

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | October 21st 2022



From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well what an absolutely fantastic first half term we have all had! I know that I am very bias but our children, families and staff are the best! As a family we have all enjoyed getting to know the children, parents and new staff and to form those positive relationships to ensure we are creating the best learning environments for our children.

With the season of Halloween nearly upon us please take additional care if you are out trick or treating. The clocks also turn back an hour so the evenings now will be much darker and earlier. Please remind your children to continue to be cautious and to continue to not talk to strangers and to protect themselves.

Uniform seems to have taken a big dip, especially PE kits. Our PE uniform is as follows: Dark blue shorts or jogging bottoms, plain white t-shirt (or one with a St Mary's logo), dark blue jumper (can be their school jumper) or hoodie and trainers. The children are not to wear any football or rugby kits at any stage (unless it is their birthday, this is the one day that they can wear whatever they like as it is a special day). Uniform is as follows: black shoes (not trainers or boots); grey trousers, shorts (although it is now a bit cold for that) or a grey skirt; white shirt or polo shirt; dark blue jumper (either plain or with the St Mary's logo). FOSM will be helping us to continue to be a responsible and sustainable school with our recycled uniform. You can buy this with a donation and this also helps stop waste. We have an abundance of uniform floating around the school – so please do label everything with your child's name.

I had such a wonderful morning yesterday listening to some of our super children reading. This is probably my favourite part of my job. Please encourage the children to read; it is a vital skill, and the more they read, the better their writing becomes, as they are exposed to a plethora of new vocabulary.



I hope you all have a restful half term and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 31st October. Please take care of yourselves, as we know, Covid hasn't gone anywhere! In an attempt to keep this at bay we will continue to keep the classrooms well ventilated with windows open, so please wrap the children up in layers.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

POPPIES WILL BE POPPING UP

Our annual playground sale of child-friendly poppy merchandise will take place at breaktimes after half term. Suggested donations vary across the range from 50p - £2
<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/stories/11-things-you-might-not-know-about-the-poppy>

CHRISTMAS: Nativity Performances

It's such a joy to be welcoming parents, carers and grandparents into the school again and we're so excited that our infants (Reception, Y1 & Y2) will be entertaining us all, reminding us the true meaning of Christmas and getting us all in the festive spirit. With a growing school and a finite amount of seating, the performances will be as follows:

- ★ November 29 @10AM - School & Grandparents
- ★ December 1 @10AM - Parents & Carers
- ★ December 6 @6PM - Parents & Carers



TONIGHT 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Come along to the school hall tonight and boogie your way into the half term with our FOSM disco! £2 per child (must be accompanied by an adult) Glow Sticks, Hotdogs, Refreshments and Treats. Card Reader available.

Also check out the first edition of our new FOSM newsletter included with this newsletter.

HELPING HANDS

– worried about rising costs?

Winter Wellness: Cost of living, health & community support from Warwickshire County Council
<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/winterwellness>

FUN & Breakfasts: Unfortunately, this Graham Adams Centre event is now fully booked, but if you email info@grahamadamscentre.com you can request a breakfast box food parcel & join the waiting list.



AUTUMN TERM OPEN MORNINGS

Last chance to book...

There are still a few places left for prospective parents to come and to see our Reception & Nursery provision:

Thurs. 3rd November @ 9:30 – 11:00am

Please register by emailing the school office:
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. Wraparound care also available.

Stars of the Week

Nursery – Kai

Reception – Archie

Year 1 – Emma

Year 2 – Grace B

Year 3 – Lauren

Year 4/5 – Oliver & Layla

Year 5/6 – Hamish & Olivia

From the classroom... NURSERY & RECEPTION - Mrs Finch & Mrs Hilditch

We have had a very noisy week in Nursery and Reception. The children created a band that used lots of different instruments. They used pan lids as symbols and brooms as guitars! They got set centre stage and preformed a show for us which ended with a big round of applause! The children have also enjoyed hammering golf tees into pumpkins using our new hammers. It was not as easy as you first think, holding the golf tee between two fingers whilst aiming the hammer took a lot of concentration. Thank you for another fun filled week EYFS!



Year One - Ms Priestley

What a fantastic first half term we have had in Year 1 - time sure does fly! This week we have worked hard to understand and use part-whole models; became poets by writing our own versions of 'What is Pink?' and developed our art skills by drawing and painting Southam buildings. As a treat for all the super effort Year One have put in this half term, we have ended the week with a baking and craft afternoon. I hope they enjoyed their yummy treats and what beautiful decorations they have made for Christmas at Charlecote Park! Hope you all have a wonderful half term and enjoy some well-earned rest and fun 😊

Year Two - Ms Pahnke

What a fantastic way to end our half term. The children have immersed themselves into the experience of a Victorian school day. They have learnt about Queen Victoria, created some decoupage art and completed a 'drill' activity. The children have worked hard on using their knowledge of number bonds to 10 and how we apply this when adding bigger numbers. They have completed fantastic diary entries of the ordinary boy from 'Once Upon an ordinary school day'. As it is the month of Mary, we have explored rosary beads, how we use them to pray and their importance. The children were thoughtful and caring in their responses and wrote beautiful prayers to Our Lady. The children have worked super hard this half term and deserve a well-earned rest. Well done Year Two!



Year Three - Ms Keith

We've had a fantastic last week of term in Year 3. The children never fail to amaze with their creativity and this week have created fantastic alternative fairy tales based around Little Red Riding Hood and in Maths we have begun to look at addition and subtraction. Also, in RE, we are currently looking at the Unit of Reconciliation and this week we enjoyed learning the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, ask your children all about it. I would also like to thank you for your continued support and I hope you all have a lovely half-term and the children enjoy a well-deserved rest!

Year Four & Five - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa

We have come to the end of the first half term! Where has that time gone? The children have worked so incredibly hard these past few weeks and we are so proud of the progress they are making. This week in Year 4/5 we have really been testing our maths brains with rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000. It's been a little challenging at times, but the children have really persevered and had a good go. In English, we are working on writing sentences in the first person, past tense and looking at -ed adjectives in preparation for writing diary entries after half term, as one of the characters from the book we are reading in class. In RE, we have started our new unit 'Jesus teaches us how to pray'. We have been looking at the Shema Prayer and its meaning and we have also discussed and looked at the close and special relationship between Jesus and God, his father.

Year Five & Six - Mrs Banat-Rinz

As half term draws upon us, year 5/6 have had yet another busy week. Our knowledge of countries in North America was truly tested when we were given riddles to solve to guess the country. Why don't you have a try? *I am a country that is made up of many islands. If you travel south west from me you get to Cuba. I am south of the USA. What country am I?* Year 6 got to grips with short division where they showed great perseverance. Linking to Black History Month, we researched and wrote fact files on some influential and remarkable people: Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela and Mary Seacole. We thought about the qualities they showed and reflected on how we can be more like them by being determined and selfless. Please have a fun-filled half term and challenge yourselves to read at least one book.

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Roman	Y3: Noah
YR: Leo	Y4/5: Connor & Casey
Y1: Harvey	Y5/6: Lexie & Affiea
Y2: Timmy	

LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: JJ	Y3: Elyzaveta
YR: Ben	Y4/5: Delilah & Darcy
Y1: Fredrick	Y5/6: Thomas & Sofia K
Y2: Delilah	

HOUSE POINTS

St George 186
St Andrew 121
St David 108
St Patrick 69



DIARY DATES

EVERY FRIDAY

Celebration Assembly

@9:15 School Hall (open to all)

50p Friday

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



TONIGHT...

Friday, October 21

FOSM Disco 5:30 - 7:30

October 24 - 28

Half Term

COMING SOON...

Tuesday, November 1

School Mass @9:15 Church

Thursday, November 3,

@9:30 - 11:00

Open Morning

Reception & Early Years

Friday, November 4

Year 3: Romans Rule Trip

Tuesday, November 8

Year 5/6 Mass

November 14 - 18

Anti-Bullying Week

Friday, November 11

Armistice Day

Wednesday, November 30

ALL St Andrew's Day

Wearing a blue or tartan item with your uniform.

CHRISTMAS!

Friday, November 25

Xmas Jumper Sale

Sunday, November 27

Christmas lights switch on

Tuesday, November 29

Nativity Dress rehearsal

Thursday, December 1

Nativity Performance @10AM

Tuesday, December 6

Nativity Performance @6PM

Friday, December 9

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day

PLEASE NOTE:

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