

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | November 25th 2022



From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well that was another week that has whizzed by in the blink of an eye. The rehearsals for *Wriggly Nativity* are well under way and it always warms my heart to hear children singing. Rehearsals for the KS2 Christmas Carol Concert are also under way and they sound equally as beautiful as the Nativity songs.

Our Advent Art morning today was absolutely wonderful. It is fantastic to be able to invite parents into the school and we hope that you enjoyed spending an hour with us. As chaotic as things are in a school, we really do love working in partnership with you all.

This Sunday we see the Christmas Lights being switched on and our children will be singing on stage just before the grand switch on. Special thanks must go out to Sally Forgan and Briony Walster for their hard work and dedication to the wider life of our school. They have given up the most precious commodity, time, to help us to prepare our choir. Please do come and see us at 4.30pm for a magical start to the season of Advent.

Our Celebration Assembly was later this week due to our Advent Art morning and as you know we welcome your feedback. Would you as parents prefer the assembly on a Friday to be at 2.30pm or would you rather this stay at 9.05am? Please do give me your feedback on the gates.

Our wonderful G.I.F.T (Growing In Faith Together) team have met with our local Foodbank and donated boxes of food. We are so proud of our children for taking this initiative and for tirelessly helping others in our local community that are not as fortunate as we are. Food bank are in desperate need of toiletries, so if you have any spare please donate to your local Foodbank.



God Bless

Maureen Collier

Athlete Update

Thank you to all you wonderful children, families and friends who supported our sponsored fitness circuits with GB Swimmer Amy Smith – your wonderful efforts have earned us £1030.40!!! The children's reward wristbands and certificates have arrived and will be distributed next week. We're looking forward to sharing with you the exciting activity programme we will be spending the money on at school.

Returning your child's Home School Agreement

We discussed behaviours, expectations and the type of school we want to be as part of Anti-bullying Week. We used this as an opportunity for all children and parents or carers to re-sign the Home School Agreement. However, we are still missing quite a few. Please return these once signed to your class teacher.

Spring Term Extracurricular Activities

Dance Club and Football Club will continue in January. Years 3-6 can sign up to Thursday night Football [here](#) or contact dfsports@icloud.com for more information.

If your child is in Year 2 or above and would like to begin Music Lessons, please contact the office for registration forms. Music is payable half-terminly in advance and changes require a half-term's notice.

Christmas Lights Choir

We're looking forward to seeing our singers and their supporters at the Christmas Light Switch On this Sunday – our choir is performing on the main stage at 4:30PM. Please bring your child at 4:20 promptly, wearing full school uniform, a coat and any Christmas accessories. Please try to learn the words (although song sheets will be available). FOSM have asked that parents don't wander too far so children can be quickly collected after the performance.

Stars of the Week

Nursery – Toby

Reception – Vincent

Year 1 – Isla

Year 2 – Oliver

Year 3 – Alice

Year 4/5 – Antoni & Murphy

Year 5/6 – Peyton & Cian

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



Monday, November 28

Whole School Mass Church @ 9:15

Tuesday, November 29

Nativity Dress rehearsal / grandparents performance

Wednesday, November 30

ALL St Andrew's Day
Wear a blue or tartan item with your uniform.

Thursday, December 1

Nativity Performance @10AM

Tuesday, December 6

Nativity Performance @6PM

Friday, December 9

Christmas Dinner & Jumpers

Tuesday, December 13

EYFS Stay & Play
2PM - 3:20PM

Wednesday, December 14

KS2 Christmas Carol Concert
Church @ 6.00pm

FOSM DATES & UPDATES...

Sunday, November 27

Christmas lights switch on
Meet: 4:20 at the main stage
Performance Time: 4:30

Saturday, December 3

09:30 - 11:30
Santa Breakfast

5 December 7-9pm

Wreath making workshop 1

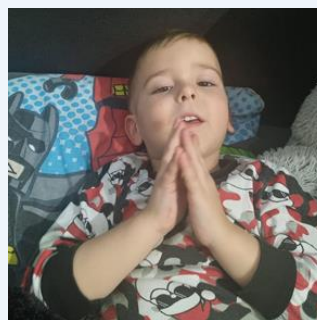
12 December 7-9pm

Wreath making workshop 2
▶ 5th Dec 7-9pm fully booked;
waiting list available

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Reception and Nursery have become very confident prayer leaders during our collective worship each week. The children work in groups to set up our prayer focus before and after our time reflecting. We have been thinking about and discussing how we can be more 'faith filled and hopeful', linked to this term's values and virtues. The children gave some wonderful examples such as helping others when they are hurt, helping our family cross the road safely, and sharing what we have with others. One of our nursery pupils said, "I pray with my family at home, at bedtime". It is lovely to hear about our children being faith filled in and out of school - well done!



Year One - Ms Priestley

I can't believe we're at the end of another week already! Year One have worked so incredibly hard this week, I couldn't be more proud of them if I tried. We started the week with our new book 'Dogger' and the children made some fantastic predictions about what might happen in the story and have since been working hard to remember and retell it. In maths, they have wowed me with their subtraction skills, particularly with subtracting on a number line! I also have to mention how brilliant they have been during the Nativity practice, I can't wait for you all to see what a super job they have done - it truly is an amazing Nativity. Finally, thank you to those that were able to join us for our Advent Day. What fun we had! The crafts you and the children made look fantastic and it was so lovely to read the class' Advent promises. Have a lovely weekend!

Year Two - Ms Pahnke

Year Two have been busy this week practising the Nativity. The children are very excited to be sharing it with friends and family next week! We have been learning to use their expanded noun phrases in our writing, ready to write a setting description. We will be sharing these with year three next week. The children have enjoyed practicing their sketching techniques to create an imagine of Jesus and Mary. They have worked incredibly hard this week and have shown they are maturing in their learning journey. Thank you to all of those who made it for our Advent day on Friday, the children had a great day!

Year Three - Ms Keith

We have had another busy week this week in Year Three. We have continued reading our text Julius Zebra and have been planning a setting, it has been amazing to see the expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials that the children have been using! In our Maths lesson we have continued practicing our addition and subtraction skills and have been using counters to help us understand the concept of exchanging. We also learnt all about Boudica in our Topic lessons and are looking forward to writing a letter next week!



In our RE lessons we have been learning all about the Sacrament of Reconciliation and this week the children did a fantastic job being priests and penitents when acting out the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I also want to say a massive thank you joining us for our Advent Day activity this morning, it was so lovely being able to have parents in the classroom enjoying activities with the children. Thank you for all your continued support.

Year Four & Five - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa

This week in Art, Year 4/5 have been comparing sculptures from two famous potters, Josiah Wedgwood and Yayoi Kusama. We looked closely at the shapes, colours and patterns in the work, we drew our own versions and discussed what we liked about each design. In Science we have been using classification keys to identify different animals by their features. In Maths we have been practising multiplying and dividing by 3, 6 and 9. We have had a fantastic time preparing our hearts and classroom for the Season of Advent.

Year Five & Six - Mrs Banat-Rinz

This week we learnt a lot more about light in our latest science topic. We explored how light can be reflected and change direction. It was a busy week in RE too as we looked into vocations before spending all of Friday preparing for the special season of Advent. Wreaths using our own handprints were created and we took part in a beautiful and thoughtful prayer service led by children in our class. The new spelling rule this week of -cial and -tial was challenging but everyone persevered- these are part of this week's homework. On the topic of homework, a reminder too that it is due in every Wednesday. TTRS and reading should also take place each night- thank you for your support each week with this.

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Lily	Y3: Brody
YR: Chester	Y4/5: Mason & Stephanie
Y1: Mason	Y5/6: Aryana & Sofia R
Y2: Charlie	

LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: Everleigh	Y3: Riley
YR: Louie	Y4/5: Inana & Casey
Y1: Harvey	Y5/6: Esther & Max
Y2: Timmy	

HOUSE POINTS

St George 191
St Patrick 186
St Andrew 184
St David 174

