

# ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursey, Southam | February 12<sup>th</sup> 2021



## FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we began the week, cold and shivering with flurries of snow. For all of us it was a little bit of magic and excitement that acted as a welcome distraction from the restrictions we have had to get used to again.

On Tuesday we celebrate Pancake day or Shrove Tuesday. This day preceding Lent, is when households use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the fasting season of the 40 days of Lent.

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February we begin Lent. Our prayer tables in school, like the altar and vestments in church, will have their colours changed to purple and decorations paired back. During Lent we will no longer sing our song of joy expressed in the word 'Alleluia!' Instead, the 'Alleluia' will be placed in a box or bag or even buried outside, until the Easter season comes when we celebrate the joy of the Resurrection.

During this time we will pray, fast and do Charitable works. Over these 40 days we will do family activities such as; keeping a Lent prayer time at home, making someone a 'Thinking of You' card or donating to our local foodbank.

Alongside this, we will start our new focus on values and virtues. In the next half term we will be **Attentive** to our experience and our vocation. We will also be **Discerning** about the choices we make and the effects of those choices. We will put examples of children thinking and acting this way on a magnolia tree in the entrance of the school.

We now look forward to the start of Spring and being together in school again.

Mrs Price

## VALENTINES HEART TRAIL HALF TERM FUN FROM FOSM

Thank you to our Friends who have made a special Valentine's Day themed town trail for our children to take part in over the half term holidays. The trail sheet is being sent with the newsletter and instructions for returning completed sheets and a £1 donation in return for a prize will follow from the FOSM team.

## MATHS + SCIENCE = COOKING FUN

We had star bakers in and out of school from top left: Charlotte, Sophia K, Gracie, the Clarke family, Miriam, our Kingfishers (whose banana chocolate muffins we can confirm were lovely!) and the Goldfinches::



## SKYLARKS OCEAN ART :

### The SEA-quel...

Part two of our underwater portraits...



# SPRING LEARNING LOGS:

**ASK AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU ART PROJECT**  
 Our children certainly sought and found wonderful inspiration for their learning logs in the set verse as you can see from these wonderful examples:

Thank you so much to all those who submitted this term's Learning Log based on a piece of Bible scripture. Lots of you used doors in your artwork to illustrate:

*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."*  
**Matthew 7:7-8 NIV**

The KS2 key worker children were fascinated to hear all about Jimmy's Scripture Art Project where he also told us all about The Book of Kells which was written by a group of monks in around 800AD. Miriam worked so hard to research and collate a variety of church doors for her Learning Log project and presented these beautifully.

**Elena:** The picture with the door shows knock and the door will be opened to you and the second picture refers to for everyone who asks receives as they are asking for help!

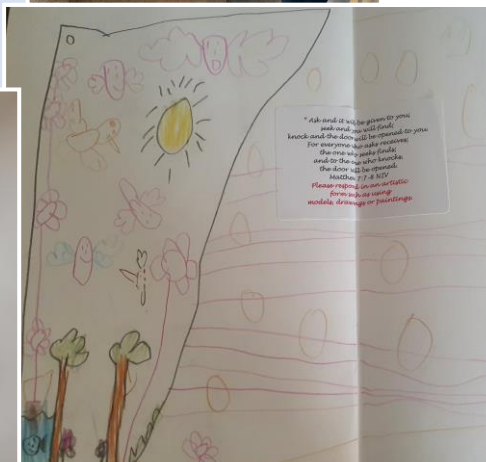
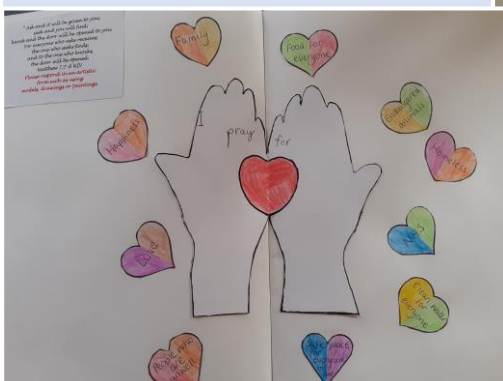
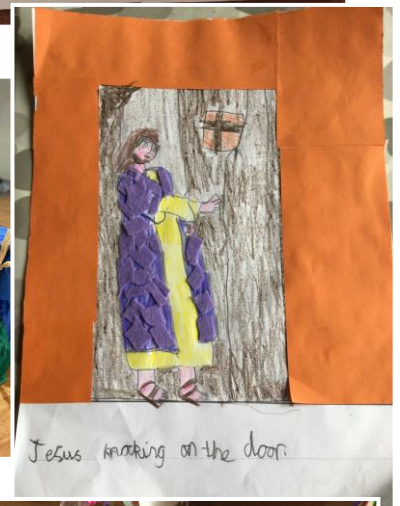
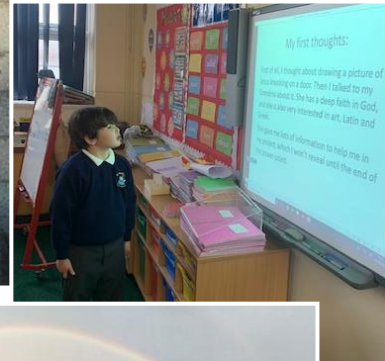
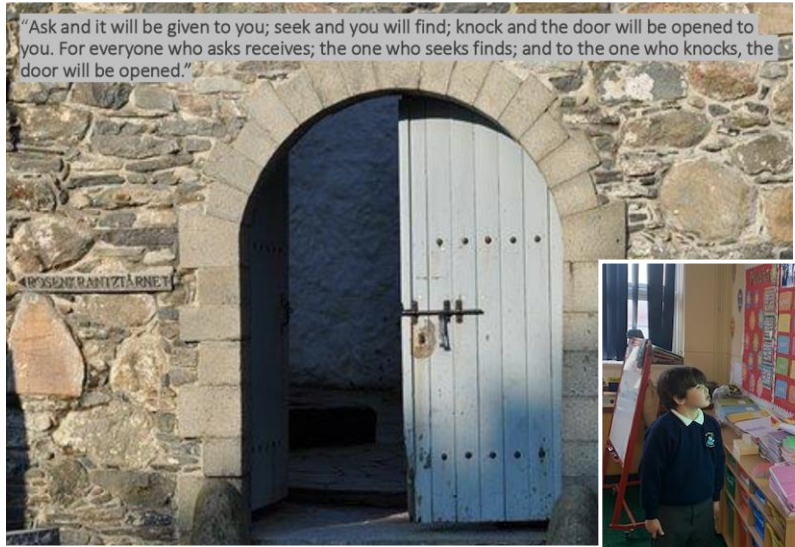
**Jacob H:** This picture is of our garden door and a rainbow which gives hope and I think is from God.

**Sophie:** The hearts show the things I pray for and the praying hands I made out of gingerbread.

**Jack:** I am showing a person who is knocking on a door how to find help. On the other side of the door, the light is shining and someone is waiting to help them.

Goldfinches put on a wonderful display with drawings, fully opening doors, model boxes, pop ups and more. A small selection are shown here.

We're making a display in the hall to showcase all your brilliant inventiveness. Well done all!



## GOLDFINCHES AFRICAN ADVENTURE:

**ART & CRAFT AFRICAN STYLE** The Goldfinches have made some excellent African crafts this week. They learned about African drumming and about the colours the Maasai tribespeople use to make necklaces. They also looked at the different masks carved out of wood and the children made some card models too! It was lovely for the class to get together during a Zoom call to play their drums, share their African crafts and Maggie showed some objects given to her from Africa. We also had a very important discussion about keeping safe on the internet and posters were made. Mason wrote a very informative poster at home for his Google Classroom page. We played Bingo on our Zoom chat for African Animal and Numbers to 100 which was lots of fun.

We have also been making Lenten promises to get ready for the beginning of Lent on Wednesday.

Have a lovely half term from Goldfinches!



## ROBINS:

**TOGETHER BUT APART** We've been having a creative craft week this week in Robins...

Here are some great photos you've shared from home school.



Finnley has been making some rockets while Betsy and Aimee found different coloured fruits:



## DIARY DATES

Tuesday, 16 February  
Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday, 17 February  
Ash Wednesday

**EARLY MARCH (10<sup>th</sup> TBC)**  
World Book Day

*In a change from last week's newsletter we'll delay the celebrations at St Mary's - we'll be listening with interest to the latest government updates, and will postpone this event until we're all back in school together for maximum literary fun!*

March 1-5

Justice Week  
We'll be joining in the Big Legal Lesson during this week

March 8-12

British Science Week  
Look out for fun science themed activities this week!

Sunday March 14

Mother's Day & Clocks Forward

Wednesday March 17

St Patrick's Day

**PLEASE NOTE:**

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

**PE CHALLENGE:** Remember to look out for weekly PE challenges from our coach Danny. Each Monday a new challenge video will appear on the Google Classroom Class folders. Keep your points score and send it in to Google Classrooms each Friday for the class tally. Well done to Darcy, Delilah and Florence for mastering last week's toilet roll challenge! (You can still access this and play along at home if you missed it)

## SAFER INTERNET DAY - And online games worth playing this half term

We've been talking to the children this week about staying safe online with lesson plans around Tuesday's Safer Internet Day 2021. This year's theme was 'An internet we trust - exploring reliability in the online world'.

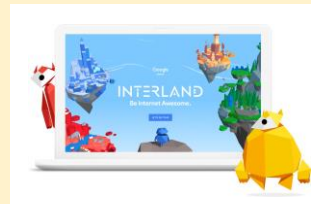
Safer Internet Day inspires a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively - celebrating the amazing range of information and opportunities online, and its potential to inform, connect and inspire us, whilst also looking at how young people can separate fact from fiction.

#AnInternetWeTrust <https://www.facebook.com/CyberSafeWarwickshire>

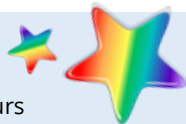
▶ ▶ Children can have fun learning to be 'Internet Awesome' through these educational games that are fun in their own right - and once levels are completed they can print certificates for each of 5 Internet skills:

[https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en\\_uk/interland/](https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_uk/interland/)

▶ ▶ Parents can have their own adventure following a host of easy animations and quick clear guides: [https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en\\_uk/parents/](https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en_uk/parents/)



## STARS, VIRTUES & VALUES LEAVES AND HOUSE POINTS



- ★ **Layla** has been cheering up her neighbours by drawing and writing letters to them.
- ★ **Casey** has shown kindness and consideration for all those around him adults included.
- ★ **Miriam** and **Chelsea** have been cheering up their classmates by sharing inspirational quotes over Google Classroom.
- ★ Along with **Delilah F**, **Chelsea** has also been posting her musical performances.
- ★ Congratulations to **James H** who has been working really hard on his handwriting at home with Mum and **Finnley** for his excellent home crafting.

## STOP & PAUSE

## WELLBEING REST & RELAXATION

Parents and children alike have stepped up to enforced lockdown and adjusted admirably to home schooling/blended learning these last 6 weeks. If you are able to have some time off with the kids next week, here are some great, cheap ideas for while you're at home (for a change!):  
<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/tea-m-blog/2020/04/free-or-cheap-ways-to-entertain-kids-indoors/>  
If you need to squeeze some work in and would normally use paid holiday clubs, some online trawling will yield many chargeable online courses for sport, craft, music, cooking, coding and more.

## TOP OF THE ROCKS!



Congratulations to our winner **Riley** and runner up **Cerys Mae** for their Times Table Rock Stars battle. Your Smiggle vouchers will be winging their way to you shortly. Well done too to all our rockers and especially those who just missed out, Jack and Luiza.



## Faith at Home

Cafod's Family Lent Calendar:  
<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Families/Family-Lent-Calendar-2021>

Lent Activities poster:  
<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Lent-Activities-Poster.pdf>

52 Sundays Family Fun:  
<https://www.52sundays.com/sundays/february-14-2021#familyfun>