

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursey, Southam | November 13th 2020



FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents,

This week we have remembered those that have died in the two world wars. The children have made poppies and wreaths and classes have had Remembrance assemblies. All the children have been respectful when reflecting upon those who have died for our freedom.

Along with this, the children have felt really settled and this has become evident in how they have approached their learning. Many children have shown me their writing. I have been impressed by the presentation and the quality of their composition. Some children have even been rewarded by gold tokens for their houses. It has been lovely to see year 5's settle into working with Mrs Hopkins in the upstairs classroom.

Mrs Price

What's New

The end of the week saw Kingfishers receiving a Zoom call from Father Arul for their class mass. He shared the story of St. Martin de Torres and how he had a true vocation. It was great for the children to have his presence in the classroom during this second Lockdown. Computers are once again helping us in our isolation.

In Goldfinches the class learned about St Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and the environment and drew their favourite animals as part of their work:



William and Elsa with their wonderful lizard and butterfly pictures



Thank you to all who brought in pennies for playground poppies; we've returned our collecting tin & will let you know once we hear how much you raised for The British Legion.

SKYLARKS

This week in Maths, the Y6 Skylarks began by thinking carefully about the order of operations. They have also begun to grapple with feisty fractions - unit, non-unit, equivalent, improper and mixed numbers. Be sure to look out for the Friday Challenge on Google Classroom later today! In English, the children have thought carefully about the themes included in our key text and have written thought-provoking questions linked to these e.g. Should we purposefully forget memories? Should we ever reveal a secret? The children then wrote a balanced argument, using and applying adverbials to their writing. Bravo!

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO...

ROBINS

This week Robins class have been doing their learning around the nursery rhyme 'I'm A Little Teapot'. However, on Wednesday we learnt about Remembrance Day and we did our own poppy field painting. We observed the two minutes silence and thought about all the soldiers that died in the war.



GOLDFINCHES

The children had great fun playing carefully with different Victorian toys that we have in school. Here we're looking at photos of very old teddy bears.



We have compared them with newer toys and made fantastic collage pictures of vintage tin robots. We have written exciting stories about lost toys focussing on using describing words. We are also working hard on adding and subtracting.

KINGFISHERS

Another great week in Kingfishers and we are really getting immersed into our class text - 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. In writing, the children wrote as the character of Hogarth to complete a diary entry explaining how they felt when they first laid eyes upon the Iron Man with a head as big as a dustbin! The children also gave thoughtful responses during our special Remembrance Day Collective Worship on Wednesday and prayed to those who we have lost. Well done, Kingfishers!

IN TO THE WOODS:

POND LIFE! Our pond has been given a whole new lease of life thanks to a makeover by Seth's Dad.

Thank you so much Mr O'Meara for a fantastic job. Many in KS2 have had the chance to take part in Forest school this week and enjoy the Secret Garden and its regenerated pond:

FOREST SCHOOL IS BACK!

There was much excitement in the Skylarks classroom on Thursday as we welcomed our Forest School specialist, Mrs Ellis, back to St Mary's. The children took advantage of the plethora of natural resources in The Secret Garden, as they set about crafting miniature bonfire structures and bows and arrows! The final activity of the session required the children to build a boat, paying attention to the forces in play. Would it sink or would it float? An afternoon rich in outdoor learning and fun was relished by all - roll on Week 2!



ASK ME ABOUT... Remembrance Day

Every class held an assembly and act of worship on Wednesday to commemorate Remembrance Day; ask me what I learned.

St George 97
St Andrew 95
St David 79
St Patrick 79



Trinity Catholic School's open event videos are now available to view online at: <http://www.trinity-school.org.uk/virtual-open-event-october-2020/>



STARS OF THE WEEK:



Robins - Oliver B



Goldfinches - Brody J



Kingfishers - Sofia R



Skylarks - Ada S



HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD:

Claudia R for her positive approach to learning and an improvement in writing



&
Flori F for being a really good role model and progress in phonics

PARENT CONSULTATION RSE: Earlier this week we sent the new Draft Relationships and Health Education policy via email and a link to the online Parent Consultation from our scheme providers Ten Ten. This information is also available to view on the [letters home section](#) of our website. (If you do not have internet access, please contact the office to request further information.) Having accessed the online Consultation Tool, please email the office if you have any suggestions, concerns or queries by the end of Friday 27th November.

Maths Champions!

Well done to all our Times Table Rock Stars who've been cracking on with their practice and ramping up their rock star statuses. Also a huge congratulations to **David in Year 4**, who is the very first child to reach Sheet F in our daily 3 minute maths.



Goodbye Mr Tim...

Sadly, this week we have to say goodbye to Mr Tim. We wish him all the very best; we shall all as a community really miss him.

He has been more than a caretaker in that he has shown great care for our community, but now he needs to care for his wife. As many of you know, Mrs Everitt has been the Vicar of Long Itchington and over the years we have enjoyed a lovely link with this parish. One very memorable event, was when we jointly went to the new war memorial in Long Itchington and visited the church. It has been lovely to work closely with Mr Tim and his wife with our shared Christian perspective.

We'll MISS YOU!



DIARY DATES

Wednesday, November 25
Year 6 only (see class letter sent)
Health Needs Assessment

Friday, November 27
Inset Day

Monday, November 30
St Andrew's Day (ALL wear a blue or tartan item with your uniform.)

Tuesday, December 8
Dress Rehearsal for Nativity EYFS (Sadly no audience)

Wednesday, December 9
Christmas Performance Day
All Years (we will film all bubble events and Nativity to share these with parents)

Wednesday, December 16
A Victorian Christmas
Children are invited to dress in traditional Victorian clothing for a day of festive art and crafts Victorian style.

Bubble Christmas Parties & Christmas Dinner:
(more info to follow from class teachers)

Goldfinches / Robins:
Party: 15th December
Christmas Lunch: 17th December

Kingfishers / Skylarks:
Games & Quiz: 18th December
Christmas Lunch: 16th December

Friday, December 18
Last Day of Term &
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY!
£1 donation for Save the Children

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

SPEND & SAVE FOR FOSM!

EASYFUNDRAISING FOR FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S
With Lockdown 2 likely meaning a lot of pre-Christmas clicking, please don't forget to use easyfundraising to shop online with over 3,700 retailers (including Amazon, Argos, next, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, M&S, Iceland & BT).



Every time you shop, you'll generate a donation for Friends of St Mary's Southam. Donations are used to fund projects and facilities for our school and to subsidise events and school activities.

We have raised £1,000 for our school through easyfundraising in the past two years - please help us make more!