

# ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | July 7<sup>th</sup> 2023



## From the Head...

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week sees us move even closer to the end of another academic year, and what another bumper of a year it has been. I am so, so thankful to every child and every member of staff – for all the teaching, learning, fun, laughter and kindness that has been shown over this academic year. I am so very proud of each and every one of our children and the resilience and determination that they have shown throughout the year. It is a real privilege to be on this journey with them and to see how much they have grown physically, mentally and socially.

The children have all now visited their new classes and have met their new teacher(s). They all had a wonderful morning, albeit that some of them (adults included) were nervous. They have created some lovely pieces of work to show off their talents and this work will be used to create displays for their new classrooms in September. It was such a joy to spend time in every class this week and to see the delight, the laughter and the sense of belonging in every child. Remember if you have any questions at all, please do ask your child's teacher.



Next week will be a packed week kicking off on Tuesday with our Music Concert. I cannot wait to hear the pieces that each of our children who play instruments will perform. Listening to them practising (pardon the pun) has been music to my ears. I am sure that you will all thoroughly enjoy the performance – do come and join us in the hall at 9.30am on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

On Tuesday afternoon (11<sup>th</sup> July at 2.00pm) we have the dress rehearsal for our Year Six children's performance. Grandparents of all of the children involved are very welcome to join

us. We are so incredibly grateful to our Year Five children for supporting them with this as they make a marvellous addition. I am saving myself for the final performance on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July at 6.00pm, parents please do join us.

**I'M AN 11-YR-OLD  
Get Me Out Of Here!**

### A Word from Pope Francis:

**"Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of big things!"**



God Bless  
Maureen Collier

## Trip Payments

We're excited about the upcoming trips – Year 1 and Year 2 will be in Warwick on Wednesday, and next year's Year 6's will be kicking off September in style at Alton Castle. A reminder that the 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment for this is due this weekend as is final payment for the Warwick Trip.

## Uniform and Back to School

Please reacquaint yourself with our school [uniform policy](#) before buying any new items over the Summer Holidays. We are finding a huge variety of unlabelled items daily and reuniting them with their owners is a perpetual challenge. Please label everything – why not make use of the [label offer](#) and remember FOSM have a Facebook group to buy or sell preloved uniform: <https://bit.ly/FOSMpre-loveduniform>

## St Mary's Attendance Heroes

Along with your child's report next week, you will receive an attendance certificate confirming their percentage attendance. As we have previously explained in this newsletter, missing even a small amount of school can have a very detrimental effect on your child's learning. As a school we aim for all children to be at school at least 95% of the time.

A small number of persistently late families are impacting the school's morning routines. Please remember, school gates open at 08:45 and children should be at their desks by 08:55. However, please don't set the alarm too early – children should never be dropped off unattended; if they do arrive before 08:45, we will have to admit them to the Breakfast Club and emergency rates will apply.



## Phoning the school.

Please note our phone options changed several months ago: Option 1 is Absence, Option 2 is B&A Club (not manned or checked during the school day) Option 3 is the school office.

We need to know when your child is not going to be in school. This must be reported daily by 09:30 either by phone or email to the school office. The office can advise exclusion and return times for common conditions – please remember it must be a **full 48 hours** clear since the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea before returning.

## CLASS PHOTOS:

Please check your email for the class-specific link to view the recent Class Photos. (There are no paper proof cards). Prices are shown on the photo website and orders will be delivered directly to school.



## Stars of the Week

Nursery – JJ

Reception – Teddy

Year 1 – Nero

Year 2 – Flori

Year 3 – Alice

Year 4/5 – Jasper & Stephanie

Year 5/6 – Lexie & Sophia D

## 2023 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE!

This year you can play games and join in online too as well as at your local library! (always ask a grown up before going [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk))



## NURSERY & RECEPTION

- Mrs Finch & Mrs Hilditch

Nursery and Reception have been doing lots of active learning again this whilst doing the actions. They then had a go at forming the letters on a large piece of paper. Reception have been looking at the composition of numbers above 10. They matched quantities to numbers, carefully considering the tens and ones in each number. They then went on a number hunt around school to find their given number.



## 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



**Monday July 10**

Mary Poppins Preview

- All Year 5 & Year 6, Southam College

**Tuesday July 11 @ 09:30**

Music Morning

Families of Music Students

(invitation only)

**CHANGE Tuesday July 11**

@ 14.00 Dress Rehearsal

Y6 with Y5 Performance

Grandparents of Y5 & Y6 pupils welcome

**CHANGE Wednesday July 12**

@ 18:00 Performance

Y6 with Y5 Leavers' Play

- all family of Y5 & Y6 children welcome

**Wednesday July 12**

Y1 & Y2 Trip to Warwick

**Monday July 17 - 2pm to 3:20**

EYFS Ice Cream Stay + 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**

Y6 Leavers Assembly

**July 24 - September 4**

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

(Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September are Teacher Training Days)

**23/24 Academic Calendar**

'FRIDGE POSTER' OUT NOW: [LINK](#)

St Mary's school-specific training days:

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

**PLEASE NOTE:**

DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Further dates and details online at:

<https://www.stmaryssoutham.org.uk/events/>

## YEAR ONE - Ms Priestley

What a busy week it has been across school! Year One had such a super morning getting to know Mr Russell on Wednesday and they cannot wait for next year now! They have been working super hard with recognising notes and coins in Maths. We really enjoyed playing lots of money games on Thursday, I can tell we are going to have some good savers in class! 😊 In RE, we thought carefully about how people across the world follow Jesus, and focused particularly on charity work. We explored how CAFOD have helped those who are poor and hungry as well as how they campaign to help climate change. Across Topic, we revisited human and physical features of geography and had a go at identifying different features of Australia. We also had a great time in Art, learning how to transfer outlines of animals on to paper through shading the reverse - we were wowed at the magic of it! We are already bubbling with excitement for our trip next week and very much looking forward to watching all the displays of talents our St Mary's family has in the various shows we have on. I hope you all have a restful weekend ready for another crazy week!

## YEAR TWO - Ms Pahnke

Well done to all of year two who led Mass beautifully on Thursday. They should all be very proud of themselves, especially those who read so well. This also supported our new topic in RE 'The Mass'. The children are beginning to learn different responses and the priest's role during Mass. In English the children enjoyed learning about apostrophes for possession and have been super apostrophe finders in their reading. We had a lovely morning on Wednesday for our transition into Year Three. We shared a book together called 'Our Class is a Family' and they recreated an image for their display from September. We have been hard at work practicing for our music show on Tuesday 11th July. We hope you can join us to see our performance. Thank you for your continued support.

## YEAR THREE - Ms Keith

We have had another fun-filled week in Year Three this week. In our Maths lessons we have been looking at telling the time. We have looked closely at telling time to every five minutes and then every minute. In our English lessons, we have created our own sea creature and created a fact file on them to help us to prepare for writing a new adventure for Oliver from Oliver and the Seawigs next week. In our RE lessons, we have looked closely at the importance of the Eucharist in Mass and what it means. We have also started our new unit of Prayer, where we will look closely at the different types of prayer and how different people pray. The children also had a fantastic morning with Miss Costa and Mrs Hawley, which I am very glad to hear! Thank you for your continued support! I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

## YEAR FOUR & FIVE - Mrs Hawley & Ms Costa

We have had another busy and productive week in Year 4/5. In Maths, we have been continuing with our learning about time, practising how to tell the time to o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past, as well as being able to read digital and analogue clocks. We have also been learning about decimals. In English, we have been creating some lovely descriptive pieces written in the perspective of one of the characters from our book 'The Wind in the Willows.' In previous lessons, we have been learning about paragraphs, fronted adverbials and inverted commas and now the children have been using and applying these into their own writing. In RE, Year 5 have been doing some research on Hinduism with Mrs Watson and have created some beautiful posters about what they have found. Back in Yr4/5, the children have been learning about the roles and responsibilities of the church, parishioners and jobs in the church. In Science, we have been looking at condensation; what it is, when and how it happens and finding examples of it in our everyday lives and routines.

All the children had a fantastic transition morning on Wednesday. It was so lovely to see them all afterwards so happy and excited about the new academic year and their new teachers. Have a great weekend!

## YEAR FIVE & SIX - Ms Keith

As always, our week in year 5 6 has been super busy. Everyone has worked really hard to learn their lines and many have also been rehearsing at home too to make sure they are reading really loudly and clearly- you are all in for a real treat next week when you get the chance to watch them. Over this weekend, please encourage them to try to learn their lines and read out loud as much as possible- the aim is for you to be able to hear them from the other side of the room! All children that had their transition days to their new group had great days and I know they are really looking forward to September. A reminder that we are walking to Southam College on Monday afternoon to watch their production of Mary Poppins and a tuck shop will be open.

### EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

YN: Darcy	Y3: Rebecca
YR: Leo K	Y4/5: Zachary & Ollie
Y1: Leo	Y5/6: Esther & Zack
Y2: Amelia	

### LUNCHTIME AWARD

YN: Franky	Y3: Felicity
YR: Archie	Y4/5: Tallulah & Layla
Y1: Kabelle	Y5/6: Hamish & Affiea
Y2: Enea	

### HOUSE POINTS:

St George = 286

St Patrick = 282

St Andrew = 27

St David = 216

