

# ST MARY'S NEWS

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



Christmas is coming!

We talked to the children in assembly today about what Advent means, (the word is Latin for 'Coming'). Not only are the children excited, but we're all excited for what might be coming after a very unchristmassy Christmas last year.

While our plans have to be fluid given the everchanging state of the pandemic, we're delighted to be able to hold more Christmas events this year.

### Christmas Lights Switch On - 28<sup>th</sup> November

Our school choir have started rehearsing and will be joining in the opening of the event with a short performance of Christmas songs – please return the reply slip if your child would like to attend and/or you can help with the FOSM stall at the event.

### Wreath Making - 6<sup>th</sup> December

Meet other parents & get in the festive spirit!

### Christmas Play - Watch at home

Our Early Years & KS1 performance will be available on DVD for parents to have their very own movie premiere at home [may be subject to change with Covid guidance]

### Christmas Lunch, Christmas Jumper Day & Santa Fun Run - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December

£2 donation for Save the Children & Katherine House Hospice (Sponsor your child extra at <https://www.justgiving.com/SMY>)

### Christmas Parties & Church Services - per Class

Teachers will send details to each class shortly

Don't forget Advent begins on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November - and is not just about chocolate calendars or Father Christmas... More to follow as our Advent countdown begins.



### Anti-Bullying Week BRING £1 ON FRIDAY

Next week is Anti-Bullying week and the theme this year is *One Kind Word*. This is something that we have been adopting since the term began in September and the children all know that kindness is the way forward. We talk frequently about how us all being different is a good thing. I would like us to celebrate this by **allowing the children to come to school on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November wearing whatever they would like**. This could be odd socks, their favourite outfit, coming to school with a crazy hairstyle. This will help us to celebrate being different and kind to everyone.

## From the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

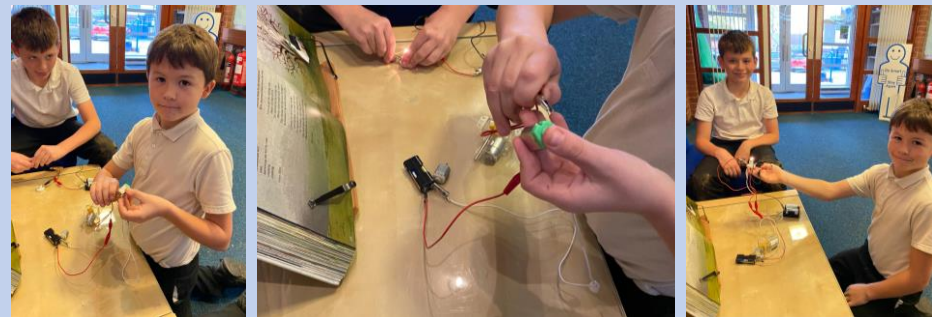
Well another week has passed us by in a flash and what a busy week it has been! Our windows across the school have finally been finished and they look fantastic. We are now moving on to our next project: fencing and some resurfacing of the courts and hopefully our EYFS area. I am still looking for volunteers to help with painting the wooden fences around the school – if you are free on a Saturday morning please do let me know so that we can arrange a working party.

This week we have remembered all of those that gave their lives so that we could have freedom. Our children were reverent, prayerful and thoughtful during our whole school Remembrance service outside on Thursday.

I would like to thank the children that gave up their own time this week to sell poppies before and after school. I would also like to thank you as parents and carers for continuing to support us. We have had a member of the public approach us to say how wonderful it is that our children are so respectful and he also donated a sum of money that will go to the Royal British Legion poppy appeal.



There has been some creative Science work going on across the school this week and I had the privilege of children inviting me to see their investigations and to listen to the breadth of knowledge that they are gaining. Seeing the STEM activities has been a particular favourite of mine, we have some budding engineers of the future amongst us.



Our GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) team have been busy co-ordinating the collection of all of the wonderful donations of food that you have been kind enough to donate. Fiona from our local Foodbank came in to collect these donations, which will be used within our own local area, and was so impressed with the work the children had carried out.

As you can see we are very busy here in school, but we are having a fantastic time on our individual learning journeys.

Have a wonderful and restful weekend.

God Bless

Maureen Collier



## ROBINS

This week Robin class have been learning about the seasons, focussing on Autumn.

The children collected autumn objects and brought these into school for us to explore with magnifying glasses. The children found conkers, different coloured leaves, twigs, fruit, and acorns. We used some conkers in our art area this week for conker rolling. The children loved shaking the tray to roll the paint covered conkers around!

From the classroom...



## DOVES

This week Doves have been designing their own toy bridges and deciding how they are going to build them. In English we have been planning our own versions of the Three Billy Goats Gruff with Ogres, Goblins and Bears.

Oh my! During Maths we have been learning to count on a number line and use the addition symbol.

In RE we are learning about how, when and where we can Pray.

## GOLDFINCHES

This week in Goldfinches we have been hard at work as Scientists, we have tested which materials would make a good insulator. We wrapped an ice-lolly in materials and waited an hour to see if it was still frozen.

We are Math Money superstars, continuing to add amounts and finding change, so please ask us to see if we can count the money you have in your pocket.

We created some beautiful artwork for Remembrance Day and wrote a prayer remembering all of those who fought for our lives today. Please continue to practice spellings with your child and hearing them read.

## KINGFISHERS

Kingfishers have been learning all about perimeters of areas.

We are beginning to plan and write our own version of Claude visiting St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, with ideas to entice our reader and capture their interest to read on.

We have had some interesting discussions about Remembrance Day.

## SKYLARKS

This week in Skylarks we have learnt lots about volcanoes, found out about the destructive volcanic eruption that occurred in 79AD that destroyed Pompeii and wrote a diary entry about it. Everyone did really well at imagining we were actually there on those devastating days. Why not ask them how fast the cloud of ash was travelling that covered this town?

In maths we continued to master fractions and have become much more confident converting them. In English we wrote amazing adventure stories about being stranded on a desert island - just like Michael in Kensuke's Kingdom.

## DIARY DATES

### EVERY FRIDAY

50p Friday - bring your pennies and fundraise for FOSM

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

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

Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

Children in Need  
Non-uniform day bring £1

Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

CHOCOLATE BINGO!

6 - 8pm, School Hall  
£1 a book for the Bingo  
Raffle, refreshments & snack bar.  
All proceeds to FOSM

PLEASE SEND IN CHOCOLATE FOR THE RAFFLE NEXT WEEK

Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup>

Nasal Flu Vaccination (Yr-Y6)  
Make sure you opt in or out using the online consent form before the 13<sup>th</sup> November cut off.

Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>

School Choir at the Southam Christmas Lights Switch On

Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

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 2<sup>nd</sup>

Early Years Open Morning  
For Nursery & Reception 2022  
PLEASE EMAIL THE OFFICE TO BOOK

Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

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.

### PLEASE NOTE:

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

### EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

Little Robins	Archie
Big Robins	Mason
Doves	Betsy
Goldfinches	Noah
Kingfishers	Darcy & Miriam
Skylarks	Riley & Seth

### LUNCHTIME AWARD

Little Robins	Pixie-Belle
Big Robins	Frankie
Doves	Aimee
Goldfinches	Sebastian
Kingfishers	Delilah & Esther
Skylarks	Harriet & Lydia

## HOUSE

## POINTS

St David 125

St Andrew 115

St Patrick 109

St George 84

## Stars of the Week

Little Robins – Arlyn

Big Robins – Frederick

Doves – Zakariah

Goldfinches – Cillian

Kingfishers – Antoni & Ned

Skylarks – Chelsea & Jacob M