

# ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursey, Southam | February 5<sup>th</sup> 2021



## FROM THE HEAD



Dear parents and carers,

Last year began the Year of the Word in the Catholic church across the world. However, due to the pandemic, it has been extended for a further year. Pope Francis has written: 'Scripture is at the centre of everything the Church does. The Word of God shapes our prayer and worship. The Bible shows us how to understand the world, how we are called to live and relate to each other.' So, in school we looked last year at the Gospel of Matthew and this year we will be focussing on Mark's gospel. You will have noticed that the TenTen assemblies have been all about the Gospel writer Mark for the last couple of weeks. He depicts Jesus as not just a powerful worker but also a suffering Messiah. In school, the Key stage 2 bubble, put together a simple Candlemas service with Mrs Lyons. It involved Jesus being the Light of the World. All the children had made tissue candles and responded by holding them up with the response: I have lit a candle Lord. In the hall, Mrs Lyons has made a beautiful display with a candle for each child and family. The few children inside miss the many children outside and of course those outside will miss their friends inside. Soon we will be together again. The light is returning, the days are getting longer, it is nearly the start of Lent which means 'lengthening'.

Mrs Price

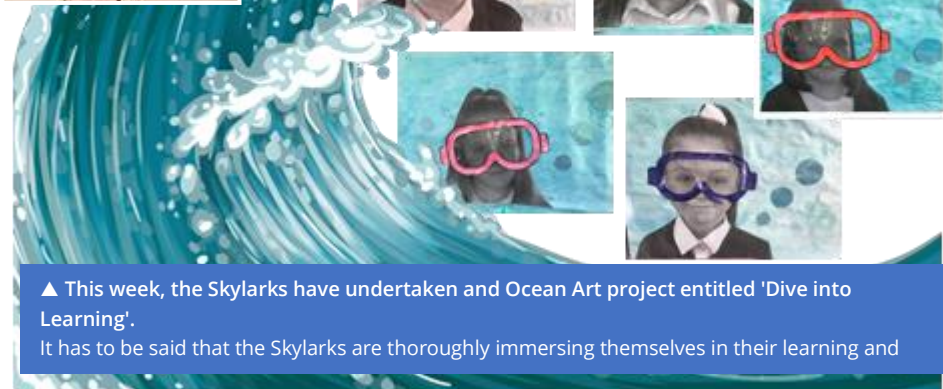
## What we've been up to...



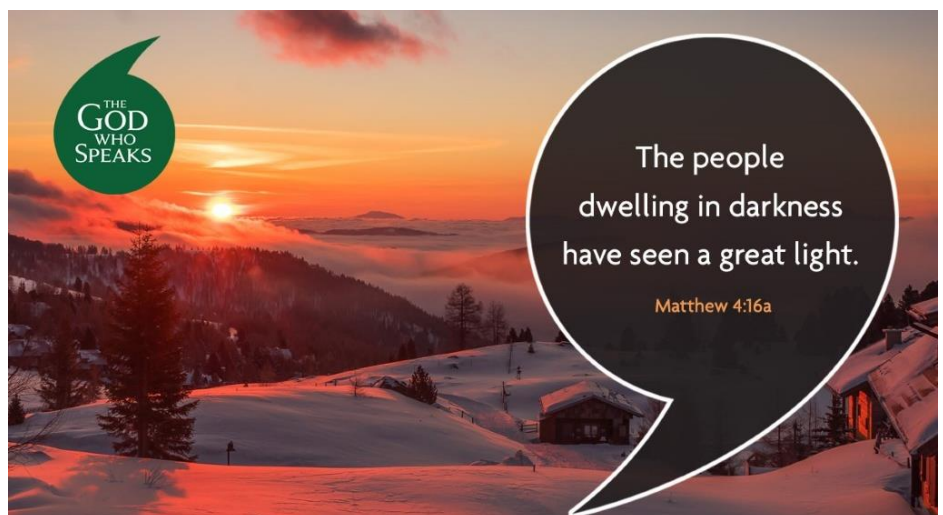
◀ Thank you to Ms Maclean who has been busy making a beautiful reading nook in the library, ready for when you all come back after half term so you can 'Get Carried Away by Books'



Claudia created a Sacred Heart from Fimo clay for her Learning Log ▼



▲ This week, the Skylarks have undertaken an Ocean Art project entitled 'Dive into Learning'. It has to be said that the Skylarks are thoroughly immersing themselves in their learning and



The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.

Matthew 4:16a

## STRATFORD DISTRICT CHILDREN & FAMILY CENTRE

For anyone with preschool aged children at home, the Children's Centre Early Years Team are now running all their activities online, so you can still access support and interaction with perennial favourites such as baby massage, Bumps and Babies and Chatter Matters available in your very own living room!

To see the full timetable, find out more or book one of the above please visit @Stratfordchildrenscentres on Facebook or email [susan.proctor@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:susan.proctor@barnardos.org.uk)



## THE DAILY RIGOUR MATHS MASTERS

'In Maths today, the Skylarks sampled 'The Daily Rigour'.

This resource promotes the application of problem-solving and reasoning skills whilst encouraging children to access the news. With teasers on TV's Pointless to a veteran skate-boarder, to the Duchess of Cambridge's own Maths skills, Mrs Hopkins & Mrs McAloon very much enjoyed solving this week's challenges!



## LET'S GET PHYSICAL PE CHALLENGES

KS1 and KS2 children have had PE Challenges set by our coach Danny. The idea is that they keep score of their points each day and submit their scores on Friday. We're also taking part in more Mindful Movers sessions in school on a Tuesday (Key Worker and Vulnerable children, please come in PE kit on Tuesdays!) – and the video will be uploaded afterwards for everyone at home to join in too. Please do send us your photos of you being energetic at home!

## TERRIFIC TOPIC

### AFRICAN DRUMS



In KS1 the children have been making African Drums this week as part of our 'Amazing Africa' topic. They will be having an Africa Day on Monday including making masks, making African sweet treats and a whole class Zoom call at 11.00am - including those in school to celebrate the end of our topic and to see all their friends.



## TOGETHER BUT APART

### TAKING CARE OF OURSELVES:

During our Zoom meeting, Robins have focused on the things we do that give us 'joy' as part of Children's Mental Health Week. They showed pictures and talked with us about baking, seeing friends and lots of other lovely activities. Here is a picture Aimee made of what makes her joyful:



## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

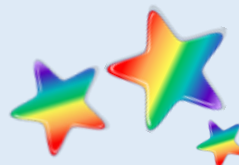
This year, more than any other, we need to talk about our mental health and well-being. Teachers have set activities around what it means to express ourselves and why it is so important. You can find out more about the week and the charity behind it, Place2Be on their website:

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-families/>

## STARS, VIRTUES & VALUES.

Congratulations to all who've earned a gold star via Google Classrooms this week. This week's leaf on our Grateful and Generous tree is for Jacob H.

Jacob has Facetimed his grandparents every day to see if there is anything they need. He is baking something new every week and is reading all the time. Well done for cheering up all around you with your smiling and positive attitude Jacob!



## DIARY DATES

### February 1 - 7

Children's Mental health Week  
<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

### Friday, February 5

Learning Log Return Date  
See Google Classrooms for details

### Tuesday, February 9

Safer Internet Day

### Friday, February 12

Chinese New Year  
The year of the Ox

### February 15 - 19

Half Term This year Lent starts during Half Term  
<https://kids.kiddle.co/Lent>

### Tuesday, 16 February

Shrove Tuesday

### Thursday, March 4

World Book Day

We'll be asking all of you to join in our daily Zoom call in World Book Day fancy dress! From Bible Characters to Fairy Tales to Superheroes – take your pick!

### Sunday March 14

Mother's Day

### PLEASE NOTE:

DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
More dates and details online at:  
<https://stmaryssoutham.org.uk/events/>

## STUDIO SPEED



Don't forget about our fantastic Smiggle Competition for all you Times Table Rock Stars out there! Next Friday at midday we'll be taking a snapshot of the leaderboard and the top two will win Smiggle vouchers.



Our current rockers (so you know who you'll need to topple to win!) are:

1. Riley 0.93 secs
2. Cerys-Mae 0.96 secs
3. Jack 1.12 secs
4. Luiza 1.17 secs
5. Elena 1.19

Well done all of you, keep up the good work!