

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | November 4th 2022



From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that you have all had a restful half term holiday, although that seems like it was a long time ago! The children have shown their resilience once again this week and have tackled their learning head on.

Our wonderful children celebrated All Saints Mass on Tuesday 1st November with Father Arul, and once again read beautifully and represented our school reverently. It is always delightful when parishioners take the time to telephone the school, or stop us at church, to tell us how wonderful our children are and how well they behave.

It is the month of November and so we are focussing our prayer life on those who have died, starting with the Feast of All Souls, remembering the faithful departed; whose souls are in purgatory. And winding our way through the last weeks of the Church's year as Ordinary time comes to a close, and Advent begins later this month. All of our classes will do work associated with the month of November in their RE and Years 3 – 6 will all attend a Mass this month. There are some wonderful feast days to celebrate this month if you want to encourage your child to develop a wider understanding of the saints – I love seeing the children's home RE learning.

Advent

The season of Advent will begin on Sunday 27th November, what better way to prepare for the coming of Our Saviour than to go to Mass at 10.00am on Sunday. To prepare our children for this wonderful liturgical season we will be holding an **Advent Day on Friday 25th November** and we would love for you to come in and spend some time in your child's class. They will be getting creative and expressing their thoughts on how they will be patient as we wait. We invite you to come in through the office door – you will need to sign in – from 9.15am. We will have an 'open' school until 10.15am. Please do come and join us, it will give some of you the chance to actually see your child's class for the first time!

During this term we will be learning about the values of being Faith-filled and Hopeful.

Faith-filled: in our belief in God

Hopeful: that God will continue to guide us on our path through life

Here are some scriptures linked to being Faith-filled and Hopeful that you may want to read during this half term. In the Gospels you can find:

30th October	Luke 19:1-10	Salvation comes to the house of Zacchaeus
20th November	Luke 23:35-43	Today you will be with me in paradise
4th December	Matthew 3:1-12	The one who follows me will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire
11th December	Matthew 11:2-11	A greater than John the Baptist has never been seen

Bonfire night will soon be upon us and lots of our children and animals are scared of the loud bangs and flashes from fireworks. Please spare a thought for our pets and children and take care of yourselves whilst enjoying the celebrations. If you are going to any events wrap up warm and have a wonderful time.

One last thing – enjoy the Rugby this weekend for the beginning of the Autumn Nations Series!

God Bless

Maureen Collier

St Mary's Superstars



By Special Invitation... The Superstar Tea Party for last half term's children, who staff have recognised always show their Super Star quality, will take place with Mrs Collier on Monday next week (as Y3 are on a trip today). **Congratulations to all our superstar children!**



POPPIES @ PLAYTIME

Children wanting poppies and other child-friendly poppy merchandise should bring cash next week. Sales take place at break. **Suggested costs vary across the range from 50p - £2**

CHRISTMAS FOOD SUPPORT

The Food Bank at the Graham Adams Centre have advised that they will be able to provide families with a small additional top-up of food to cover the festive period. Families must be registered in advance and able to collect their package from the centre between 11:15 and 12:45 on either Monday 5th, 12th or 19th December. – **Please make yourself known to Mrs Collier or Mrs Worrall if you would like to take up this offer.**

OPEN MORNINGS / RECEPTION 2023

Thank you to all the families that came along to our **Autumn Term Open Mornings** – we had a record number of registrations and we enjoyed meeting you all.

Reception 2023 Applications are now open (for children born between 1 Sept 2018 & 31 Aug 2019). You must apply by 5pm on 15 January 2023. Late applications will not be considered until the first allocation of school places has finished on 17 April 2023. Many schools are likely to have filled all their available places by then. (Although there is an extended deadline of 1 Feb if your address changes before then.)

» [YouTube Help Video](#)

You can find out more on the Council's Website: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/homepage/421/ applying-for-a-primary-school-place>

Stars of the Week

Nursery – Ivy

Reception – Pixie

Year 1 – Freddie

Year 2 – Finnley

Year 4/5 – Mason

& Darcy

Year 5/6 – Peyton

& Jessica

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



PLEASE NOTE MASS DAY CHANGE: New Thursday dates for Class Masses from now on

Thursday, November 10

Year 5/6 Mass @ 9:15 Church

Friday, November 11

Armistice Day

November 14 - 18

Anti-Bullying Week

NEW Friday, November 18

Non-Uniform Day

- bring a bottle for our stall at the Christmas Light Switch on.

Wednesday, November 30

ALL St Andrew's Day

Wear a blue or tartan item with your uniform.

Tuesday, November 29

Nativity Dress rehearsal

Thursday, December 1

Nativity Performance @10AM

Tuesday, December 6

Nativity Performance @6PM

Friday, December 9

Christmas Dinner & Jumpers

NEW Wed, December 14

KS2 Christmas Carol Concert Church @ 6.00pm

FOSM DATES & UPDATES...

Friday, November 25

Xmas Jumper Sale

Now accepting jumper donations in to school

Sunday, November 27

Christmas lights switch on

Now accepting donations of bottled water/wine for our popular stall in to school

NEW 12 December 7-9pm

Wreath making workshop

** additional date added **

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/>



Nursery and Reception enjoyed a challenging PE lesson this week. The children had to; climb the wall bars, balance across a bench beam, and jump off the apparatus. Some of the children felt a bit nervous at the beginning of the session, but by the end they were extremely proud of their achievements. We talked about safety and how to use the equipment in a sensible manner. All of the children listened carefully to the rules and had lots of fun!

Year One - Ms Priestley

Hope you all had a brilliant half term. I have been blown away by the fantastic attitude to learning Year One have come back to school with! They have shown amazing enthusiasm for our new book, The Three Billy Goats Gruff, worked brilliantly on their number bonds to 10 and had a super start to their Nativity practise. We also had a chance to play together with some of our favourite toys to kick start our brand-new topic 'In the Toy Box'. What a super start to the half term Year One - keep it up!



Well Done Miss Priestley! Congratulations from us all

Year Two - Ms Pahnke

It has been lovely to have all the children back and refreshed after half term with a fantastic attitude to their learning. The children have enjoyed exploring clues for our new topic 'Incredible India' and for our new English book 'Pattan's Pumpkin'. They have used their map skills to locate and find India on the map. As well as learning about the seven continents and five oceans that made up our world. They have enjoyed identifying and using their number bonds to 10 for subtracting across 10s. In RE, we have been learning about how Jesus called some of his disciples and wrote some instructions on how to be a good disciple in school.

Year Three - Ms Keith

I just wanted to say a massive welcome back! It has been a very busy first week back but we have been working very hard! We have focused on addition in Maths this week and have begun looking at our new text, 'Julius Zebra: Rumble with the Romans!' in our English lessons. In our RE lessons, we have continued our learning about Reconciliation and have enjoyed focusing on the story of Zacchaeus. Today, we also had a fantastic day on our trip to Lunt Fort, ask your children all about it! Thank you for your continued support this term.

Year Four & Five - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa

Year Four/Five have settled well into school, after the holiday. We are continuing with our topic 'Field to Fork' and have been looking at the different climate zones around the world. In RE we are learning about how Jesus taught us to pray and the meaning behind the Our Father prayer. In Science we have been learning about different habitats, the animals that live in them and why they like to live there.

Year Five & Six - Mrs Banat-Rinz

Everyone has come back refreshed from half term and had a fabulous week. At the start of the week we went to church, children in the class read beautifully and the rest of the class behaved impeccably. It was a delight to be told by a parishioner how impressed she was by their conduct. In our theme lessons we began to compare Coventry in the UK to Coventry in Rhode Island USA. Why don't you ask your child what the similarities and differences are? We began coding and some of us even managed to design our own games which was very impressive. At the end of the week, we immersed ourselves in pop art in the style of Andy Warhol with fabulous results. A reminder that homework is due in every Wednesday with an expectation that TTRS is played every night for at least 10 minutes and reading books are read daily.

PEDESTRIAN GATE

Our new safety lock is timed to be open at drop off & pick up. At other times, please use the bell on the intercom. To exit, there is a Green button beyond the column - you need to push HARD as the gate is heavy!

HEADLICE Be Alert!

We have a couple of cases of nits in different classes at school. Please check your children often and if you find evidence, they should be treated before returning to school. www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits

CAROL SERVICE

Wednesday 14th December

We're hoping lots families and friends of our students will join our Key Stage 2 children for an evening Carol Service at the church. Please arrive from 5:30 for 6pm

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Toby	Y2: Suruthiy
YR: Ben	Y4/5: Jasper & Claudia
Y1: Mason	Y5/6: Jimmy & Sophia D

LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: Roman	Y2: Joshua
YR: Vincent	Y4/5: Hollie & Dougie
Y1: Max	Y5/6: Lexie & Affiea

HOUSE POINTS

- St George 264
- St Patrick 248
- St Andrew 245
- St David 127

