

# ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | October 7<sup>th</sup> 2021



## From the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, another very busy week has passed us by and yet again we are seeing so many wonderful achievements across our school. I am immensely proud of all of our children and the fantastic team of staff that we have here. I cannot tell you what a privilege it is to join the classes of children and be involved in their learning. My favourite day of the week is Friday when we have our Celebration Assembly and share all of the wonderful things that our children are participating in both inside and outside of school. Please ask your children to bring their achievements in from outside of school to share with us. We love hearing about this!

The month of October is a very special month, it is the month where we are thankful for Our Lady. I wonder how many people have a set of rosary beads? I have been amazed over the last week, from my drive over from Coventry each day, at the amount of cars, vans and lorries which have this religious symbol. What does it say? I think it shows how much people want the maternal protection of the mother of Jesus for themselves, their passengers and their precious cargo.

Praying the rosary has been within the church for centuries, there is a special focus on this prayer because it is linked to Our Lady who is recognised as the person who has the ear of her son; Jesus. But she is far more than this. Her entire life reflected her love of God and perfect discipleship because she was happy to do what God asked of her. Everything about Mary's life helps us to understand the meaning of love. The good thing about the rosary is if you haven't got your beads you can use your ten fingers, or your five fingers on one hand twice. It is a prayer that can be said with others or on your own, and of course when we pray we are not just talking to God but also listening too.

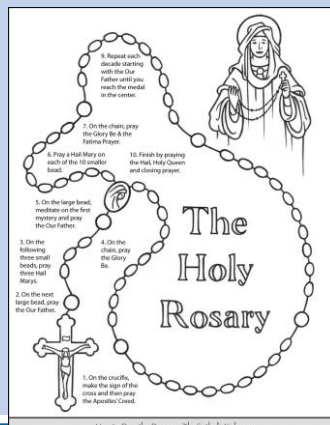
When we pray the rosary, we reflect on the whole story of Jesus and the early church. Each bead is one prayer, the ten beads together are ten Hail Mary's, the one alone is the Glory Be at the end of a decade and the Our Father at the beginning of the next. The children at school will be learning how to say the prayers of the rosary, perhaps you might ask them about it and best of all perhaps you might say a little prayer with them. Our children are so thoughtful when it comes to prayer, they show all of those values that we talk about: kind, loving, thoughtful and respectful.

Have the most wonderful weekend.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

If you've ever wondered how to pray the rosary, you can find out more and do some colouring here ► <https://www.thecatholicid.com/how-to-pray-the-rosary-coloring-page/>



## SUPER SOPHIA

Congratulations to our Skylark Sophia who has had soaring success in her gymnastics!

Here she is with her trophy and medals from a competition with Daventry Gymnastics Club.



HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL TO SHARE? WE HAVE A CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY EVERY FRIDAY AND LOVE TO HEAR OUR CHILDREN'S SUCCESSES BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL.

## ★ REMINDER: SAVE THE DATE! ★

### FOSM Welcome Evening

Come along to the school hall on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm** to find out about our Friends of St Mary's group; what we do to support the school, and how you can get involved. A great chance to meet other parents over a glass of wine! All welcome!



## STARTING SCHOOL NEXT YEAR?

### School & Nursery Tours

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Open Morning on Thursday it was lovely to meet you all. If you missed our Open Morning, please get in touch and we'll happily arrange a call back or after-hours tour.

Our updated [prospectus](#) is available on the website and all the information new – and existing – parents need day to day is available under the School Life tab: <https://stmaryssoutham.org.uk/school-life-2/>

### Southam Book Festival 24<sup>th</sup> October

@ the Graham Adams Centre with children's and adult authors exhibiting and speaking plus book related stalls. Keep your eyes peeled for their 'book in a window' competition as you walk around town! <https://www.southambookfest.co.uk/>

## ONLINE PARENTS EVENING:

13<sup>th</sup> October from 1:30 – 7pm

In order to keep our school community safe, we will be holding this via Zoom. Each appointment will be for a maximum of ten minutes and they will run from 1.20pm, with the last appointment being 6.50pm. Appointment times will be issued soon. If you wish to discuss something that may take longer, please make another appointment with your child's Class Teacher.

### ROBINS

What a busy week we have had in Robins class this week. We have created a fantastic art gallery full of our self-portraits and on Wednesday we planted our very own herb garden! We talked about the different herbs that we were planting and what we needed to do to look after them. Well done Robins, another amazing week.

### DOVES

This week Doves have received a letter from Mother Pig asking for us to find out what happened to her three piglets? We have been learning the story of the Three Little Pigs using our own actions.

In Maths we have been learning to count forwards and backwards. In RE we have been learning about special celebrations at home, in school and in church.

### GOLDFINCHES

Goldfinches have been so hard working this week. They have become masters at partitioning numbers into tens and ones to help us with our addition and subtraction number sentences. We have been busy writing our very own twist on the Gingerbread Man story (you wouldn't believe some of the things our teachers have been up to). We have continued to build our knowledge of the United Kingdom and finding physical and human geographical landmarks using coordinates. Finally, we had a beautiful prayer service with Mrs. Lyons, appreciating St. Francis and how we can be more like him.

### KINGFISHERS

This week Kingfisher's have been the most hard working and focused on their learning and friendships since we started. We have had some determined learners - particularly when rounding numbers in our maths lessons!

We carried out a science investigation linked to our topic of Animals including humans, whereby we predicted whether the length of our femur bone would impact on the distance we could jump! With some interesting results that I am sure the children will share with you!

The children behaved impeccably on our first visit to the swimming pool and were great ambassadors for St.Mary's.

### SKYLARKS

This week in Skylarks we have worked so hard. In English, we have continued our adventure with Michael from Kensuke's Kingdom, writing diary entries about his journey from Southampton to falling overboard into the Coral Sea and getting washed up on a desert island. Is he alone? Will he survive? In maths, we have almost perfected multiplication of 3-digit numbers. It's been tricky at times but the class have shown amazing perseverance. Please encourage your child to complete their homework which consists of: spellings, reading daily and TTRS. We really appreciate your support with helping them with these.



## DIARY DATES

### EVERY FRIDAY

50p Fridays are back! bring your pennies for yummy snacks and fundraise for FOSM



### Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>

FOSM Welcome Evening  
7:30pm, School Hall

### Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

Swimming @ 11am  
(one week only for Parent's Evening)

### Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

Online Parents Evening  
1:30 - 7pm

### Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

Skylarks Mass at church  
@ 09:30

### Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

Individual School Photos

### Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

Doves Prayer Service  
(in school, sorry no parents)

### October 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>

Half Term

### October 31<sup>st</sup>

Application Deadline  
Secondary School Places

### Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

Reception Vision Screening

### Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>

Health Needs Assessment &  
Measurement Programme  
Y6 Both & YR Measurement only

### Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

NEW DATE: Flu Vaccination  
YR - Y6

### PLEASE NOTE:

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

### HOUSE POINTS

Congratulations children on some stellar points totals raised this week!

St Patrick 119

St David 115

St George 94

St Andrew 65

## Stars of the Week

**Little Robins** - Louie

**Big Robins** - Freddie

**Doves** - Maisie

**Goldfinches** - Sebastian

**Kingfishers** - Bella & Casey

**Skylarks** - Olivia & Theo

### EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

Robins	Teddy & Ava
Doves	Flori
Goldfinches	Kahlan
Kingfishers	Antoni & Lacey
Skylarks	Sofia & Jacob M

### LUNCHTIME AWARD

Little Robins	Chester
Big Robins	Emma
Doves	Elliott
Goldfinches	Elsa
Kingfishers	Noah & Layla
Skylarks	Cian & Florence