

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | December 3rd 2021



PARENT SURVEY

Our Parent Survey is now live and, as we are constantly striving to provide a high-quality education, your views are invaluable in order for us to achieve our vision.

Please take the time to answer the questions on this survey and write your comments, before it closes on December 10th, letting us know what you feel is working well and what we need to improve upon. This will help us to continue to work together in partnership to give our children the best possible education and enriched opportunities. [LINK](#)



START THE DAY THE RIGHT WAY...

🕒 A reminder that the school gates open at 08:45. Children should be in their seats in class at 08:55 for when the register is taken. PLUS it's cold out there - please ensure your child brings a warm coat every day for outdoor play.

JOB VACANCY - We're hiring!

Our Higher Level Teaching Assistant Vacancy application deadline has been extended to December 10th - please spread the word and help us find a new addition to our KS2 team:

<https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/108235/higher-level-teaching-assistant/>

From the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fabulous first week of Advent we have had! Sunday was such a magical experience, not just for the children, but for everyone involved. I cannot thank Sally Forgan and Briony Walster enough for all of their hard work and dedication in working with our children in the school choir. What beautiful angels we have and the snow just topped off such a magical moment too. Our wonderful Friends of St. Mary are ever resourceful at being creative in their approaches to raise much needed funds for school and I, for one, am extremely grateful to each and every one of them.

This week, the second Sunday of Advent, we pause to remember who God is and what He has done for us. As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' arrival as a gift to all humanity, let's stir up in our hearts and homes a sense of anticipation. May God's spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas as we ready our hearts, and faithfully await the chance to celebrate the birth of Jesus, and prepare ourselves for his second coming.

Applications are open for Reception School Places for children born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018. Please note that the deadline for applying comes round very soon after Christmas (15 January 2022). Please follow the link below to apply for your Reception place in school. If you would like to apply for a Nursery place please get a pack from Mrs Worrall in the office and return it straight to school. I am on the gate most days so please do stop by and ask any questions you may have. <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applying-school-place-reception>

Thank you, Parents, Grandparents and Carers, for wearing face masks and moving around the school site swiftly for drop offs and pick up. This is helping to keep the whole school community safe.

Have a wonderful weekend.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

LET THEM SING, LET THEM SING, LET THEM SING

The Weather outside was frightful, but the choir was so delightful...

The snow might have left our choir with cold fingers and toes while they waited very patiently to go on stage, but it certainly led to a very Christmassy atmosphere and some great photos at the Southam Christmas Lights switch on!

We are so proud of our wonderful choir. You looked and sounded fabulous, and were so brave standing on that stage in front of SO many people! We made over £300 on our water and wine stall which was fantastic!

Thanks to a great team who made it all happen - everyone who helped organise, set up, bag up all the bottles, stood on the stall with a big smile despite the cold, packed up and lead choir rehearsals each week. And thank you to everyone who donated bottles and who turned up to support us!

Our next and last Christmas event is our wreath making workshop on 6th December - we'd love to see you there!! [ByFOSM](#)



ROBINS

Wow, what a super busy week in Robin class this week! We started the week very excited as our lovely school was covered in snow. We couldn't resist a little play in it so we wrapped up warm and went outside. It wasn't long before we felt a little chilly and all rushed back inside to warm up! We have also been busy practicing our Christmas play and singing our Christmas songs. Well done Robins, what a fabulous week.

From the classroom...

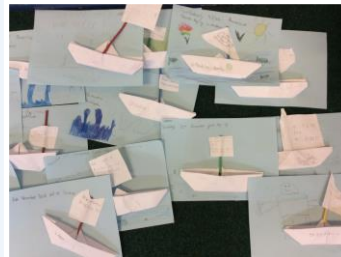


DOVES

This week Doves have been busy learning about Advent and how we prepare for Jesus' Birthday. In Maths we have been learning about number bonds up to 10 and the different ways we can make a number. In English we have started a new story about a lost toy called Dogger. I hope his family find him! We are practising hard for our Christmas Nativity. A very busy and productive week, well done Doves.

GOLDFINCHES

What an exciting week! Goldfinches have enjoyed the start of the Christmas period. As part of our preparation for the coming of Jesus, we have created and decorated a lovely message for all the wonderful adults within St. Mary's. On St. Andrew's Day we learnt some origami to create 3D posters all about him and how he can guide us. Our money topic in Math has now finished and we are exploring multiplication. Please practice your 2's, 5's and 10's at home with your children.



KINGFISHERS

We have had another productive week of learning. During our electricity science learning we made predictions about whether a bulb would light up or not, depending on how the circuits were arranged and then we recreated these circuits to check our predictions and compared our results. Some children added buzzers and on and off switches to complete circuits too. So positive to see lots of collaboration and engagement by all.



We have enjoyed researching, exploring and celebrating the period of Advent and the ways in which we are all preparing for our very special and imminent arrival.

SKYLARKS

This week in Skylarks we have found out a lot more about climate change before each writing persuasive letters to our Prime Minister asking for change. All our letters have been scanned and emailed to Boris Johnson and we eagerly await his reply. In RE, Father Arul came in to class to perform the ritual for the Sacrament of The Sick before answering any questions we had. Finally, we wrote thankyou cards to "The Garden Pantry" in Harbury as they very kindly and generously donated a beautiful Christmas tree for school.



▲ The school is looking really special with all the children's artwork, Advent displays and Christmas decorations.

DIARY DATES

EVERY FRIDAY

50p Friday - bring your pennies and fundraise for FOSM



Friday, December 3rd

Xmas Jumper Swap Shop!
£1 to buy a preloved jumper in our FOSM sale after school today

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.

December 6 – 10th

Nativity Recording
EYFS & KS1 'Christmas with The Aliens'

Thursday, December 16th

Schools Santa Run
£1 for Katherine House Hospice + any sponsorship/Just Giving fundraising from family & friends:
www.justgiving.com/fundraising/smy

+ Christmas Jumper Day
£1 for Save the Children

+ Christmas Dinner Day
Roast Turkey with all the trimmings, Christmas tunes & crackers

Friday, December 17th

Last Day of Term
Back to school January 5th
NOTE: DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
More dates and details online at:
www.stmaryssoutham.org.uk/events/

FOSM Christmas Cards

Please look out for your child's Christmas Card design when it's posted on the class WhatsApp this weekend.

All card orders will be sent to print first thing Monday for delivery in good time for Christmas.

All money raised will go to the Friends to support our school.

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

Little Robins	Vincent
Big Robins	Harvey
Doves	Delilah L
Goldfinches	Brody
Kingfishers	William & Amelka
Skylarks	Sophia K & Kaitlin

LUNCHTIME AWARD

Little Robins	Louie
Big Robins	Isla
Doves	Ella-Rose
Goldfinches	Arthur
Kingfishers	Oliver & Ned
Skylarks	Jessica & Maya

Stars of the Week

Little Robins – Archie

Big Robins – Leo

Doves – Finn G

Goldfinches – James

Kingfishers – Elijah & Lacey

Skylarks – Riley & Theo



HOUSE POINTS

St George 106

St Andrew 95

St David 93

St Patrick 44

