

# ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022



## From the Head ...

Dear Parents and Carers,

**It's good to be back!** We have had an outstanding week here at St Mary's and, again, I reiterate what a privilege it is to carry out my role as a Headteacher. Our children are quite simply the best! Assembly this morning was a pleasure, I love celebrating publicly our children's many achievements and I know that they love this too. We couldn't do what we do without your support, so I would like to thank you all for blessing us with your wonderful children.

Over the first few weeks we have been looking at our **mission statement**: 'Inspiring children to love learning and live in the light of Christ', the children have been discussing what this means to them and how they are going to live this mission, through their words and actions. My favourite response has been from a child in our Reception class who said, 'I love God, he made the world and never get's tired of loving us.' What a wonderful perception to have! We will be launching a competition for the children to create posters to show what our mission means to them. There will be a winner per class and an overall winner. The overall winner's poster will be adopted by the school and used on all of our communications. Our Governing Body will be the judges. More information to follow about this.

There has been some confusion over **class names** – these haven't changed as we transition with our school community growing. As a catholic school it is important that children find out more about inspirational saints that they hear referred to. Each class now has a saint that they have adopted and will inspire them through their year. The saints are as follows:

Nursery and Reception – Saint Nicolas | Year One – Saint Francis  
Year Two – Saint Bernadette | Year Three – Saint Luke  
Year Four/ Five – Saint Teresa | Year Five/ Six Saint Maximilian

Ask your child about their saint and see if they can remember why they are a saint.

On 4<sup>th</sup> October there will be **Parents' Evening** in the hall from 2pm until 7.00pm – letters will be coming out to you over the next few days with your appointment times. If you haven't made an appointment yet please talk to your child's teacher.

Please be aware that there is absolutely no expectation for children to provide their own **equipment** such as: pens, pencils, crayons, rulers etc. As a school we provide these for them. If your child would like to bring a pencil case in they are more than welcome, however they may be asked to leave these in their bags until the afternoon (this is when the more creative areas of the curriculum are taught).

**Parking** has become an issue and I would request that there is no parking at all in front of the school gates. There are always exceptions to that and if you need to discuss your own collection and drop off arrangements, please talk to your child's teacher in the first instance.

At this morning's assembly, we had a very special visitor – a proper VIP – when Angela John the **Mayor of Southam** dropped in to hand deliver a surprise. This fantastic donation was brought about by our eco-conscious pupil Jimmy, who having been voluntarily litter picking in his break times, attended a Town Council meeting in July to request a grant for some litter pickers for pupil use at our school. He was so persuasive, that the council agreed! Thank you to the Town Council and thank you Jimmy, what a credit you are to our school.

Maureen Collier



## AUTUMN TERM OPEN MORNINGS

Come & say Hello...

**Spread the word about our fantastic school & nursery! If you know of someone with children who will shortly be turning 3, please pass it on.**

Come and visit our exciting school and find out about our Nursery places for children aged 3+, Reception and In-Year Transfers. The morning will be an opportunity to meet key staff members, take a look at our facilities, ask questions about the admissions process and learn more about what our caring school can offer you and your child.

**Tuesday 4th October & Thursday 3rd November @ 9:30 – 11**  
**Please register for these events by emailing the school office:**

[admin3505@welearn365.com](mailto:admin3505@welearn365.com)

We offer flexible hours and wrap around care. All children are entitled to 15 hours free childcare and working families may be eligible for 30 hours.

## HOLA ESPAÑOL

(and netball, and dance, and football)

This year we say Auf Wiedersehen to German and Hola to Spanish. All Key Stage 2 children have begun learning Spanish and are already making great progress.

We have also introduced a new Netball Club (Mondays) and are continuing with our popular after-school dance club (Wednesdays for Reception - Year 6) and Football (Thursdays Y3 +). At present all clubs still have spaces and children are welcome to come for a taster week. Please ask your child's teacher or contact the office if you need the club letters/links again.

## Heath & Wellbeing – In case you missed it...

► **Flu Vaccines:** Last chance to give or refuse consent via online form (closes Saturday): [NHS Form Link](#)

► **September School Health Bulletin:** [Connect for Health – September](#)

► **Webinar to help families with children aged 0-5 with SEND needs or disabilities:** 4 October, 13.30 - 14.30 please see more info attached. Register: <https://bit.ly/HealthVisiting>



## Stars of the Fortnight

**Nursery** – Lily & JJ

**Reception** – Ben & Louie

**Year 1** – Charlotte & Mason

**Year 2** – Delilah P, Deep & Jamal

**Year 3** – Riley & Knox

**Year 4/5** – Harry, Charlie, Tami & Stephanie

**Year 5/6** – Miriam, Lucy, Lexie & Sophia K



We have had a brilliant week in Early years this week. We have enjoyed making the most of the lovely weather and have spent lots of time in the garden. We practised our cutting skills with some wiggly spaghetti and used our squeezey fingers to wash the baby clothes and hang them out. Well done nursery and reception, you have been amazing!



**Year One - Ms Priestley**

This week Year 1 had a very exciting letter from Baby Bear, in our book 'Whatever Next!', asking for help with instructions on how to have a picnic. We have had lots of fun practising our instructions in different ways - today we made a jam sandwich! We have also been studying the work of Vincent Van Gogh in art and have made some absolutely beautiful recreations of Starry Night! I can see we definitely have some budding artists in our midst. Looking forward to another super week next week.

**Year Two - Ms Pahnke**

Wow! Where to begin... They have shown fantastic enthusiasm towards learning over the past two weeks. The children have enjoyed learning the Gingerbread Man and also creating their very own version of events. We are focusing on place value in Maths and understanding how we can partition numbers in different ways. They were focused and involved when we even got to experience some of this learning outdoors. In RE we are focusing on stories of the Old Testament and thinking about how we can use their messages in our lives now. Homework will now go home with the children every Friday and should be returned the following Wednesday. Please continue to read with your children often and reading books will be collected and changed on a Monday and Thursday. Thank you for your continued support.

**Year Three - Ms Keith**

This week in Year 3 we have had another great week! The children have been super mathematicians and have been representing and partitioning numbers up to 1,000. In our English lessons, we previously looked at the text called 'The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!' which inspired us to create fantastic information texts all about wolves. This week we have kicked off our science topic of Rocks, learning all about the different types of rock. Children have been sent home with a homework book. Each week this will include some spellings that we have learned in our lessons which will need to be used in a sentence and a mental math activity. These books should be returned by Wednesday every week. To assist with the spelling of common exception words, I will also be sending home a spelling book with 5 individualised spellings and new spellings will come home every Friday. It has been lovely to see how many children are reading their books at home. Thank you for all your support!

**Year Four & Five - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa**

This week Year 4/5 have been learning about how we are created in the image of God and what this means for how we should treat each other. In computing we have been learning to write simple computer code to make objects appear, disappear and move. In Design and Technology we have been researching the history of the famous Cornish Pasty. In Music we have been learning about the pulse or beat of a song and singing along to ABBA's disco classic "Mamma Mia".



**Year Five & Six - Mrs Banat-Rinz**

Year 5/6 have had another fabulous week. Once again, they read and conducted themselves impeccably in church on Tuesday where they led Mass. In our theme lessons on our new topic 'Stars and Stripes', they revisited the continents before finding locations around the world using latitude and longitude. Many found this challenging, but I was really impressed by their perseverance and resilience. A reminder too that homework needs to be given back in by Wednesday the latest. It will include spellings and maths in the homework book, in addition to reading and the times tables book.

**DIARY DATES**

- Monday, September 26, KS2 Netball Club starts
- Tues. September 27, @9:15 Class Mass Year 4/5 (Church)
- Wednesday, September 28 Individual School Photos
- October 1 - 31 Black History Month
- Tuesday, October 4, @9:15 Class Mass Year 3 (Church)
- Tuesday, October 4, @9:30 - 11:00 Open Morning Reception & Early Years
- Tuesday, October 4, 3-7 PM Parents Evening Book look and meeting
- Wednesday, October 5 Flu Vaccination: YR - Y6
- Friday, October 7 Year 3: Science Rocks, Ladbroke
- Friday, October 7 @ 11:00 Year 5/6 Mass @ Church Our Lady of the Holy Rosary
- October 24 - 28 Half Term
- Thursday, November 3, @9:30 - 11:00 Open Morning Reception & Early Years
- Friday, November 4 Year 3: Romans Rule Topic Trip

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

**HOUSE POINTS**

- St George 434
- St David 310
- St Andrew 310
- St Patrick 294



**EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR**

YN: Orla & Freddie	Y3: Brody & Shreya
YR: Vincent & Archie	Y4/5: Jasper, Maggie & Layla
Y1: Maisie & Loui	Y5/6: Thomas, Sofia, Hamish & Chelsea
Y2: Betsy & Ella-Rose	

**LUNCHTIME AWARD**

YN: Toby & Cara	Y3: Lauren & Elsa
YR: Teddy & Arlyn	Y4/5: Mason, Bella & Ned
Y1: Harvey & Matthew	Y5/6: Peyton, Jessica, Tadei & Thomas
Y2: Zakariah & Vicky	