

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | November 19th 2021



From the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

There has been much in the news this week about climate change with the COP26 conference, which we have looked at in school. As nations contend with the complexities of achieving 'net zero', we come back to the simple idea at the heart of our faith, which is to 'Live Simply'. Pope Francis reminds us in 'Laudato Si' about our 'care for the common home'. This reminds us of the need to take swift and unified global action. So, as well as praying and reflecting on God's creation we should aim to do practical things, such as reducing our impact on the planet by reducing, reusing and recycling. If you have a moment, have a look at the CAFOD website with your children: www.cafod.org.uk. This is an organisation that brings hope and compassion to poor communities, standing alongside them in the fight to end poverty and injustice.

On Friday 26th November we will be having an Advent day, this is where we shall be changing our prayer areas to the liturgical colour of purple to symbolise Advent. We will be creating Advent wreaths, making models of baby Jesus and creating Advent inspired works of art. We will hold Advent prayer services within our own classes too. During the season of Advent (beginning on Sunday 28th November and throughout December) try to prepare your heart for the coming of Jesus. We have explained to children that this is a season of waiting; a season of hope and love. Let it be a special time for all families.

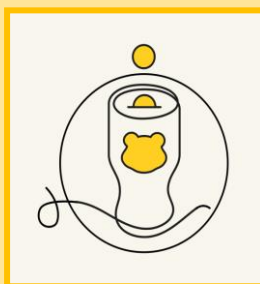
We have today ended our special week of 'One act of kindness' by asking the children to come in wearing something that shows that they are all different and an outfit that makes them happy. As you can see we had a great day. We love that our very own Mrs Reeves has embraced this and we thank her for all that she does for our children and families.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

Children In Need / One act of Kindness

From onesies to football kits, hair streamers and wild gel to wonderful wigs, there was a plethora of wonderful outfits on show today and lots of £1s for a fantastic cause:



FOSM NEWS

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The choir will be singing at 4.15pm on the stage near the bowling green. The event starts at 3pm and we will have a 'Water or Wine' stall - come along and support us. Thanks to McDonalds for donating the water.

What we need:

- Donations of **bottles of wine** gratefully received. This is always a popular stall and raises a lot of money.
- If you have any **used bottle bags** we would appreciate those too! Thank you!

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

Do please come along and support the wreath making event – we need to know numbers and have payment up front please so we can cover the cost of materials. Extra friends and family members are welcome too. Please book here and send your £25 to the school office in advance:

<https://forms.gle/tG2tLB5eNYtT6c6X9>

TREASURER TO TREASURE

Thank you so much to our outgoing treasurer Anna Davies who did a wonderful job for us whilst she was a school parent. We now need to fill her shoes and are looking for someone to join the committee as our new Treasurer (please see the job description attached) and get in touch with any FOSM member to find out more and apply!

Thank you

The Prayer Group Remembers

This week for the month of the Holy Soul, the Prayer Group visited the neighbouring cemetery to remember the convent community who are buried there. The children were accompanied by Mrs Lyons our prayer group leader and joined by Fr Arul, Sister Mary-Paul, Sister Sharon and Mrs Berridge from the retreat house.



ROBINS

In RE this week, we have been introducing the children to the words of the 'Our Father'. We have been talking to the children about how Jesus was constantly telling people about the way the Father cared for people. The children then discussed the ways in which we all cared for each other.

DOVES

This week we have been working very hard on writing descriptions for the setting and the characters from Three Billy goats Gruff. In Maths we have been working on our addition skills, using the plus sign and writing number sentences. In Design and Technology we have been planning, what we will need and how we will build our model bridges next week.

GOLDFINCHES

This week Goldfinches had a great time using role play to develop ideas for their writing; using props and costumes to bring their acting to life. In RE we looked at the importance of prayer and how it can be in many different forms, also exploring how Jesus cleansed the temple and how we can ensure we worship God. As it is anti-bullying week, we looked at the importance of being kind and using 'One Kind Word', remembering if you can be anything then choose to be kind. We created colourful jigsaw pieces with one kind word on and these have been added to our display so they will hopefully make me people around school smile when they see them. Finally we have had a very busy week beginning to practice our Christmas play which we are very excited about!

KINGFISHERS

Multiplying and dividing numbers by 10 and 100.

Adding a hook to capture and sustain the interest of our reader when writing a narrative.

Exploring electricity, how it is generated and directed to our homes, thinking about the items that use mains electricity and battery power.

Planning a design to create our own Roman shields.

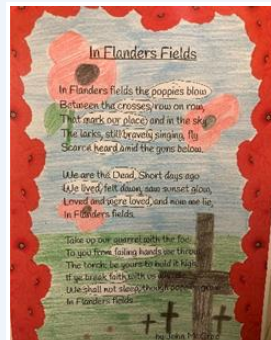
Perseverance, resilience and kindness being demonstrated in abundance!

SKYLARKS

What a fabulous week we have had in Skylarks. Linked to Remembrance Sunday, we all created "black out" poems choosing poignant words to honour the fallen. Every child created a thought provoking, heartfelt poem which had me in tears.

In science we are becoming experts at creating electrical circuits and we put our artistic talents to good use and created a fabulous rainforest display.

From the classroom...



DIARY DATES

EVERY FRIDAY

50p Friday - bring your pennies and fundraise for FOSM

Friday, November 19th

CHOCOLATE BINGO!

6 - 8pm, School Hall

£1 a book for the Bingo Raffle, refreshments & snack bar. All proceeds to FOSM

Thursday, November 25th

Nasal Flu Vaccination (Yr-Y6)

Friday, November 26th

Advent Day

(see front page)

Sunday, November 28th

School Choir at the Southam Christmas Lights Switch On

Tuesday, November 30th

St Andrew's Day

Regardless of your actual house, celebrate our House Saint on his feast day by wearing a blue or tartan item with your uniform.

Thursday, December 2nd

Early Years Open Morning For Nursery & Reception 2022

PLEASE EMAIL THE OFFICE TO BOOK

Monday, December 6th

Wreath Making Workshop

Get in the Christmas spirit with this FOSM fundraiser event at school!

Please return the reply slip or sign up [here](#) & send payment to school.

Thursday, December 16th

Schools Santa Run + Christmas Jumper & Christmas Dinner Day

Friday, December 17th

Last Day of Term

Back to school January 5th

PLEASE NOTE:

DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

More dates and details online at:

<https://www.stmaryssoutham.org.uk/events/>

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

Little Robins	Ben
Big Robins	Charlotte
Doves	Joshua
Goldfinches	Rebecca
Kingfishers	Connor & Hamish
Skylarks	Riley & Orlaith

LUNCHTIME AWARD

Little Robins	Lauren
Big Robins	Harvey
Doves	Oliver
Goldfinches	James
Kingfishers	Maggie & Lacey
Skylarks	Jessica & Zachary C

HOUSE POINTS

St Andrew 170

St Patrick 145

St George 142

St David 117

Stars of the Week

Little Robins – Teddy

Big Robins – Emma

Doves – Joshua

Goldfinches – Eliza

Kingfishers – Charlie & Claudia

Skylarks – Max & Elena