

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | June 23rd 2023



From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week has passed us by and the final summer term seems to be disappearing in the blink of an eye. This is always such a busy half term as we pack so much in to it as the good weather joins us. Next Thursday will see us host our Sports Day. The children have been busy practising and are excited to be in house groups again this year rather than in set classes. We have purposely moved away from a Sports Day of purely racing, but after listening to your comments last year we have included a blend of races and a circuit of other activities. This will mean that all children have the opportunity to excel in an activity. We do hope that you can join us. If the weather turns and we have rain (please God don't let this happen) then we have a contingency plan in place. The pedestrian gate will be open and we ask that you arrive no earlier than 1.10pm. After Sports Day we will have our Summer Fete. It is important as we transition between the two events that you do not take your children before they have been formally dismissed to your care by their class teacher (see right for more info).

On Saturday we celebrated our Year Three children taking their third sacrament of initiation, their First Holy Communion. This was such a wonderful occasion and our children were so reverent, prayerful and an absolute delight. I have to say that I was, as I always am, a very, very proud Headteacher. We must give thanks to Mr Irvine for taking photographs and to Mrs Watson and Miss Keith for their superb preparation of our children.



On Thursday, we will celebrate the feast of Saints Peter and Paul and as a school we will be attending Mass; please join us at 9.15am if you can. In celebrating Saint Peter and Saint Paul on the same day, we are given a reminder of the variety of types of people who are called to holiness, and the improbability of what they are called to do.

Peter begins his journey with Jesus as an impetuous young man, who enthusiastically, if misguidedly, cuts off a Roman soldier's ear on the eve of Jesus' death and then denies him within a space of hours; Peter grows into being a steadfast leader of a community that undergoes tremendous challenges. Paul and people of his ilk are one of those challenges. He is old enough to be a respectable member of Jewish society and zealous in his application of the Torah, overseeing the stoning of Stephen. Yet God uses this conservative Jew to become the most vociferous missionary to the Gentiles. By implication, God can use anybody to spread the gospel, regardless of their background.

Jesus' gift to Peter of the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven and subsequent instruction that whatever Peter binds and loses, will be bound and loosed in heaven has been often linked exclusively to sin and damnation and authority in the Church.

Today you will have received a letter sharing which teachers will be in which classes for the next Academic Year and this has also been shared with the children.

Over the summer we will have some significant building work taking place: the heating distribution system is being replaced, all internal fire doors and some additional security around the office area and new technology in classes (laptops and interactive whiteboards). Our building is continuing to take shape, although we still have some work to do. It is an exciting time to be part of the family of St. Mary's.

Have a wonderful weekend; rest and recuperate.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

SUMMER CAMP

@ St Mary's

Our all-new Summer Camp launches next month in response to parents' feedback that holiday childcare in familiar surroundings would be useful. Our usual Before and After School Club Team will trial this new concept during the first two weeks of the Summer Holidays.

Please complete our online form to register interest and secure your child's space. <https://forms.gle/d3kXhmfpGFSpSGECA>

Bookings are only fixed once payment has been made in ParentPay (St Mary's pupils only)



SPORTS DAY & FOSM FETE

Following a hot practice yesterday, the children are drilled, primed & raring to go!

- ▶ Please do remember for **Thursday 29th June** to send your child in: + wearing a T-Shirt or ribbon of their House's colour (see below) + with a sun hat + with sunscreen already applied + a refillable water bottle + consider wearing shorts not joggers
- ▶ Parents, carers and grandparents are invited, and you are welcome to bring camping chairs and/or picnic blankets.
- ▶ We'll be opening the gates at 1:15PM and getting started soon after.
- ▶ Children will rotate around the activity stations ahead of our races.
- ▶ After all the fun - and all-important awarding of the House Trophy - please do return to the field once the children have been dismissed (from their usual doors) to join our FOSM Fete/Fun Afternoon which will be following straight on after Sports Day.

With games, entertainment, a bouncy castle, music and refreshments, please bring your pennies and come celebrate the coming end of another successful year and (hopefully) enjoy the sunshine.

Anyone who can stay at the end to help us tidy away will be most welcome - many hands make light work!

NOTE: After School Club is open as usual and Football Club will be on, but will not use the field this week

RED: St George **YELLOW:** St David **GREEN:** St Patrick **BLUE:** St Andrew



Stars of the Week

Nursery - Mollie

Reception - Leo K

Year 1 - All of Year One!

Year 2 - Bella

Year 3 - Noah

Year 4/5 - Harry & Casey

Year 5/6 - Aryana & Mya

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



Sunday June 25 @ 11:00

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

Tuesday June 27 @9.30

Nursery Settling in session #1

NEW Thursday June 29 @ 9:15

Whole School Mass at Church

Thursday June 29 @ 1:15pm

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

Thursday July 6 @ 9:15

Year 2 Class Mass at Church

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)

Monday July 10 @ 09.30

Y6 with Y5 Performance

Dress Rehearsal - Grandparents of Year 5 and 6 pupils welcome

Monday July 10

Mary Poppins Preview

- All Year 5 & Year 6, Southam College

Tuesday July 11 @ 18:00

Y6 Performance

- all family of Year Six children welcome

Wednesday July 12

Y1 & Y2 Trip to Warwick
(letters to follow)

Monday July 17

2 - 3:20 Nursery & Reception

Ice Cream Shop Stay and Play

Tuesday July 18 @ 6pm

Reception 2023 Parents'

Information Evening

Thursday July 20 @ 09:15

Y6 Leavers Mass at Church

Whole school and families invited

Friday July 21 @ 14:00

Year Six Leavers Assembly

July 24 - August 4

St Mary's Summer Camp

(see front page)

PLEASE NOTE:

DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Further dates and details online at:

<https://www.stmaryssoutham.org>

NURSERY & RECEPTION - Mrs Finch & Mrs Hilditch

This week Nursery and Reception received a letter from a pirate! Pirate Pete is setting the children challenges to see if they can complete the tasks and join his crew. The children have been busy creating treasure maps, sharing treasure and playing 'walk the plank' with a dice and numbers! Our ice cream shop role play area is now open! The children have enjoyed serving in the shop and being the receiving customers. It has been lovely to watch the children take turns, use our topic language with each other, and role play with money.



YEAR ONE - Ms Priestley

Yet another week seems to have flown by! Year One have been busy writing in role as Kevin the Koala from our class book. They did a great job with their diary entry, thinking about how to use time connectives carefully and words such as I and me. In maths they have delved into numbers from 50-100 and worked brilliantly to sequence and partition these. In RE, we have started our new unit Following Jesus Today, where the class have been thinking about the meaning of the word 'church' and what our role is in being a member of it. We were amazed learning all about Australian seasons on Wednesday, where the children couldn't believe how all the seasons were back to front - the thought of Christmas during Summer was definitely a talking point! They also did a super job with a new skill of cross-hatching in art to recreate some Aboriginal animal artwork. Looking forward to another excellent week next week 😊

YEAR TWO - Ms Pahnke

Another fun filled week that has flown by. The children have now finished their 'Telling Time' unit and have begun measuring mass and capacity. The children have enjoyed balancing objects using the scales and have been using excellent vocabulary. In RE, we began 'Our Church' unit and have been looking at the roles and responsibilities of the church and how we can also play a role within our parish.

On Wednesday, we had a superhero bear from outer space on a mission to teach children and their families about carbon monoxide (CO) and how to protect themselves, making homes safer. We enjoyed practicing our sports day activities ready for the big event next week. Please continue to send your child to school with a water bottle, sun cream and sun hat.

Thank you for your continued support.



CLASS PHOTOS: Order links will shortly be sent for Class Photos. We've also had a range of new photography commissioned for the website & prospectus. **THANK YOU** Mr Irvine!



YEAR THREE - Ms Keith

This week Year Three have been completing their end of year assessments and I must say that I could not be any prouder of them if I tried. The children have shown such determination and resilience throughout the week and the progress that have made over the year has been amazing, they have all worked so hard. They have also shown what true St Mary's stars they are to any adults they have come across; it is always lovely to hear other adults say how amazing the children in Year Three are. We also enjoyed our topic lessons, where we completed our Anglo-Saxon information pages and learnt what the seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. We even got to learn and create music, using the instruments, to a song all about the Anglo-Saxons. We also really enjoyed practicing for sports day today, I can't wait to be cheering them all on with you next week! Please remember, even when I am not in the classroom, I am always still available. 😊 Thank you for your continued support and I hope you have a lovely weekend in the sun!

YEAR FOUR & FIVE - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa

This week, Year 4/5 have been taking part in our assessments in Reading, Writing and Maths, they have been working their socks off. In RE we have been researching the journeys, destinations and work of the Apostles after Pentecost. In Topic we have been continuing our work on map reading and using grid references, to help us navigate around maps of the U.K. coastline and rivers. The children have been busy practising for sports day next week.

YEAR FIVE & SIX - Ms Keith

This week has been a very busy week for the children in Year Five and Six. As a whole class, the children have begun to look at the religion of Judaism. They have looked at special items and their meanings and have also looked at prayers that are important to the Jewish faith. The Year Five children have completed their end of year assessments and Mrs Watson is so proud of their determination and perseverance this week. Year Six have begun practicing their play and I must say, even with only a little bit of practice, I know they are going to blow your socks off! It has also been such a lovely experience having all of the Year Five children support them with this performance. The children have also enjoyed practicing the events for sports day next week and are looking forward to seeing you all there next week! Have a lovely weekend!

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Franky	Y3: Brody
YR: Oscar	Y4/5: Connor & Claudia
Y1: Mason	Y5/6: Esther & Chelsea
Y2: Vicky	

LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: Ella-Rose	Y3: Harriet
YR: Louie	Y4/5: Maggie & Ned
Y1: Matthew	Y5/6: Peyton & Tadei
Y2: Finnley	



CONGRATULATIONS MRS FINCH...

A very special package is on its way!

We are very excited for Mrs Finch who has announced that her family is growing. She will begin maternity leave in October. We wish her and her family all the best. xxx