

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursey, Southam | May 14th 2021



FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term seems to be flying by. It takes us from Easter and the risen Christ to Pentecost Sunday on the 23rd of May and the birth of the Early Church. Alongside this, we are preparing the First Holy Communion candidates for their First Holy communion. We are also preparing the Year 6 children for their transition and move to their secondary school and also our school for its next chapter with Mrs Collier at the helm. I ask for your prayers at this time for wise judgement when we interview for new positions next week.

This week is about saying goodbye to Mrs Hopkins and Miss Maclean, both of which have done a great job in teaching our children. Mrs Hopkins is keen to be with us next year and Miss Maclean will be back in before the holiday to help out in any way she can. We say a big THANK YOU to both of them for all they have done. Next week, Mrs Finch will be back with us in Robins after her maternity leave. We welcome her back.

This year has had many beginnings and endings, thanks to Covid. It had shown for me the power of the community and how much we all need it to function well and have a good sense of well-being. Our children have shown great resilience and as new children are starting and our community is growing there is a sense of welcome for all. This makes me very proud and gives me great faith that all will be well going forward.

Mrs Price

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO...

ROBINS

Both Big and Little Robins were very excited to celebrate number day last

Friday! Arriving wearing all things numerical (including some very creative T-Shirts and number necklaces), the children got busy playing bingo and their own number games from home. It was great to see them doing such fantastic sharing with all their friends and being so engaged in their maths learning. Well done Robins!



GOLDFINCHES

This week the children in Goldfinch class have

worked hard writing thank you letters and stories about our visit to Southam. We were really interested to hear about the animals that were once in the zoo here. It was amazing hearing about how the Tudor house was built and there were super artefacts to explore!



KINGFISHERS

What a fantastic Numbers Day was had by all last Friday! We donned our calculations, shapes,

patterns and numbers for the day and begun with a problem-solving task. When we had found ALL 12 pieces, we were able to assemble the jigsaw that led us to Buddy - he made an appearance through our window much to the delight of the children!

The children showed excellent collaborative skills to work together to solve each clue, practising their calculation skills simultaneously. In the afternoon, we loved playing boardgames, assembling jigsaws and challenging each other at cards - it was lovely to see the children enjoying themselves whilst practising their mathematical skills too.

SKYLARKS

Last Friday, the Skylarks were primed for Number Day 2021

- what an array of costumes! As you can see here Gwen was a cute calculator, whilst Sophie was feeling rather dotty as she dressed up for digits. There were many parallel and perpendicular lines, and integers galore! The time flew as the children faced a range of mathematical challenges both in the classroom, and outdoors.



Thanks to all your donations £77.00 was raised for the NSPCC - well done to all!



Can you solve our number puzzle?
Using only addition and the number 8,
how can you add eight 8s to make to 1,000?
Look out for the answer next week!

A CHILD'S PRAYER

Dear God,
Please fill our hearts today,
God of Peace,
Fill our hearts with peace today,
God of wisdom,
Open our eyes and ears to see
and hear you today,
God of all people join us in love
with our neighbours,
God of adventure,
Go with us today.
Amen

by Peyton



STARS OF THE WEEK

Robins - Delilah L
Goldfinches - Connor
Kingfishers - Leon
Skylarks - Zach

HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD

Olivia for extreme helpfulness and a cool head & Sophie for her amazing organization and taking responsibility

DIARY DATES

Every Friday
50p Fridays for FOSM



Tuesdays, May 18 & 25
Y4 Forest School
(as Y3 have Wriggle project these two Tuesdays, Y4 will be in the Secret Garden getting muddy)

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/>

Mental Health Awareness Week 10-16 May

Get close to nature

Connecting with nature can help young people improve and maintain their mental health and wellbeing. Our 'Mental Health in the Pandemic' study found that going for walks outside was one of our top coping strategies and 45% of us said that being in green spaces was vital for looking after our mental health.

www.mentalhealth.org.uk/mhaw

Stay Safe after May 17

COVID Safety: New rules

We all want hugs back, but no one wants COVID levels back up. To find out more about what you can safely do from Monday, please refer to [official government guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance) not word of mouth.



Building Grant Funding: I am very pleased to tell you that we have been successful in our application for VASCA (formerly LCVAP) funding. We have been allocated funding for the replacement of doors and windows throughout the site. Many windows at the front of school will be replaced as well as windows in the Early Years block. In addition, many of the internal and external doors will be replaced. This could well start over the next half term. We will keep you posted as to when and where!

MINI LITERARY PHENOMENON – in person or online!

THERE'S LOTS OF EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AT THE STRATFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL

From online family quizzes to drop in make and play sessions with Maisie the Mouse – there's 'literally' all sorts aimed at ages from rising 3s to teens. Join Cressida Cowell, Children's Laureate and author of the massively successful How to Train Your Dragon for a Zoom call or look at Banksy's art with a Playbox Theatre workshop (ages 8-11) there are even Aardman model making workshops to make your own Shaun the sheep – or for the mummies and daddies – Morph!

<https://www.stratfordliteraryfestival.co.uk/events/children>



ASK ME ABOUT... OUR NAMESAKE

Throughout the school the different classes have been learning about Mary; the youngest children have made a beautiful story book and KS2 children have been learning the rosary.

STEP BACK FROM THE ROAD

With so much less traffic over Lockdown and children less often outside of home, many children have forgotten – or never had the chance to practice – road safety rules. As parents we can help:

- Park away from school gates
 - Always hold hands with young children
 - Remember – your child will copy you
 - Every road means STOP, LOOK, LISTEN
 - Never get children out of a car roadside
 - Think safer places to cross the road
 - Secure your child's car seat correctly
 - Think Who's Looking
- <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/roadsafetyparents>

With HS2 there are also lots more lorries on the road too; we're working with the Road Safety Education team and will be putting up awareness signs very soon.

SCAM WARNINGS!

With so many scams prevalent in the news, Trading Standards have asked us to share the following:

Scam alerts can be found at:
<https://safeinwarwickshire.com/2021/05/14/census-21-text-scams-and-other-scam-warnings/>

Warwickshire residents have been caught out by scam computer pop ups offering free gifts. To receive their free gift, consumers are asked to input their credit or debit card details to pay for postage and packaging. £1 is usually taken immediately. However, later on larger amounts of money, usually close to £100 is taken and this continues on a monthly basis until the continuous payment authority is cancelled.

Continuous payment authority and subscription scams:
<https://www.getsafeonline.org/shopping-banking/subscription-traps/>

HOUSE POINTS

St Patrick 53
St Andrew 52
St David 43
St George 41



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY, DAVENTRY ROAD, SOUTHAM, CV47 1PS