

St Mary's 150th Anniversary

This year is 150th Anniversary of St Mary's CE Primary School, Amersham.

We are asking for any support you may be able to give with the projects we have in mind. We are looking to raise awareness of our plans so that we can involve more of our community, find any expertise and guidance anyone may be able to offer, as well as funding.

Our overall aims are linked to:

- celebrating the school's and wider community's history
- boosting biodiversity and sustainability through enhancing and protecting our school building and grounds.

Celebration and Protection of History

- With support from the Amersham Museum, every child at St Mary's will be studying the school and town's history over the 150 year period, culminating in displays in the museum window. Do you or someone you know have any further items of interest that the children could study from that period?
- We hope to invite ex-pupils and staff on a tour of the school where children will be able to ask about first-hand experiences and how things have changed. We are also looking for ex-pupils who would be happy to talk to a group of children or class about what they have gone on to do, whether that be achievements or careers for example.
- We would like to compile a 150 Years Book which will hopefully include contributions from old and existing pupils and staff. Any help with contacting people with previous links to our school would be greatly appreciated. It would contain historical matter but also current thoughts, artwork and pictures, so again we are seeking people who may have something to contribute to the book from the past. We would be really grateful for any links to expertise to assist with the development of the book and any companies or people who might be willing to sponsor its production.
- We would like to preserve and restore some of the historical features of the school building, including the fireplaces, carvings, windows and stonework. We would also love to restore the old school bell which has not rung for many years. We would appreciate any links to companies or people with expertise in any of the above.
- We will be re-enacting the 1873 first day procession from the school to the church, hopefully carrying a school banner to hang inside the church. Our initial thoughts are that this banner would be a material collage representing the school and its Christian Values.
- We will be holding a Gala Ball in the Summer for the School Community and would be grateful for any help or recommendations linked to hiring of marquees, entertainment and catering for the event.

Sustainability and Biodiversity

- We hope to plant a Legacy Orchard of fruit trees and in addition plant further trees to provide shade and a place for children to relax/sit quietly and read in our school field.
- We are looking to make our school more sustainable and eco-friendly, considering ways to reduce consumption, recycle and renew, including energy and water sources. For example, we are considering solar panels and a bore hole (to provide water), insulation, hot bins, motion sensor lighting etc.