

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | March 24th 2023



From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a marvellous week we have had again, we may be a small school but we have a very big heart and we have the most wonderful children, parents and staff. Our Lenten charity work is amazing and the children have risen to the challenge with such enthusiasm. Year Five and Six and Early Years toast was delicious; Year Three's Crazy Hair Day and Cakes (whilst delayed) was great fun, Year Four and Five's PJ and teddy day was very cosy and today is the grand draw for the chocolate raffle from our Year Two children and families. All of this is not possible without you, the parents and carers and we are incredibly grateful as things are so brilliantly supported by you all... many, many thanks. Next week is the last week and it is Break the Rules day.

Parents' Evening was so wonderful, to see you all meeting teachers was a privilege. We are delighted with some of the responses on the Parent Surveys too...

"There is an ethos of caring and celebrating success,
my child is blossoming!"

"There is a wonderful bond with teachers and head!"

"My child is very happy and comes home in a good mood."

"Everything is perfect, thank you."

"Very happy, teachers are lovely and nurturing!"

As you know we try very hard to work in partnership with you and as such school will consider one or two homework comments, the request for holiday club, and request for all single year classes. News regarding classes for next year will be released shortly – we just have a few more items to look at, but you will (hopefully) all be happy with the news that will be coming out just after Easter.

We have one week to go before the Easter holiday and our Years Four, Five and Six will be re-enacting the Stations of The Cross in the school hall. This will lead us beautifully into Holy Week where we remember the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus has made for us all. Holy Week will begin on Sunday 2nd April with Palm Sunday leading us through to Easter Sunday. If you can, please do take the children to church at some point during the week of Holy Week as the children will not be in school.

This Sunday sees the beginning of Spring as the clocks go forward an hour. We will all be grateful of the longer days – sunlight is good for the soul (and the purse with the cost of energy bills). Enjoy your weekend – get out and breathe in the fresh air.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

Stars of the Week

Nursery – Kaiden

Reception – Arlyn

Year 1 – Charlotte

Year 2 – Joseph

Year 3 – Ben

Year 4/5 – Amber & Stephanie

Year 5/6 – Hamish & Sofia

SUMMER TERM CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

It's time to sign up, or renew your places for our afterschool clubs.

Afterschool:

NETBALL CLUB: Y3-6 Mondays with Miss King

Please let the school know as soon as possible if you no longer require a place at this club so we can offer this to children on the waiting list

DANCE CLUB: YR-Y6 Wednesdays with Miss Jenny

Please sign up for Funky Dance using the letter attached with this week's newsletter – existing club goers are performing for their parents next week at 4:10.

FOOTBALL CLUB: Y3-6 Thursdays with Mr Fagan

We have an extra coach after Easter so we can take on extra pupils. An online booking form will be emailed separately once live.

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB:

Due to increasing popularity, please ensure you have booked your place in advance wherever possible to avoid disappointment – and remember to cancel booked sessions with 24Hrs notice to avoid incurring cancellation fees and free up space for other families.

In School:

MUSIC: Paid music tuition continues automatically (any changes to existing music lessons require a half term's written notice).

If your Year 2 – 6 child would like to start music lessons, please contact the school office for more information.

Curriculum music:

Year 3 will have their last curriculum UpBeat fife lesson this week. It's Year 4's turn on the rotation next half term when they are being let loose on our Glockenspiels and Xylophones!

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

Nursery and reception have enjoyed the sunshine this week in the outdoor area! They have been making obstacle courses, mud pies, drawing with chalk, and watering the flowers! Our new sandpit has arrived, and the water trays are on the way! We're going to have such a fun summer in our outdoor area. Let's hope for some more sunshine! ☀

YEAR ONE - Ms Priestley

Wow! What a week! Year One have been such superstars this week. We have transformed into superheroes for the week and been on the hunt for a super sidekick in English. The children have worked brilliantly to build a 'Wanted!' poster for their side-kick, using bullet points, tag lines and description. They have thoroughly enjoyed learning about measurement in maths and been fantastic detectives in the classroom to find out how many cm different objects are and which items are heavier and lighter. We followed this theme for World Maths Day (the children looked amazing!) where we played scale games and baked some delicious cupcakes that had to have all their ingredients measured out accurately. In Topic, we focused our learning on Florence Nightingale, 'the lady with the lamp'. The class loved finding out all about her and the work she did for hospitals. To remind ourselves of her heroism, we made our very own versions of her lamps to help guide us on our own way! Hope you have a brilliant weekend, see you Monday 😊



YEAR TWO - Ms Pahnke

After working super hard for the past two weeks Year Two enjoyed using balloons during their PE lesson. They were practising a variety of tennis skills; overhead serve, ready stance and using their communication skills to ensure the balloon stayed inside the area. We had a fun filled World Maths Day morning on Thursday, enjoying counting in 2s, 5s and 10s in a rhythm and solving the mystery of Peter Rabbits Beetroot Thief using their knowledge of multiplication and division. In RE we spent some time with God visiting different stations to help us grow closer to him during our season of Lent. On Friday we got to work using our design and technology skills to build a replica Tudor house, just like the ones in 1666. Thank you to all of those who donated to the raffle and bought raffle tickets, your support it appreciated.

YEAR THREE - Ms Keith

We have had another busy fun filled week in Year Three this week! In Maths, we have been looking at perimeter and learning what that means. We also celebrated World Maths Day and used our directional language skills to create a map to find a new volcano that we have discovered and then wrote directions for other people to find it! In our English lessons, we have been looking at the different features of a newspaper to prepare ourselves to write our own newspaper articles next week. On Monday we also finished creating our seismometers and had a great time testing them out! In our RE lessons, we have been looking at the different symbols of Lent and reflecting on all of our learning about Lent and we are now looking forward to learning all about Holy Week next week. Thank you for continued support, especially with reading! It has been lovely to see such progression in all of the children's reading.

YEAR FOUR & FIVE - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa

I cannot believe another week is done. They do say time flies when you are working hard and having fun at the same time. Year 4 and 5 have had another busy week of learning. In English we have been learning how to use conjunctions in our writing to express time, place and manner. In Maths, we have been continuing with our work on fractions and learning about equivalent fractions families. In RE, the children have been finding out about the Jewish Day of Atonement Yom Kippur and finding out why it is a special celebration of forgiveness for the Jewish people.

On Thursday it was World Maths Day. We had a great day doing some fun Maths games and activities (see the back page for photos). We started off the day with a challenge: children had to work in groups against the clock to answer 33 questions to try and crack the code to find a hidden message! The children did amazingly and managed to complete the challenge within the time. We then completed some lovely Tessellation patterns. Have a great weekend and see you next week!

YEAR FIVE & SIX - Mrs Banat-Rinz

Year 5 & 6 have had a fabulous week where they have really showed their maturity. It has been a really busy week putting together the stations of the cross before we show them to parents on the last Friday of this term. Year 6 conducted themselves reverently during mass on Thursday and were great representatives of St Mary's. The highlight of the week for me was World Maths Day - it was great to see the "buzz" around maths throughout school. A reminder that homework is due in by Wednesday. Every child received a letter this week to remind them of their TTRS log in too. Please encourage to child to access this daily - 10 minutes each day really makes a difference.

DIARY DATES

EVERY FRIDAY

Celebration Assembly

@9:05 School Hall (open to all)

50p Friday

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



NEW Wednesday, March 29

After School Dance Club
Parents' Performance @4:10

Thursday, March 30

YR & Y5 Class Mass @9:15

Friday, March 31 @2pm

Stations of the Cross
lead by Y4 - Y6 (School Hall)

Friday, March 31

Lenten Charities
- Break the Rules Day (Y1/6)

Friday, March 31 @7PM

Easter Prize Bingo
School Hall - Church fundraiser

April 3-14

Easter Holidays
(back to school Monday 17th)

Sunday, April 23 @10AM

First Holy Communion
Enrolment Mass - all invited

Thursday, April 27

Whole School Mass @9:15
(also Act of Reconciliation @2pm for First Holy Communion Candidates and their parents)

Thursday, May 4

Y4 Class Mass @9:15

Thursday, May 11

Y3 Class Mass @9:15

Sunday, May 14

Confirmation Enrolment
Mass - all invited

PLEASE NOTE:

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

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Cali	Y3: Joshua
YR: Lauren	Y4/5: Elijah R & Claudia
Y1: Nero	Y5/6: Esther & Rishit
Y2: Shyler	

LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: Everleigh	Y3: Sienna
YR: Poppy	Y4/5: Amari & Oli
Y1: Maisie	Y5/6: Matteo & Mya
Y2: Amelia	

HOUSE POINTS:

St Andrew = 297

St George = 160

St Patrick = 214

St David = 192

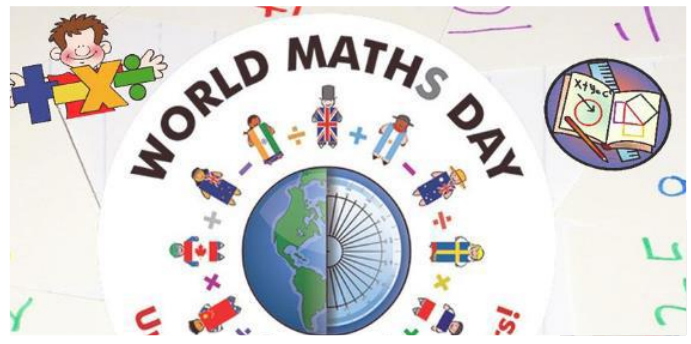


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World Maths Day
23rd March. #WorldMathsDay

We had a fantastic World Maths Day yesterday and it all added up to a great result!



Year 5 – had great mathematical fun investigating Smarties!

