catholic families. The next few weeks will be critical for convincing the government to honour the promise made to the Catholic community to remove the cap.

Although the CES have been actively working to lobby and influence behind the scenes, a very public final campaign is now needed to ensure our voices are heard. Each Bishop will be writing to each parish to encourage members of the congregation to write, email or call local MPs and the office of the Secretary of State.

A very easy way to do this is through the following CES link:

<http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/item/1003640-safeguard-the-future-of-catholic-education>

which will take you to a very short online form to complete.

### **School Council – Cafod Christmas Gift**

Many thanks for everybody's magnificent donations on Wednesday. A cheque for £750 has been sent to Cafod as our Christmas gift of clean water for a community in Africa. Many thanks to Keira, Chiara, George and Sienna who organised the collection and counting of monies for the appeal.

### **Poppy Appeal**

Thank you for your support of this year's poppy appeal – over £195 was raised.

### **Carol concert for parishioners**

The Chaplaincy Team hosted a lovely Carol concert with readings and prayers for our retired parishioners. The singing club sang beautifully and our top recorder group and flutist added to this wonderful occasion. Many thanks to Miss Roper and Miss Cassidy-Jones, as well as Marie Rhodes and Brenda O'Carroll, Governors, who organised transport and provided refreshments for the children and parishioners.

### **Bishop's Stortford Schools Carol Concert**

Our singing club stole the show on Tuesday evening with the quality of singing and musicality performing, "Let all the people rejoice." Our readers, soloists and collective choir made me a very proud Headteacher. Many thanks to Miss Roper for preparing the children so well and to the staff who accompanied them at the service.

### **100 Club**

The winners of the latest draw for the School Association 100 club were:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - £25 – Andrea Brodie

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - £15 – Fiona Lee

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - £10 – Fiona Steele

### **Communication you may have missed over the last two weeks sent via Schoolcomms:**

Early Years Foundation Stage Christmas Performance DVD/Blu Ray

Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance DVD/Blu Ray

Cricket Club after Christmas

### **A Christmas Eve prayer**

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus,  
That we may share in the song of the angels,  
The gladness of the shepherds,  
And worship of the wise men.  
Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.  
Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.  
Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ  
Brings and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.  
May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy  
Children and Christmas evening bring us to our beds  
With grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for  
Jesus' sake.  
Amen.

### **Christmas Mass Times 2017**

#### **4th Sunday of Advent**

Saturday 23rd December  
Mass at St Josephs 6pm

#### **Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve Masses**

##### **St Joseph's at Bishop's Stortford**

Mass – 9am

Mass – 11am

Mass – 5pm – especially for families with younger children. Our children are invited to come dressed as Shepherds or Angels

7pm -2nd Vigil Mass of Christmas ( priority seating for older parishioners)

11.30pm -Carols and Readings – followed by

Midnight Mass at Midnight – Come early to get a seat!

##### **Most Holy Redeemer at Sawbridgeworth**

Mass – 9am

7.30pm – Carols and Readings

8pm – Vigil Mass

##### **Holy Cross at Much Hadham**

Mass – 11.15am

#### **Christmas Day Masses**

**St Joseph's at Bishop's Stortford** – 9am and 11am

**Holy Cross at Much Hadham** at 11.15am

**Most Holy Redeemer at Sawbridgeworth** will be open for prayer and for visits to the Crib from 9-10am on Christmas morning

Suitable trousers for school:



