

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | December 10th 2021



PARENT SURVEY

LAST CHANCE deadline extended until Monday

Please fill in our Parent Survey. As we are constantly striving to provide a high-quality education, your views are invaluable in order for us to achieve our vision.

Please answer the questions on this survey and write your comments, before it closes on December 13th, 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. [CLICK TO START](#)



Holiday Activities and Food Bank

Find Out what's on here:

<https://directory.warwickshire.gov.uk/home/category?ca=203&cb=364>

Children eligible for free school meals can access any HAF logoed item on the program for free for up to four days from Monday 20th December to Friday 31st December.

The Food Bank at Southam is now closed until 10th January. If you need support over the Christmas period, please visit the Trussell Trust's website to find a nearby centre: www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/

GRAND CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

£1 a ticket – on sale in the playground before and after school, drawn the morning of Friday 17th for collection that night.

Gifts galore including, food, wine & pamper goodies plus a Body Shop pack, Southam Leisure Centre Gift & Aston Martin collectables. Wonderful local companies have donated vouchers for:

- The Water Margin Restaurant
- A vintage photoshoot + digital edited images
- Daisy B's Boutique
- GJF Furnishings
- Jacqueline the florist
- The White Hart Ufton
- Groom & Gents Barbers
- 2 x breakfasts at Toms Café
- 2 x meal deals from Sea Star Southam
- Nan Nans Kitchen, Bishops Itchington
- Nally's Jamaican Jerk Grill, Leamington
- Planter from Poppy's Plants
- Sweet Boutique
- The Original Factory Shop
- Mrs Smith's Hairdressers
- £75 towards a Snug Pod rental

From the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

Advent is a time of waiting. It is a time of hope, joy, love and peace. We will, this Sunday, be moving into the third week of Advent, also named as Gaudete Sunday. In church this week Father Arul will light the pink candle to show that we are half way through our Advent season. It reminds us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of our Saviour, Jesus. In school this week we talked about how we could fully prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus. The children had a plethora of ideas that would help us all such as: praying more, going to mass, being kind to their friends and family, helping teachers and doing extra special things for their families. During this very busy season, try to take time out from your normal routines and schedules to slow down and really reflect on the real meaning of Christmas and continue to journey through Advent until we arrive on Christmas day to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Well what another fabulous week we have had here at St. Mary's, arguably the best school ever! The children in Robins, Doves and Goldfinches have been rehearsing for their nativity and it has been such a privilege to have heard their beautiful singing. I have stopped myself from going to watch them rehearse, as like you, I can't wait to see the final production. I cannot thank our wonderful staff enough, they always go above and beyond to provide the best experiences for our children.

This week I must especially thank our Site Services Officer Jenna Ireland, not only does she keep our building in check, but she also bought along Father Christmas' reindeer! The children (and adults) absolutely loved this experience and I know many of you have commented on this with delight too. Thank you Jenna for all that you do for us.

We shared some sad news with Kingfishers this week that Mrs Winton will be leaving us next Friday, we all wish you the very best in your new adventures.

Christmas Parties will be in full swing next week and you will have received some information from your child's teacher about this. If you have missed a letter (as we all do) please ask a member of staff and they will fill you in. This is truly a wonderful time of the year to be in school and God willing, next year we can have productions and carol services in school again.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

FOSM Wreath Making

"It was a great first-time event and we will definitely do it again!"

Thanks so much to everyone for coming along to our wreath making evening, what a lovely creative and Christmassy time we had. Look at all these fabulous creations, so gorgeous! And we made £250 for the school which is great!



(check out our FOSM Facebook for more pictures @FOSMSoutham)

Thank you to The Original Factory Shop Southam for donating some gorgeous baubles, to Suzanne Evetts Florists for helping us with a last-minute panic, and Sophie Burns for greenery and so much help! Finally, thanks to everyone who helped on the night! from FOSM



Ps. FOSM Christmas Cards Your children's beautiful creations have been turned in to lovely Christmas Cards in aid of FOSM. All pre-paid orders have gone home with children tonight. Please send payment ASAP for any outstanding orders. Many Thanks

ROBINS

Yesterday we had a visit from some reindeer! (horses). The children were very excited to see them and we all went outside to feed them carrots. Thank you for bringing them to see us Miss Ireland, it made us feel very Christmassy. We've also been very busy recording our nativity play, we can't wait for you to see it! Thank you for an amazing week Robin class.



DOVES

This week Doves have been busy filming, acting, singing and performing their Christmas Play. They have worked really hard and I can't wait to see the finished film. In RE we have been counting down on our Advent Calendar and learning about how Mary and Joseph would have prepared for the birth of Baby Jesus. In Maths we have been comparing number sentences and adding numbers together. In English we have been designing posters to help find Dogger, a little lost toy.

GOLDFINCHES

Goldfinches are a very talented group of children and have been working hard recording the Christmas play and are excited to share it with their families. We were excited to see the snowman had been and left us a Christmas story 'The Snowman and the Snow dog'. They have created some amazing pieces of work around this book, including learning a new skill. We have continued to reflect and ensure we are showing kindness during Advent. One more week to go before a well-earned break, keep up the good work Goldfinches!

KINGFISHERS

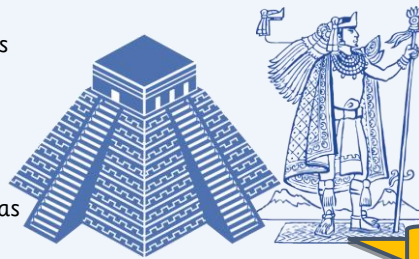
The class really enjoyed meeting the horses/reindeer Phoebe and Charlie yesterday, they had the chance to feed them a carrot each! We will be writing about this experience.



Lots of times tables activities practise this week and the children are clearly becoming more confident and competent, so keep practising!

SKYLARKS

This week in Skylarks in our science lesson, we have become experts at wiring circuits and all successfully made a propellor spin around. We found out when and where "The Maya" people lived and did some work around their creation story. In maths, we all became more knowledgeable about reading and plotting coordinates in 4 quadrants. For our Advent unit in RE, we learnt what a Messiah was and investigated messages of some of the Old Testament prophets.



DIARY DATES



EVERY FRIDAY

50p Friday - bring your pennies and fundraise for FOSM

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...

RED: Roast Turkey Breast Fillet, Sausage & Bacon Roll,

GREEN: Roast Quorn Fillet (vg)

+ served with Sage & Onion Stuffing & Gravy, Crispy Roast Potatoes, Garden Peas and Baby Carrots

Dessert: Ice Cream (v) or Homemade Chocolate Cracknel Bauble (vg)

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/

KEEEEEEEEP DANCING!

Miss Jenny's ever-popular Funky Dance classes will be running after school again next term, and this time for reception and KS1 as well:

Monday - years 3-6

Wednesday - Reception, 1&2

See letters sent with newsletter

Payment by 17th Dec to reserve place

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

Little Robins	Orla
Big Robins	Maisie
Doves	Delilah P
Goldfinches	Dylan
Kingfishers	Harry & Casey
Skylarks	Sofia & Florence

LUNCHTIME AWARD

Little Robins	Teddy
Big Robins	Loui
Doves	Maisie
Goldfinches	Lauren
Kingfishers	Bella & Claudia
Skylarks	David & Theo

HOUSE POINTS

St Patrick 151

St George 89

St Andrew 86

St David 51



Stars of the Week

Little Robins – Lauren

Big Robins – Albie

Doves – Vincent

Goldfinches – Sam

Kingfishers – Delilah & Thomas

Skylarks – Zach D & Lydia