

# ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursey, Southam | October 16<sup>th</sup> 2020



## FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents & Carers,

It's been another very busy week in St. Mary's. The children have worked hard and are beginning to build up stamina. We will say goodbye today to Mr Musk who has been teaching Kingfishers - and I hope will return to us again if needed. He has given great commitment to our children and they, in turn have responded well. We welcome back Ms Righton on Monday after she has had to shield due to a close contact.

We are delighted to be welcoming back Mrs Hopkins after the autumn half-term break. Until May 2021 Mrs Hopkins will be teaching the core curriculum to our Year 5 children four mornings a week (Mon-Thurs). Skylarks will remain a bubble and be together in the main Y5/6 classroom each afternoon as well as all day Friday.

► Skylarks parents have received a note about this from Ms McAloon via Google Classroom; please respond with any questions via that forum or to Ms McAloon direct.

Mrs Price

## What's New

We now have our house points working well and the house captains are keeping a cumulative score. At the end of the year, one of the houses will get a nice surprise when they get their edible treat! The displays around school look delightful; next week we will have a video company coming to make a Virtual Open Day video that prospective parents and our own parents will be able to enjoy via our website.

This week we are looking forward to Learning log work coming in. We all enjoy the great enthusiasm our children show when sharing their learning. We thank you to the effort families put into this collaborative enterprise. I have already had the joy of seeing Jimmy and his Dad bringing in their working model

Full steam ahead for Learning Logs...



of the long-gone [Southam Road and Harbury railway station](#) at Deppers Bridge which opened in 1852 and closed in 1964. These days the 'mountain' at Harbury is the most visible clue the railway ever existed, containing 350,000 of the many tons of earth that were excavated, mainly by hand in the 1800s.

Next Friday, Mrs Hall will be finishing at school to start her maternity leave. The whole community will miss her hugely; she has given freely of her time and talents and we thank her for that. We hope she has a wonderful maternity leave at home with her new addition.

## THIS WEEK WE'VE BEEN...

### ROBINS

This week in Robins class we have listened to 'A squash and a squeeze' by Julia Donaldson. We have been learning about the capacity of different containers and estimated how many objects can fit into them.

Please do review the Robins wish list on the next page; the class would be very grateful of any items you can spare.

### KINGFISHERS

This week Kingfishers have continued to work very hard. In maths, we practised different methods to solve addition and subtraction problems.

We learnt about rationing during World War II and the children thought about the kinds of food they might have been able to eat.

Collective Worship reminded the class to think about the way we love each other.



### GOLDFINCHES

This week Goldfinches have been continuing their work on the Elves and the Shoemaker; in Maths we have been sorting shoes into pairs and practicing counting in 2s. In Science we have been sorting shoes by their material and classifying them by their properties. In RE we have been learning about how Jesus chose his disciples.



### SKYLARKS

Skylarks are relishing the chance to hone their problem-solving skills during our weekly Friday Maths Problem Solving Challenge. Last week, we enjoyed a very productive lesson trying to solve the factors and multiples puzzle board. Each Friday, the problem-solving challenge will be uploaded to the Google Classroom so that every family can have a go whilst the children showcase what they have learnt already! Children are encouraged to submit their solutions and any photos online - we would love to see these!



# OUT & ABOUT:

## BONFIRE & FIREWORKS:

Understandably this year won't see many organised displays, but with that in mind the Fire Service are warning everyone to be extra-vigilant about the firework code as there's expected to be a rise in the number of back garden DIY displays.

**COMPETITION!** (You don't have long - closing date is this Wednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup>)

**Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service's annual Firework Safety Competition:**

**Robins & Goldfinches:**

Design a Firework Safety Poster

**Kingfishers & Skylarks:**

Write a Firework Safety Poem or Rhyme and Decorate It

**THE SMALL PRINT:** Children can enter as many times as they wish, but must write their name, age, and school on the back of their posters. All entries must be on A4 sized paper/card.

▶ [Firework Safety Video for children](#)

## HIT THE GREAT OUTDOORS

(before it gets really cold...!)

If the weather is kind over half term, check out [these great resources](#) from Forestry England with ideas for enjoying Autumn outdoors with kids. Head to their main site for more: <https://www.forestryengland.uk/>

## ASK ME ABOUT...

### Flu vaccinations

Our children were all very brave and most said the nasal spray tickled or fizzed. If you missed out, please contact your GP. Children born 31/08/2018 - Year 7 all qualify for vaccination on the NHS [click for more](#)

St Andrew 85

St David 75

St Patrick 69

St George 65



# STARS OF THE WEEK

Robins - Joshua

Goldfinches - Tallulah

Kingfishers - Lexi

Skylarks - Arben

## HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD

Aimee for her phonics & listening  
& Lauren for being a good friend

## MILES AND MILES OF FUN!

Thank you all for remembering to bring trainers to school in addition to school shoes for the daily mile. As it's been pretty wet we're steering clear of the field and have marked out the large playground - it's 13 laps to achieve a mile! The children are running or jogging this and it's proving a great mental circuit break to blow away the cobwebs and boost concentration mid-afternoon.

## TTRS - A NEW CHAMPION:

1	<b>Cerys Mae Donovan</b>	1.15 seconds	Y6	Skylarks
2	<b>Luiza Ciobanu</b>	1.17 seconds	Y6	Skylarks
3	<b>Elena Raiseborough</b>	1.18 seconds	Y5	Skylarks
4	<b>Logan Crowther</b>	1.32 seconds	Y4	Kingfishers
5	<b>Ada Sztuka</b>	1.33 seconds	Y5	Skylarks



Cerys Mae has rocked to the top! Well done to you all and especially Logan as the lone Kingfisher in an exultation of Skylarks.

## HEALTHY LUNCHES HEALTHY MINDS

Lunch is an important meal to provide energy and nutrients to keep children going throughout the afternoon. Variety, and getting a balance of food types, is key to ensuring children get all of the protein, vitamins and minerals they need to stay healthy and alert. We have no wish to deprive the children of lunch-time treats, but one chocolate item and one crisp-type snack is more than enough. The [British Nutrition Foundation](#) suggests popcorn, breadsticks and banana bread as cheap and healthy alternative snacks.

Water is available all day, and lunchboxes should only contain water, dilute squash or fruit juice.

★ [Healthy Packed Lunch ideas](#) (YouTube video)

★ [Lunchbox Builder](#) (design your own)

# DIARY DATES

Friday, October 16

Reports to parents

Friday, October 16

Autumn 1 Learning Logs due back (Y1-6)

Thursday, October 22

Pebble Blessing Mass Reception (Sorry no parents)

Thursday, October 22

Individual & Sibling Group School Photos

October 26 - 30

Half Term

Saturday, October 31

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

Thursday, November 12

Kingfishers Class Mass (Sorry no parents)

Friday, November 27

Inset Day

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

## Reduce Reuse Recycle

Can you help our EYFS?

We're looking for donations of preloved items to help with our learning through play Robins curriculum. If you have any of the following in good condition, please send it to school and we'll quarantine it before sharing:

- ✓ trains & track
- ✓ farms & animals
- ✓ small world
- ✓ dress up clothes
- ✓ knights & dragons
- ✓ cars/trucks
- ✓ tracks/carpets
- ✓ soil for gardening
- ✓ wheelbarrows
- ✓ pots for planting
- ✓ trugs, rakes/spades
- ✓ ribbons
- ✓ pop up tents
- ✓ plastic mini beasts/ sea creatures
- ✓ sand timers
- ✓ early years games

