

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursey, Southam | April 30th 2021



FROM THE HEAD



Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be pleased to hear that we are welcoming a number of new families to our school in the next few weeks. So far, the children have been very welcoming to these children and I am sure they will continue to be so. They have shown great kindness and thoughtfulness.

This term our value and virtue focus is being Compassionate and Loving. We will be looking for the children that demonstrate these ways of being in their day-to-day life at school.

It is nearly May and we are looking forward to Father Arul coming in to lead our May procession. This will be held on the 27th of May with Year 5/6. However, the other classes will have their own liturgies to Mary and will be able to spread petals around a wooden statue of Our Lady. Father Arul has a special devotion to Mary and of course she is the patron saint of our school.

Sadly, Mrs Hopkins will finish her contract with us on Friday the 14th May. We hope she will return again next year for the Y5 SATs preparation, meanwhile we wish her the very best and thank her for the kindness with which she taught our children.

Mrs Price

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO...

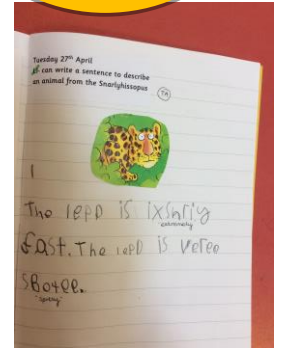
ROBINS

Big Robins have read the story of 'Snarlyhissopus' this week. We came across lots of different animals. We chose our favourite and then thought of a sentence to describe it. We have been thinking about making sure our sentences have a capital letter at the start, finger spaces and a full stop at the end.



Little Robins have been playing 'rhyming soup' and have read A Squash and a Squeeze to listen out for the rhyming words.

Have a look at how we got on! ▶



GOLDFINCHES

The children in Goldfinch class had a very interesting time exploring really old materials from a Tudor house in town. We were given building materials used from

the Forgan's family home which dates from 1699! They learned about how the wooden frame was dated using the tree rings from the timbers used. We also looked at the actual wooden pegs, lime plaster, nails and stones that had been found when the house was renovated. There is another house in the same street dating from 1567! The children really enjoyed hearing about the different trees used, especially elm trees which sadly no longer grow here because of the disease that killed them.



We have also been working on our addition and times table facts so we are instantly able to recall them. We are writing about woodland settings this week using powerful adjectives and verbs.

KINGFISHERS

Another busy week in Kingfisher class. The children have enjoyed learning all about different animal skeletons in science and the difference between an endoskeleton and an exoskeleton. They were fascinated to learn that a crab actually SHEDS its own skeleton! Did you know that jellyfish have hydrostatic skeletons? Ask a Kingfisher what this means!

SKYLARKS

The Lord is risen indeed! Luke 24:34

This week and last, the Year 5/6 children have thought carefully about how Mary Magdalene would have felt upon arriving at the tomb, only to discover that the stone had been rolled back and Jesus' body had gone. Each child then wrote a 'coathanger' prayer to convey Mary's response to this event. Here is just one...

Astonished,

My Lord has vanished.

I love him,

The light is vague,

a glimpse of Jesus.



The cross is a symbol of Jesus' death. However, Jesus overcame death; he rose again, and so it is also a symbol of our new life in him. This week, the Skylarks have designed their own floral crosses to symbolise our joy at the Resurrection of Jesus. Please ask your child to show you their cross on the photos above.

They are very beautiful!

REINFORCING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

I would like to signpost you to our **Behaviour Management Policy** on our website which, though launched in January, was understandably overshadowed by Lockdown.

I would ask that you read this, especially if your child has had a lunch time detention recently. From now on if your child breaks school rules intentionally then they will have a lunch time detention and a letter will go home to say why they had to stay in. Any detention letter should be signed and returned to school so that we know that you have seen it and are aware of the circumstances.

In the event of repeated incidents then a more formal meeting would be called between the teacher and yourselves plus your child (on occasions this would also include the head teacher). Please do read the policy and you will see the type of serious consequences that could follow if the child persists in poor behaviour choices.

I realise most children do not break school rules, but the policy is there for them also in order to keep them safe and keep St. Mary's a positive place to be:

We are Great Ambassadors for our School

- ✓ We try our best and work hard.
- ✓ We are friendly, kind and helpful.
- ✓ We respect property.
- ✓ We listen to people.
- ✓ We are polite and have good manners.
- ✓ We are honest.
- ✓ We wear our uniform with pride.
- ✓ We keep ourselves safe.

ASK ME ABOUT...

Daily Decisions

Our assembly on Monday explained we are at a crossroads every day and can choose what decisions we make. If we listen to our heart we'll know the right path to take.

HOUSE POINTS

St Patrick 52

St George 49

St Andrew 43

St David 33

STARS OF THE WEEK

Robins – Aimee

Goldfinches - Eliza

Kingfishers - Amelka

Skylarks – Luiza

HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD

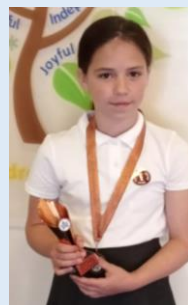
Alice for being so helpful and working consistently hard

& Elliott for settling so well and making good friendships

Awards and Trophies: Celebrating outside success

With clubs and groups starting again after Lockdown, it's great to see our pupils' extra-curricular success; please keep sharing your achievements for our Celebration Assemblies (currently still in bubbles).

Florence has celebrated a Bronze award in Gymnastics and David, Player of the Week from his football club.



First Holy Communion

Our First Holy Communion candidates will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday the 26th of May in the morning. Father Arul will talk to all the children together and then they will have their first confession individually in the hall with Covid safe procedures in place.



SAFETY ON SITE

Please do not let your children play on the trim trail (or run on the playground) before and after school. This is for their physical safety as well as Covid rules; keep children close and leave the school grounds promptly after pick up.

AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3...

Dress up for Digits on Number Day Friday 7th May

1. Dress up in a number or maths-themed outfit
2. Bring in a £1 donation in a sealed envelope
3. Have a day of maths fun!

Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or onesie!). Or get even more creative by dressing in a maths or numbers theme... We're really looking forward to all the fun of Number Day, and we really appreciate your support. Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it. All the money we raise adds up to help NSPCC be there for children.



CONSENT FORMS

Have you sent in yours?

A new online consent form for Photo permissions and Local Trips (walking within Southam) was sent yesterday – but some email providers, including BT have marked it spam. If you didn't get a copy, please visit the form from [this link](#) to update your family preferences. It is important that all families do this, even if they have previously given consent/opted out, as we have updated the photo categories after feedback that the old form was confusing.

DIARY DATES

Every Friday
50p Fridays for FOSM



Monday, May 3
Bank Holiday

w/c Tuesday, May 4
Clubs & The Wriggle Project
Start this week
(details from class teachers)

Thursday, May 6
Goldfinch Town History Walk
(consent form required)

Friday, May 7
Numbers Day (see below)

w/c Monday, May 24
Return date for our Summer
1 Learning Logs

Wednesday, May 26
Class Photos

Wednesday, May 26
Sacrament of Reconciliation
(First Holy Communion cohort only)

Thursday, May 27
May Procession Y5/6

Friday, June 18
Skylarks Re-Treat Day

Thursday, July 1
Sports Afternoon

Wednesday, July 7
Moving Up Day (all classes)

Sunday July 11
First Holy Communion

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

Uniform Old and New

Thank you so much to Mrs Clarke who spent a herculean morning sorting out a cupboard full of uniform donations this week. If you have outgrown uniform in good condition, please do send it in to school so we can add to our stock holding. We'll let you know in due course how we can offer a COVID safe uniform sale to fundraise for FOSM. Meanwhile, we have updated our store page of new items at Andrew Hyde and included optional sun hats and hoodies [click here](#) to visit now.

