



Keeping in Touch



February - March 2019

Sheila Hoile writes:-

As Chair of Governors at St Mary's CofE Primary School I am delighted to welcome Mrs Helen Melidoro as the new Headteacher. Helen started in January 2019 and is already getting to know staff, pupils and parents. St Mary's is now a rapidly improving school something we hope will be reflected in the outcome of the Ofsted inspection expected later this term.



I am pleased to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of North Mymms St Mary's CE Primary School. Having worked at my previous school for 13 years of service, it was a difficult decision to leave but I genuinely feel St Mary's is the place for me! I recall earlier in the year visiting St Mary's, as part of a writing moderation team, being greeted by the friendly staff and feeling instantly welcomed. So, when the position for Headteacher was advertised later that summer, I knew I had to apply!

As a local girl - I have lived in the Parish of Northaw and Cuffley for over 40 years - I attended Cuffley School followed by St Mary's High School, Cheshunt before studying and embarking on a career in HR. Whilst bringing up my family, I became actively involved in the local community, including Children's Church and a local tennis club. Inspired from volunteering in local schools, I re-trained as a primary school teacher, completing my PGCE at the newly developed de Havilland campus at Hertfordshire University. I have taught at several local schools, most recently as Deputy Head and INCo (Inclusion Co-ordinator) at Broxbourne CE Primary School. I also continue to worship at both St Andrew's, Cuffley and St Thomas' a Beckett, Northaw.

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As Headteacher, I am now in a very privileged position to help nurture and develop our children, both spiritually and educationally. The Church's role is fundamental to our whole school ethos and in forging strong community links. During the Interregnum, the Bishop's Hatfield Ministry are supporting our collective worship and we look forward to welcoming the new Vicar in due course. There are many parishioners who already volunteer in school for which the staff and children are truly grateful. I am confident that with our partnership, the school will continue to flourish.

If it is not too late, I will take this opportunity to wish you a happy, healthy and blessed New Year.

Helen Melidoro

CHRISTMAS AT ST MARY'S

This year at St Mary's saw over 700 people join in the various celebrations. 160 children and parents from St Mary's School attended the School Carol Service when we said hello to Mrs Melidoro and farewell and thanks to Mrs Wing who has supported the school as interim head since April. On the 16th December we had the Church Carol Service when we welcomed over 100 people to a service of music and readings. The Crib Service filled the church with over 330 children and adults to tell the Christmas Story ably led by the Venerable Janet Mackenzie our Archdeacon. Over 120 people came to Midnight Mass and over 60 attended the two services on Christmas Day.

Our thanks must go to so many people - to John Barnard for taking the School Service. To Martin and Gill, our churchwardens, for making sure that everything ran smoothly. To the choir and those who read at the Church Carol Service. To Diana Glanfield and her team whose flower arrangements were magnificent. To all those who helped out at the Crib Service and to Laura Cheek for renovating all the costumes. To the bell-ringers who rang out the joyful news. To all those who led our worship, to any others who helped make this such a wonderful Christmas for St Mary's. We were truly blessed.



Snowdrop Sunday

Sunday February 24th
3.00pm

We would love you to join us at 3.00pm in church to enjoy some music followed by tea and cakes and a chance to enjoy the snowdrops in our lovely tranquil churchyard

Hats, mitts and blankets

Please do come along to help us make hats, mittens and blankets for local homeless people. Sessions will take place on Fridays 15th February and 15th March in St Michael's Room from 10.00am to 12.00noon. Patterns and wool will be available. Anyone wanting to know more please contact Gill Peplow 07503176871



Lenten Lunches will start on Monday 11th March and then every Monday in Lent until 15th April in St Michael's Room 12.30pm—2.00pm. It is a simple lunch of soup and bread for which you will be invited to donate what you would normally expect to spend on lunch. All proceeds to Christian Aid.

