

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | May 26th 2023



From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

How has that happened? How has yet another half term flown by? It has been a whirlwind of a half term but, as always, it has been a privilege to serve our school community and to see our children flourish and grow, using their God-given talents across the curriculum.

This week we have had Dan from One Life in with our Year Six leading a retreat day. The children had the most wonderful day, being immersed in the Holy Spirit and relishing in the fruits and gifts that the Holy Spirit brings out in us all. Our Year Three children will also have this experience as they continue their Sacramental journey.

Important dates for the diary:

Confirmation – Saturday 3rd June 2023 at 10.30am

First Holy Communion – Saturday 17th June 2023 at 10.30am

Sports Day and our Summer Fayre – Thursday 29th June 2023 (Sports Day will begin at 1.15pm) – more information to follow.

Transition Day for our Year Six children will be 5th and 6th July 2023 – more information will follow from the children's prospective new secondary schools.

Transition Day – Nursery to current Year Five will be on Wednesday 5th July 2023. They will all spend the morning with their new teacher – news of which teacher will be in which year group will follow after the half term holiday.

Sun Safety: As the warmer weather is here (hopefully to stay), can we ask that children come to school with a bottle filled with water (not juice or squash) and a sun hat. Please also apply sun lotion to the children in the morning to offer them protection for their skin. Children can now wear the summer uniform (blue gingham dresses, grey shorts, white polo shirt). All children must wear black school shoes (not trainers) to school, they are very welcome to bring trainers to change into at break and lunch time. Please, please, please can you name all of your children's belongings – it is so much easier to reunite lost uniform to its rightful owner if the items are named.

Galanos House: Our Choir have had the most magnificent morning with the Silver Singers of Galanos House – it was so heart-warming to see happy children and residents of Galanos with beaming smiles. It has certainly warmed my heart this morning. A big thank you must go out to Sally Forgan for arranging this and to Briony Walster for helping with the choir.

Have the most amazing week off – don't forget that our Confirmation mass is on Saturday 3rd June at 10.30am. Last thing, just in case you didn't know – Coventry City Football Club are in the finals at Wembley tomorrow – lets pray that God helps all those players to use their God-given talents and give us the win. We are 90 minutes away from going up; come on [Sky Blue Army!](#)

Maureen Collier

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Ivor, Mary	Y3: Elsa, Joshua
YR: Louie, Poppy, Pixie	Y4/5: Delilah, Casey, Amari, Layla
Y1: Emma, Isla	Y5/6: Esther, Mya, Esther, Jessica
Y2: Charlie, Flori	

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

FOSM have created a Facebook group for swapping pre-loved uniform. Please join the group and feel free to add any grown-out uniform you wish to pass on! Anyone is welcome to comment on items on offer if you would like them. There is a suggested donation of 50p per item, if you wish to donate visit the donation link in the group. Join the group here: <https://bit.ly/FOSMpre-loveduniform>

SUMMER FETE & SPORTS DAY

FOSM would really like to hold a Summer Fete this year and are in the process of planning this to combine with Sports Day as an event for all to enjoy! To run this, **we need your help...** If you would like to volunteer to run a stall, help with refreshments - anything! Please get in touch. You can email us at friendsofstmaryssoutham@gmail.com or send a WhatsApp message to your class rep!

Thank you!!

PE DAY FUN



We had a super whole school PE Day on Tuesday – an ideal warm up for next half term's SPORTS DAY!!!

Stars of the Fortnight

Nursery – Freya & Roman

Reception – Pixie and Oscar

Year 1 – Max & Maisie

Year 2 – Florence & All of Year 2

Year 3 – Harriet & Brody

Year 4/5 – Antoni, Ned, Elia & Murphy

Year 5/6 – Jimmy, Peyton, Lucy and

All of Year 6

LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: Cara, Lily	Y3: Sam, Nevana
YR: Cameron, Lauren	Y4/5: Amber, Tami, Harry, Stephanie
Y1: Freddie, Frankie	Y5/6: Peyton, Riley, Hamish, Affiea
Y2: Elliott, Grace B	

Nursery and Reception had a very exciting day out on Monday, we went to the Butterfly Farm! The children loved seeing the different types of butterflies, and all had their own favourite. Our tour guide Will was fantastic and taught the children lots! We saw the lifecycle from an egg to a caterpillar, to a chrysalis, and then into beautiful butterflies. We saw a variety of other animals and insects such as leaf cutting ants, a hissing cockroach and a caiman called Kenny! The children got to watch Kenny enjoy some crickets for lunch. We finished the day playing in the sunshine and enjoyed an ice cream thanks to FOSM. You were super stars as always- well done!



YEAR ONE - Ms Priestley | Wow! What a way to end the half term! We had the MOST fun on Tuesday during our PE day. We paired up with Early Years and had a jam-packed day full of races, games and dancing. We all enjoyed ourselves so much and it certainly helped having the beautiful weather! This week in English we have been generating our own ideas for a story based on Small Knight and George. The class then wrote a letter each to the author to share their ideas and I have to say, I was very impressed! We finished off our fractions topic in Maths, with the class being super stars at finding quarters of shapes and quantities. Next half-term we will be looking at time telling and recognising money. We spent Thursday morning with Fr Arul during our class mass in the classroom - the children, as ever, made me very proud with how reverent and thoughtful they were. They had some super questions for Father afterwards too and we were discussing the alpha and omega symbols on his vestments that we had seen before. To round off the week, we had a whole day of DT where we made our very own drawbridges in pairs. The children were fantastic builders and managed to work their way around a wheel and axle mechanism. Thank you to all who donated cardboard! I hope you all have a very restful and enjoyable week off and the children come back ready to enjoy their final half term in Year One - where has the time gone! (See front page for pictures)

YEAR TWO - Ms Pahnke | What a busy half term! It has been filled with many activities where the children have been able to enjoy and display their fantastic learning! We have now completed our investigation 'What do seeds need to survive?' and have written their scientific findings. After term will see us move onto 'What do plants need to survive?'. On Tuesday we had an excellent day filled with different PE activities. The children experienced cricket, athletics, netball and team games. In RE we have focused on the Sacrament of Marriage and how Joseph made a commitment to Mary and Jesus. In Topic, the children explored Hunstanton in more detail and have written a postcard as if they had a holiday there. I cannot believe we only have one more half term left in Year Two! I wish you all a lovely and restful half term.

YEAR THREE - Ms Keith | Our final week of the term has been a busy one! In our Maths lessons, we have been looking at turns and angles, describing different turns and identifying right angles in a shape. In our English lessons, we have been looking at the features of a leaflet and practicing our persuasive language skills and rhetorical questions to help us create our own leaflet after half term. In our RE lessons, we have been looking at how the Liturgy of the Eucharist is all about praising and giving thanksgiving to God. On Tuesday, we loved having a sports day and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the different activities, we particularly enjoyed the hurdles. In our topic lessons, we looked at food during the Anglo-Saxon times and baked Anglo-Saxon bread and then wrote instructions on how to bake the bread. Thank you all for your continued support. I hope the children enjoy a well-deserved break! Have a lovely half term!

YEAR FOUR & FIVE - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa | We have had yet another busy week in Year 4/5. In Maths we have continued our work on line graphs. The children created their own line graphs using their own data and then moved on to using line graphs to solve problems. In English, we have been learning about the River Thames as part of our topic 'Source to Sea' and have started gathering information and interesting facts about it, ready to include in their own writing after half term. In RE, we have been learning about Mass and how it is a celebration where Catholic Christians express their faith in God. We looked closely at what St Peter said about Mass and how we should celebrate it. We also looked at and practised learning the Apostles' Creed and discussed what it tells us about the belief of Christians. On Tuesday we had our PE day and had a great time participating in various games and activities including rounders, netball, cricket and bean bag tag. The children all showed off their skills and there was a great atmosphere of support, teamwork and camaraderie. Lots of fun was had by all and the children and staff thoroughly enjoy themselves! Have a wonderful, restful half term and we will see you all back on 5th June.

YEAR FIVE & SIX - Mrs Banat-Rinz | Well, we have reached the end of another half term and what a fabulous week we have had. In science we have continued learning about circuits and in RE we found out more about Mary before creating our own artistic interpretation of heaven. In maths we have mastered reading and interpreting tables such as bus timetables - applying maths in a real-life context. Tuesday was a fun filled day doing various sports throughout the day such as rounders, cricket and athletics in the glorious sunshine. On Thursday, Year 6 were fortunate enough to have a Confirmation Retreat all day hosted by Dan from One Life - check out the [St Mary's twitter page](#) to see one of the songs we learnt. The week was finished by singing to residents from Galanos House which was fabulous. It has been a busy and tiring half term so please make the most of the week off and I look forward to seeing lots of you on Saturday 3rd for Confirmation.



YUM: A HALF TERM TREAT
A chocolate treat will have come home with your child tonight courtesy of Charlecote Park who, wanting to say thank you for our help at Christmas, have kindly donated an Easter Egg per child from their Easter Trail left overs.

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



Monday May 29

Southam family fun day
Please support the FOSM jam jar stall

May 29 - June 2

Half Term

Saturday June 3 @ 10:30

Sacrament of Confirmation
Our Lady and St Wulstan all welcome

Monday June 5

Reception Vision Screening

Thursday June 8

Early Years Open Morning
9:30 - 11:00 (please book via office)

Thursday June 8 @ 9:15

Reception & Y3 Class Mass

Wednesday June 14

Y3 First Holy Communion
Sacramental Retreat Day

Thursday June 15 @ 9:15

Y2 & Y4 Class Mass -

Friday June 16

Father's Day Afternoon
(more details to follow)

Saturday June 17 @ 10:30

First Holy Communion
Our Lady and St Wulstan all welcome

Sunday June 25 @ 11:00

International Open-Air Mass
Parish event in school grounds
- all welcome.

PLEASE NOTE:

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

HOUSE

POINTS:



St Patrick = 396
St Andrew = 394
St George = 383
St David = 379