

# ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | June 24<sup>th</sup> 2022



## From the Head

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week has passed us by and the final summer term seems to be disappearing in the blink of an eye. This is always such a busy half term as we pack so much in to it as the good weather joins us. Next Thursday will see us host our Sports Day. The children have been busy practising and are excited to be in house groups this year rather than in set classes. We have purposely moved away from a Sports Day of purely racing, some of our children are filled with dread at the prospect of this. There is nothing worse than seeing one of our children full of anxiety; they can't regulate their breathing, their legs won't move properly and the race track is full of pairs of eyes watching – I don't want any child to feel like this – to set them up to fail before they have even begun. That being said, for some children this is where they excel. This why we have a mixture of activities; this way every child will feel successful, and this is what we strive for. We do hope that you can join us. If the weather turns and we have rain (please God don't let this happen) then we have a contingency plan in place. The pedestrian gate will be open but we would ask that you close this behind you as the safety of our children is paramount.

On Wednesday, we celebrate the feast of Ss Peter and Paul and as a school we will be attending mass; please join us at 9.15am if you can. In celebrating Saint Peter and Saint Paul on the same day, we are given a reminder of the variety of types of people who are called to holiness, and the improbability of what they are called to do. Peter begins his journey with Jesus as an impetuous young man, who enthusiastically, if misguided, cuts off a Roman soldier's ear on the eve of Jesus' death and then denies him within a space of hours; Peter grows into being a steadfast leader of a community that undergoes tremendous challenges. Paul and people of his ilk are one of those challenges. He is old enough to be a respectable member of Jewish society and zealous in his application of the Torah, overseeing the stoning of Stephen. Yet God uses this conservative Jew to become the most vociferous missionary to the Gentiles. By implication, God can use anybody to spread the gospel, regardless of their background.

Jesus' gift to Peter of the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven and subsequent instruction that whatever Peter binds and looses will be bound and loosed in heaven has been often linked exclusively to sin and damnation and authority in the Church.

Next week I will be sharing which teachers will be in which classes for the next academic year and I will also share this with the children. I purposely haven't shared this with you as yet as we will be expanding our classes and we still have some staffing to finalise.

Over the summer we will have some significant building work taking place: new lighting, re-wiring, suspended ceilings, phase one of new children's bathrooms (not all of them are being replaced yet) and new technology in classes (laptops and interactive whiteboards). I would like to take this opportunity for our Parent Association (Friends Of St Mary's) and you – because of your kind donations we are using the money, raised by you, to fund some of the new technology. Our building is beginning to take shape, although we still have some work to do. It is an exciting time to be part of the family of St. Mary's.

Have a wonderful weekend; rest and recuperate.

God Bless

Maureen Collier



## MENU & CALENDAR

Enclosed with this newsletter is September's new school dinner menu and our school-specific Academic Calendar for 2022/23 including all our teacher training days.

## WE'RE HIRING! Higher Level Teaching Assistant

We have an exciting and challenging opportunity for a HLTA to join our supportive KS2 team this September. The successful candidate will work with teaching staff to provide learning opportunities and academic support to our students: <https://stmaryssoutham.org.uk/jobs/>  
If you want to make a positive difference to young people and their lives, are patient, empathetic, resilient and supportive – we need you!

**TAKE NOTE!** Get hunting in piggy banks and down the back of the sofa; you only have 99 days to spend your old paper £20 and £50 notes!  
(From October you only be able to exchange them at a bank.)

## WATER SAFETY: This week is...

### Drowning Prevention Week

The Royal Life Saving Society UK wants to ensure that everyone can enjoy their summer break and enjoy being in or around water but be safe in the knowledge that they, and their children, have the skills and understanding about water safety, which could potentially save a life.

You can find out more on their website:

[www.rlss.org.uk/Pages/Category/water-safety-information](http://www.rlss.org.uk/Pages/Category/water-safety-information)



## SOUTHAM FAMILY FUN DAY

12 – 4:30pm

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June @ the recreation ground.

Do come along and support our FOSM jam jar tombola stall at this event – there is a volunteer sheet at the front of school if you can help man the stall for half an hour.

**THANK YOU FOR ALL THE JAM JARS!**

We've had some really creative and yummy ones supplied and will give prizes for the most innovative.

## SPORTS DAY

Thank you all for the tin cans, our tin can alley is now fully stocked!

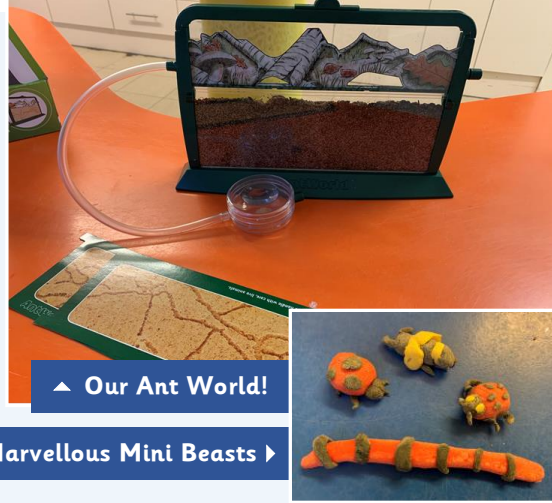
We're looking forward to seeing lots of you next week for Sports Day on the field on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June @ 13:15.**

There will be a parents/adults' race and a reminder that all children will need to be wearing their PE kit all day - with the inclusion of a t-shirt or coloured ribbon in their house colours - plus sun cream and a hat if the good weather holds.

NB. Parents planning to attend should be aware there is very little shade on the field, so you may want to be sun-ready and bring a water bottle too!

## ROBINS

Robin class have been enjoying their new topic 'mini beasts'. The children have been creating their own bugs using coloured play dough. I was very impressed with the level of concentration and the detail they used! The children also helped to create their own 'ant world'. We gave them some fruit so now we're going to observe the ants through magnifying glasses and see what they do next! This week we had 'stay and play'. It was lovely to let the children share their learning environment and see them playing with their parents. We are looking forward to the next one already, thank you for attending!

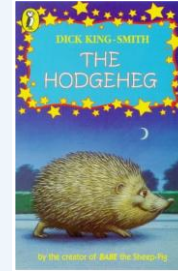


## DOVES

This week Doves have been learning about information texts, as we plan to write our own information about Australian animals. In Maths we have been counting to 100 by making groups and counting in 10s. In D&T we have been constructing the moving mechanism for our castle drawbridge models.

## GOLDFINCHES

Goldfinches have started 'Time' in their new Maths topic. It is a tricky concept to grasp but we have been putting lots of effort into our learning. To help us further, please ask us throughout the day/weekend what time the clock shows! We have completed a fantastic diary entry of Max from 'The Hedgehog' and have shown creative writing skills. In Science, we are investigating what plants need to grow, and we have made our predictions.



## KINGFISHERS

It has been another busy week in Kingfishers. In our English lessons, we have really enjoyed creating our own sea creatures ready for our adventure stories next week. In our maths lessons, we have really enjoyed recapping and expanding our time knowledge. In our topic lessons, we are continuing to learn about rivers and will be soon creating our own water turbines. **Can the children please bring in 1.5L or 2L bottles to help with this learning please?**

Thank you to everyone that came to the Book Look, it was lovely to see how proud the children were to show off their fantastic work! Also, thank you for your continued support with your children's learning!

## SKYLARKS

Another week closer to the end of the school year and yet another fabulous week in Skylarks. We have immersed ourselves further into our topic on World War 2 and learnt more about the main cities bombed during The Blitz as well as rationing of food and how tough that would have been. Everyone wrote really thoughtful prayers to The Holy Spirit - bringing our unit on Pentecost to a close. In maths we have improved our understanding of volume by using interlocking cubes to help us visualise it. Just a reminder to ensure your child is reading every day at home - to ensure they are in a position to take their accelerated reader quiz regularly - and doing at least 10 minutes of TTRS each night.

School Twitter page [@StMarysSoutham](https://twitter.com/StMarysSoutham)

## HEALTHY SNACK ATTACK

We have talked in assembly today about healthy food choices. We discourage chocolate and crisps and no sweets or fizzy drinks are allowed for snack or lunchtime. Fruit is provided up to Year 2 and KS2 should only bring a small, healthy snack item. Water bottles should be for water only; (squash/juice can be included in your child's packed lunch). Thank you

## DIARY DATES



### EVERY FRIDAY

50p Friday Snacks & drinks on sale after school. Bring your pennies to fundraise for FOSM

### Friday June 24

Skylarks Book Look @ 2:15 - 3:00pm

### Tuesday June 28

Robins Stay and Play + Book look @ 2:00 - 3:15pm

### Wednesday June 29

NEW 2022/23 Nursery Settling in Session 1 @ 1:30-2:30pm

### Thursday June 30

All Sports Day @ 13:15

### Tuesday July 5

Y2 & Y3/4 Twycross Zoo Trip

### MOVING UP/SETTLING IN:

#### Wednesday July 6

All Transition Day (try out your new class ahead of September!)

#### + NEW 2022/23 Nursery

Settling in Session 2 @ 9:30 - 11:30

#### + NEW 2022/23 Reception

Parents Meeting @ 3:30 - 4:00

#### Wednesday July 6

#### & Thursday July 7

Year 6 Southam College Transition Days (further details from Southam College directly)

#### Monday July 11

Year 6 Emotional Health & Internet Safety Talk (NHS)

#### Tuesday July 19

Year 6 Leavers Take Over, Assembly & Festival

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

### EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

Little Robins	Leo
Big Robins	Maisie
Doves	Ella
Goldfinches	Lauren
Kingfishers	Elijah & Esther
Skylarks	Sofia & Lydia

### LUNCHTIME AWARD

Little Robins	Cara
Big Robins	Emma
Doves	Zach
Goldfinches	Brody
Kingfishers	Tallulah & Miriam
Skylarks	Mya & Gwen

## HOUSE POINTS

St David 463

St George 416

St Andrew 362

St Patrick 280

## Stars of the Week

Little Robins - Vincent

Big Robins - Max

Doves - Arina

Goldfinches - Eliza

Kingfishers - Noah & Matteo

Skylarks - Tadei & Carolina

