

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | June 9th 2023



From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the final half term of this academic year – it has absolutely flown by! As you know I absolutely love all of our children and it is always a privilege to work with such amazing young people – I most definitely do have the best job in the world!

We started our half term with our Year Six children making their Confirmation. This was such a wonderful Mass, celebrated by Canon Paul Fitzpatrick and our six Confirmandi. As always, the children were respectful, reverent and prayerful and an asset to the school. I



must extend my thanks to the plethora of staff that attended to support the children on Saturday too.

I appear to have hexed the weather by sending out a message about summer uniform, so at the risk of doing this again here we go... As it is now 'summer' the children can wear their summer uniforms: white polo shirt, grey shorts, blue checked dress or shorts, school jumper, a sun hat and black school shoes. Please do ensure that the children are wearing shoes – not trainers. They are more than welcome to bring trainers to change into at lunch time. Please do also send children in with a drink bottle – filled with water and not juice or cordial.

There is lots going on this half term so please keep checking the newsletter each week – specifically the calendar section. We also have the class WhatsApp groups – lots of information goes on to each class page through this medium. If you are not on any of the class groups and you would like to be, please contact Mrs Worrall in the office, or me on the gate and we will get you added.

Matters Arising: If you have a concern about your child, please book an appointment to discuss with your child's class teacher by either phoning or emailing the Office to make an appointment. In the first instance – the class teacher is the first port of call. If a matter is then not resolved – an appointment can be made with a member of the Senior Leadership team – Assistant Headteacher (Mrs Banat-Rinz) or Headteacher (Mrs Collier).

Holiday Requests: Please may I remind you that our school policy makes it clear that we do not authorise term time holidays. Can I encourage you to plan any holidays around school breaks and not to take children out of school during term time. Every day that your child attends school is very important. Please remember if you proceed with an unauthorised holiday, the Local Authority may be informed and issue a Penalty Notice. This is currently £60 per parent per child, to be paid within 21 days (the fine doubles to £120 per parent per child after 21 days). We do hope that you will continue to work in partnership with us.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS INSPECTION REPORT

We are really pleased that our children and staff shone in our recent school inspection, which is both a diocesan and a statutory responsibility for Catholic Schools. Thank you too to all the parents who completed the Parent Survey element. The full report is available on our website under [Catholic Life](#).

LIBRARY COMP

Nominate us today to win £1,000 of Book Tokens plus a £500 grant to improve our library space! AND if yours is one of the 5 winning entries, you'll also win a £100 Book Token to spend in your favourite bookshop: www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools

FLOWER POWER

Thank you to Amelia's Granny and her trio of helpers who made our kerbside planter look so lovely – they'll need lots of water in this hot weather!



A blooming marvellous job!

FOSM UPDATE:

SOUTHAM FUNDAY:

Thank you to all our amazing stall volunteers, those that donated jam jars and those who paid our stall at the Southam Funday a visit. We raised an amazing **£213.10** - Thank you so much everyone!

IN CELEBRATION OF FATHER'S DAY... We will be holding our tea and cake event after school on Friday 16th June. Children will also be able to buy a gift from our Father's Day gift shop. If you would like to buy your child a gift ticket for £3 so they can choose a gift you can do so on the door, or in advance by visiting https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/shop/fathers_day_buy_a_gift. The hall will be open from 3pm. Please note, you are welcome to come before picking up your children if you wish, but children will still need to be picked up at the usual time and place.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

- FOSM have created a Facebook group for swapping pre-loved uniform. Find out more here: <https://bit.ly/FOSMpre-loveduniform>

- **SUMMER FETE & SPORTS DAY: Thursday 29th June after school.** To run this, **we need your help...** Following sports day, we will be having a summer fete! 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

Stars of the Week

Nursery – Everyone!

Reception – Everyone!

Year 1 – Cillian

Year 2 – Delilah L

Year 3 – Lauren

Year 4/5 – Amari & Tami

Year 5/6 – Thomas & Zack D

This week we have started our new topic 'The Big Blue Sea'. The children are very excited and have enjoyed learning about sea creatures such as seahorse. The children have been very busy creating sea creatures using a variety of materials in the art area! We have made our own under the sea wall which is looking great. It has also been a very messy week in our class as the children explored sea foam!



Our new EYFS Project is very messy fun!

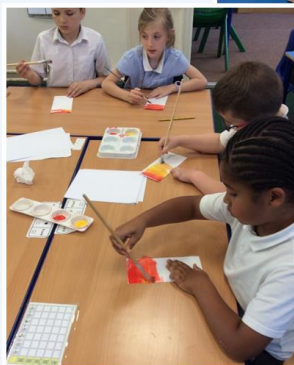


YEAR ONE - Ms Priestley

Year One have had an excellent first week back! We have been working hard on our Phonics, playing games and practising spotting sounds in words and are ready to go next week! In RE, we have been learning about Pentecost and the children made some beautiful pieces of music with percussion instruments to represent how the disciples would have felt before and after receiving the Holy Spirit. We began our new Topic for the half term, Australia, and we recapped our knowledge of the 7 continents to kick start this (any excuse for them to listen to their favourite continent song!). We also started to look at Aboriginal artwork and the class worked together to make a collaborative piece of Aboriginal pattern work that we will puzzle together next week. Hope you have a lovely weekend, see you all next week!

YEAR TWO - Ms Pahnke

It has been lovely to welcome back the children to our final half term in year two. The children started their week by writing their own sequel 'The Fisherman's Lunch'. They even illustrated some fantastic pictures to accompany their story. In RE, we have explored the story of Pentecost and now understand that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to us as he promised. The children then practiced mixing primary colours to create a beautiful Pentecost painting. In Science, they are now exploring what plants need to survive and are carrying out a fair test investigation. In Maths, we have started our time topic, which can be a tricky concept to grasp. They would find it useful to be reading, o'clock, half past, quarter past/to at home as well as in school. Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a fun-filled final half term.



YEAR THREE - Ms Keith

I cannot believe that we have reached the last half term! The children have settled back into school life with such fantastic attitudes and we have had such a great first week back! In our English lessons this week, we have been planning on our 'Night of the Seawig' leaflets and have created our own leaflets that can be found in our English books. In our Maths lessons, we have been looking at different types of lines. We have identified, drawn and measured horizontal and vertical lines and we have also identified and drawn parallel and perpendicular lines. In our RE this week, we looked at the story of Pentecost and written a diary entry as the Apostle Peter to retell the story. In our Topic lessons, we have closely looked at the clothes that Anglo-Saxon men and women wore and have designed our own Anglo-Saxon tunic. It has been lovely to hear what the children have gotten up to over the holidays and to see how much reading they have achieved! Please remind the children to bring their reading books into school every day. Thank you for your continued support.

YEAR FOUR & FIVE - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa

This week Year 4/5 have been working on reading the time and problem solving around units of time. In RE we have been discussing how other Christians around the world celebrate different holidays such as Mardi Gras in New Orleans, USA. In Topic we have been learning about the major rivers of the UK and writing about the course of the River Thames. In Art we have been practising our sketching and shading techniques by drawing different river scenes with some impressive results.

YEAR FIVE & SIX - Mrs Banat-Rinz

Our children in Year Five and Six have been outstanding this week and we have had such a lovely week with them. We have been looking at how we can show kindness and to 'Love our Neighbour'. This is one of the ten commandments and this also matches our school values - our children have had some fantastic ideas that we are sharing across the school. The Year Six children are excited as they have chosen their end of Year Six Performance and rehearsals will commence next week! [All the leaver milestone dates were emailed earlier this week and are also repeated in the diary dates here](#) ▶

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



Wednesday June 14

Y3 First Holy Communion
Sacramental Retreat Day

Thursday June 15 @ 9:15

Y2 & Y4 Class Mass - Church

Friday June 16

Father's Day Afternoon
(contact FOSM if you can help)

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.

NEW Tuesday June 27 @ 9.30

Nursery Settling in session #1

Thursday June 29 @ 1:15pm

Sports Day and Summer Fete
(contact FOSM if you can help)

Wednesday July 5

Transition Day + New Starters
- Nursery to current Y5 will spend the morning with their new teacher
(5th & 6th July for Y6 @ Southam College)

NEW Monday July 10 @ 09.30

Y6 Performance Dress
Rehearsal - Grandparents welcome

NEW Monday July 10

Mary Poppins Preview
- All Year 5 & Year 6, Southam College

NEW Tuesday July 11 @ 18:00

Y6 Performance
- all family of Year Six children welcome

NEW Tuesday July 18 @ 6pm

Reception 2023 Parents'
Information Evening

NEW Thursday July 20 @ 09:15

Y6 Leavers Mass
Whole school and families invited

NEW Friday July 21 @ 14:00

Year Six Leavers Assembly

PLEASE NOTE:

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

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Ivor	Y3: Aidan
YR: Cameron	Y4/5: Delilah & Claudia
Y1: Emma	Y5/6: Amelka & Rishit
Y2: Finn	

LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: Ella-Rose	Y3: Felicity
YR: Leo	Y4/5: Charlie & Ollie
Y1: Charlotte	Y5/6: Esther & Harriet
Y2: Betsy	

HOUSE POINTS:

St George = 246
St Patrick = 225
St David = 210
St Andrew = 209

