

# ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursey, Southam | September 25<sup>th</sup> 2020



## FROM THE HEAD



Dear parents,

I have been thinking hard about the safest way to fulfil the role of a parent's evening. I have decided that this year we will send a small written report home. Children that are new to the school will also get a phone call. This removes the risk to our teachers, allowing them to continue to teach your children.

Teachers have asked me to remind all parents to read daily with their children. Some of our year groups are very well supported in reading and this really shows in terms of their progress across all curriculum areas.

I would kindly ask that parents go through the office to contact teachers. During the lockdown some parents got used to contacting the teachers directly, now that they are class teaching again I would very much appreciate that teachers are not contacted in their out of school hours.

Mrs Price

## What's New

Tuesday marked the official first day of Autumn – and the weather has definitely taken note and begun to change! Please make sure your child/children bring a coat so that they can go out to play. You will appreciate that it is very important with there being so many restrictions and new routines due to COVID 19, that your children get exercise and fresh air. Thank you for the support making sure your children wear appropriate PE kit on their allotted day.

Autumn also is synonymous with Harvest festival. Please start bringing your non-perishable items for



Southam Foodbank in to school from Monday next week. This is the way we will donate for Harvest this year. On Friday, the children will have their own Harvest Collective Worships in their own class bubbles.

To help warm up cold children, we're branching out the lunchtime Deli menu and will be adding Fishy Fridays with chips from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Jacket potatoes will shortly be available daily with either Cheese or Cheese and Beans. If your children are bringing their own lunch, a reminder that this should be healthy and nutritious. <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

## THE WEEK THAT WAS...

### STARS THAT GO ZOOM

#### HOPES & DREAMS STARS

This week, every class participated in a virtual lesson for the exciting project, *When You Wish Upon A Star*. Every child made a wish, to be engraved on a metal star along Waddesdon Manor's woodland walk during the festive season - Perhaps a family visit may be in order to find your child's wish!

The kindness of our children was noted as they actively made wishes for others both locally and globally, not just for themselves. Fabulous to hear!



### WISE COUNCIL

#### MEET OUR STUDENT COUNCIL!

Congratulations to newly-elected Brody, Maggie, Ned, Una, Zachary and Arben (Years 1-6) and secretaries Scarlett & Charlotte.

### WE ♥ FELT PENS

#### SHOWING THE LOVE IN NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK

As part of our School Council initiative 'Heart Felt Tips,' 20 filled pencil cases have now been donated to Warwick District foodbank. Along with teaching the importance of recycling and donating, HeartFelt Tips has also enabled the children to build empathy and to understand that there are people in their local community who are no different to them but in need of some extra support. Thank you so much to the Skylarks who were the first class to fill their pencil cases. Kingfishers class are excited to be next to fill theirs! Thank you to all who took or are taking part in this lovely scheme.



# Are you in the loop?

## WHAT'S 'APPENING:

Did you know, we have a dedicated WhatsApp Group for each class? The purpose of the groups is to send class-specific reminders and info from the school. Each group is administered by the class' parent rep - but with the new COVID restrictions, our reps have been finding it harder to spot other parents and spread the word. If you aren't currently in a group and want to join, the contacts are:

- Robins - Sian 07827888297
- Goldfinches - Amy 07849828678
- Kingfishers - Amanda 07921146069
- Skylarks - Sally 07941188063

## PARENTPAY FOR ALERTS

We will shortly begin using the communication tool within ParentPay to send whole school email and text alerts. This secure and speedy way of messaging means we can reach everyone **whose contact data is UpToDate in our systems** at the push of a button. If you have recently changed your contact details, or haven't sent us an updated GDPR form lately, please do so now.

## ASK ME ABOUT...

House points! This week the battle of the houses began... England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales - better known as Saints George, Patrick, Andrew and David - all performed brilliantly. This week's results are:

- St Andrew 26
- St George 24
- St Patrick 20
- St David 16



# STARS OF THE WEEK

- Robins - Delilah L
- Goldfinches - Arthur
- Kingfishers - Murphy
- Skylarks - James

## HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD

Florence Forgan & David

**CLUBS ARE BACK!** Our teaching staff are giving up their valuable lunchtimes and before school time to help run COVID-compliant clubs within each bubble. Starting next week, these will be:

- Robins:** Gardening Club | Wednesday Lunchtimes
  - Goldfinches:** Storytime | Lunchtimes (day TBC)
  - Skylarks:** Fri-yay Running Club | 8:20 Fridays\*
  - Eco Council:** Fortnightly | 12:00 Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>
  - All:** Look out for 'The Daily Mile' coming soon
- \* unless raining



1	<b>Elena Raiseborough</b>	1.17 seconds	Y5	Skylarks
2	<b>Luiza Ciobanu</b>	1.17 seconds	Y6	Skylarks
3	<b>Logan Crowther</b>	1.32 seconds	Y4	Kingfishers
4	<b>Ada Sztuka</b>	1.33 seconds	Y5	Skylarks
5	<b>Jacob Meredith</b>	1.36 seconds	Y5	Skylarks

## The God Who Speaks

In light of the global pandemic disrupting plans and events, our period of focus on the Bible and 'The God Who Speaks' will now extend right through to 2022, culminating on the Sunday of the Word of God on 23 January. This half term's quotation is:



*"In the beginning the Word already existed; the Word was with God, and the Word was God"*  
John 1:1

### A Prayer from The Book of Blessings:

*God is the source of all wisdom and knowledge. Let us ask him to bless those who seek to learn and their teachers. For students, that the Spirit of God may grant them the gifts of wisdom of understanding. For teachers, that they may share their knowledge with gentleness, patience, and concern for their students. Amen*

### You Shop. We get money. FREE.

Raise donations for Friends of St Mary's Southam whenever you shop online

Turn your everyday online shopping into FREE donations

Even while we're not holding actual events, you can still raise money for FOSM from the comfort of your own home - just click to fundraise (we've raised over £1,000 this way already). It costs you nothing, but would mean a lots to us: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryssoutham/>

# DIARY DATES

## Friday, October 2

Harvest Assembly (Sorry no parents - Foodbank donations please)

## Monday, October 12

& Wednesday, October 14  
9:30 - 11:30

Early Years Open Morning for Nursery & Reception 2021  
Please book via the school office

## Wednesday, October 16

Reports to parents  
(In lieu of parents evening, see front page for more information)

## Thursday, October 22

Pebble Blessing Mass  
Reception (Sorry no parents)

## Thursday, October 22

Individual School Photos

## October 26 - 30

Half Term

## Saturday, October 31

Deadline for applying to secondary school  
See online diary listing for links

### ► Flu Vaccinations

Available for children YR-Y6.  
Please complete the consent form online ASAP. Date to be advised.

**PLEASE NOTE: DATES ARE PROVISIONAL & MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE** More dates and details are online at: <https://stmaryssoutham.org.uk/events/>