



ST MARY'S C. E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

Dream, believe, achieve

Fortnightly Newsletter

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COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This term our collective worship is all about Hope. The first worship looked at Isaiah 7:14. Even though he wrote his book 700 years before Jesus was born, he told the world to hope in God's promises, even if they had to wait to see them happen. We asked the children to picture themselves on a desert island, then picture all the people who make them feel loved supported and hopeful for the future. They looked into the faces of the people around them and thanked them. Over the next few weeks, the children will look at how Jesus shared his message of hope. The children will be taught that even on the days when we feel we can't cope, there's hope. They will imagine their worries being tied to a balloon lifted it up into the air and floating away. They will talk about how it makes them feel and then look for simple ways to serve someone, just as Jesus encouraged his followers to do.

SLEEPER PLEA

The EYFS need some sleepers for a renovation project. If anyone knows where we could get some (free or fairly cheap) please let the school office know.

CURRICULUM

EYFS

This half term we will be listening to and sharing fairytales. The children will be acting out their favourite stories; making props for their role play, mixing potions and writing 'Wanted Posters'.

In Outdoor Learning, we will be using our senses to explore different weather.

The children will also have lots of opportunities to develop their team work skills, sharing, taking turns and listening to each other during exploring time.

In maths we will be revisiting 2D and 3D shapes and using mathematical language to describe them. We will be adding and taking away using concrete objects. We will also be halving shapes and numbers by sharing and be will be learning about money.

Year 1/2

Blue Planet:

History - In History this term, the children will develop an understanding of who Robert Falcon Scott was and why he is an important person in history. They will learn about his childhood and life leading up to his final exploration. They will use sources and stories to find out details of his final journey and use this information to act out the sequence. The children will explore why he failed to be the first person to reach the South Pole and evaluate what he could have changed.

Art - During this unit the children will be creating a 3D sculpture of Robert Falcon Scott. They will be focusing on creating facial features and creating these out of clay. They will be developing their skills on how to pinch, pull and manipulate clay to create their desired effect. The children will also be using tools and natural resources to create a range of effects and textures on their clay sculpture.

RE - Children will explore the different ways Jesus brings good news to Christians.

Science - The children will explore plants this term. The children will set up a comparative test relating to our blue planet theme. What will happen to a plant in different conditions around the world? The children will explore what happens when a plant doesn't have one of the vital conditions it needs to survive. The children will place a seed in the dark, in the freezer, in the sunlight but without water and they will plant a seed that receives sunlight, water, warmth, air and nutrients.

Literacy - In literacy this term the children will explore the blue planet through Meerkat Mail. The children will explore different habitats through postcards from Sunny the Meerkat. The children will focus on writing in the past tense, descriptive language and punctuating sentences. The children will then go on a special adventure and write their own postcard.

Year 3/4

What a fab start to the term! The children were whisked away to the Himalayas on a virtual reality experience to immerse them in our new topic of Mountains. They experienced the world from 8,849m above sea level as they stood on top of Mount Everest. We have since used our atlases to find out more about Europe, climate and mountains ranges across the world. We will end this term with an in depth study of the Himalayas as we try to send a yeti back home! This links with our class story "The Abominables" by Eva Ibbotson. Our study of mountains will feed into our art lessons, when we create mountain pictures using collage and monochromatic colours.

Trying to get up and down mountains, will link into our science topic of force and magnets. Do we push, pull or twist? Whatever we do we play nicely and our PSHE lessons remind us about our friendships and relationships with others.

In our English, we are looking at "The Promise" by Nicola Davies and as we study the text we are preparing ourselves for writing our own story about stealing a handbag and finding something inside that will change the world. What could it be?. Our Maths lessons continue to build on our knowledge of fractions; the year 3s consolidating their knowledge and the year 4s moving onto decimals. Our Maths learning will end with mass and measurements.

Having looked closely at the role of Good Friday in the Easter story, we are going to continue our R.E. lessons and examine the meaning and significance of Pentecost. Computing has us creating branching databases and simulations, whilst French has us talking about the classroom. We finish this term with a weekly dose of Disco! We are looking at a song called "Bringing us together".

Year 3/4 are bringing us together!

Year 5/6

This term, year 5 and 6 have continued with their theme 'The Amazon'. In Geography we have learnt about the indigenous people who reside in the Amazon Rainforest and have looked at the devastating effects of deforestation.

In literacy, we have continued this topic using the book 'The Great Kapok tree' which tells the story of a logger who is persuaded to stop cutting down trees by the animals and children who live there. They will be using this story as inspiration to write their own stories highlighting the importance of the rainforests.

This unit has also linked beautifully with our 'Science Week Projects' where we have been innovators and have designed our own eco cities.

In Maths, year 6 have looked at statistics and developed their understanding of line, bar and pie charts. Year 5 have developed their understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages.

FUNDRAISING

At St Mary's we pride ourselves on being a family. Two of our children, Kaydian and Kailah-Mae have a sister (Mylah) who was born with a type 3 sacrococcygeal teratoma which is a tumour inside the abdomen. This tumour was crushing all of her organs and required a very risky 8 hour surgery, this included her being cut open down to her belly and down her back to remove the tumour. She then spent 4 weeks in a neo-natal intensive care unit.

The tumour has left Mylah with lasting damage to her bladder, meaning she will have a catheter in place all her life. It also caused damage to her bowel as well as permanent nerve damage down her leg and in her foot, resulting in her developing drop foot, which requires her to wear a splint.

This is why Mylah's mum Jade and her Auntie Nicola are doing a sky dive on 5th July to raise money for Leicester Royal Infirmary Neo Natal unit that looks after Mylah and the paediatric surgeons that saved her life.

If you would like to support Mylah and her incredible family, please see the just giving details below.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jade-nicola-cole?fbclid=IwAR2S2g1ZSwHeHjZ8iG6xYmGGPXjgrboB4pH3mvQ_dBNMevAMbtdXEd1Kcw or search Team Mylah on facebook to see their fundraising competitions and their Just Giving page

We would like to wish Jade and Nicola the best of luck for their sky dive, we'll be thinking of you on the day and we are very proud of you both!

SCHOOL PHOTOS

We have managed to secure Tempest Photography to come in and take individual photos of the children on the 9th June. Due to Covid restrictions we are unable to offer sibling photos this year.

PLAYGROUND

Please can we remind parents that children remain their responsibility while on the school playground in the mornings and after school. We have had cases of children climbing on bike sheds and riding scooters, causing danger to both children and adults.

PE AND SPORTS

EYFS will be focussing on ball skills, introducing ways to throw, catch, roll and bounce balls, to improve their co-ordination and gross motor skills.

Year 1/2 will continue to focus on their coordination and accuracy skills via throwing, catching and bat and ball themed lessons.

Years 3-4 will be enhancing their coordination and accuracy skills via target/accuracy skills leading to tennis themed activities, which will link to inter and intra school competitions.

Years 5-6 will be advancing their co-ordination skills via striking and fielding activities leading to cricket themed activities encouraging team work and tactical play. Lessons will link into inter and intra school sports competitions.

Please ensure pupils have their full PE kit in school everyday, this includes plimsolls/trainers, shorts and joggers/leggings, t-shirt and a PE jumper. Please note PE lessons will take place outside throughout the year, therefore gloves and sun hats are also advised.

Earrings must be removed and long hair tied back. If earring are not removed, children will be unable to partake in PE.

Please note fitness tracker watches can only be worn if they are covered by a sweat band to avoid injury to others.

Healthy School Ethos

Lunchtimes

Lunchtime initiatives will ensure that lunchtimes allow greater opportunity for pupils to access play equipment and increase their activity levels across all years. PTFA have very kindly donated funds to purchase additional play equipment which will allow pupils more variety and opportunity for active play.

Some year 6 pupils are taking part in sports leadership training. More update will be in the next newsletter.

Active Lives Survey

Many thanks to all Pupils, Staff and Parents who completed the Active Lives Survey last term.

I am pleased to confirm we submitted enough entries and have received vouchers to purchase additional PE equipment.

The active lives report will be made accessible via the school website, once we are in receipt of it.

Daily Mile

All classes are taking part in the daily mile initiative each week. This initiative encourages pupils to be active for 15 minutes to contribute to the daily recommendation of 60 active minutes per day.

On 30th April our school will be taking part in 'England Does The Daily Mile' event. The first national event day in schools and across social media aims to get 1 million children moving across the country.

School Sports Competitions

Last term we participated in a number of inter and Intra School sports competitions.

Inter School Competitions:

All pupils in years 3-6 participated in an inter school Archery competition.
All pupils in years 3-6 participated in an inter school New Age Kurling competition
All pupils in years 1-2 participated in an inter school Kurling competition

Inter School competitions: Following the inter school competitions, pupils were selected to represent our school, submitting our scores virtually.

Year 4-5 Archery: 28 pupils were then selected to represent our school, submitting 4 teams in total. We secured two top 5 places (3rd and 5th) in the results table, competing against schools across Northamptonshire.

KS2 Archery: 54 pupils were then selected to represent our school, submitting 9 teams in total. We secured one top 5 places (4th) in the results table, competing against schools across Northamptonshire.

KS2 Boccia: 11 pupils were selected to represent our school, submitting 3 teams. We secured one top 5 place (2nd) in the results table, competing against schools across Northamptonshire.

Year 3 / 4 Gymnastics: 10 pupils were selected to represent our school, submitting 2 teams in total. We secured two top 5 places (2nd and 4th) in the results table, competing against schools across Northamptonshire.

Year 5 / 6 Gymnastics: 13 pupils were selected to represent our school, submitting 3 teams in total. We secured two top 5 places (3rd and 5th) in the results table, competing against schools across Northamptonshire.

KS1 New Age Kurling: 12 pupils were selected to represent our school, submitting 3 teams in total. Unfortunately we did not secure any top 5 finishes in the results table, competing against schools across Northamptonshire.

KS2 New Age Kurling: 30 pupils were selected to represent our school, submitting 7 teams in total. We secured two top 5 places (4th and 5th) in the results table, competing against schools across Northamptonshire.

Competitions taking place this term:

Year 3 / 4 and 5 / 6 Tennis competitions,
Year 3 / 4 and 5 / 6 Tri Golf competitions

Sports Clubs

We are excited to announce that extra-curricular sports clubs have returned this term, we are still very restricted in the number of children allowed to attend and the mixing of year groups, but hope there is a variety of clubs currently on offer to interest everyone.

EYFS Mini Sports - Tuesdays - 3:05pm - 4:05pm - £21 - Places available
Year 1/2, Gymnastics - Thursdays - 8:00am - 8:45am - £15 - Places available
Years 3/4 Gymnastics - Tuesdays - 8:00am - 8:45am - £15 - Places available
Years 3/4 Dodgeball - Wednesdays - 8:00am - 8:45am - £21 - Places available
Years 3/4 Target Club - Mondays - 3:05pm - 4:05pm - £15 - Places available
Years 5/6 Gymnastics - Mondays - 8:10am - 8:55am - £12 - Places available
Years 5/6 Dodgeball Club - Thursdays - 3:15pm - 4:15pm - Fully Booked

We hope to host more clubs next term.

Places can be book via Parent Pay or for more information contact the school office.

PE Uniform

Please ensure you have your PE kit in school everyday, this includes plimsolls/trainers, shorts and joggers/leggings, t-shirt and a PE jumper. Please note PE lessons will take place outside throughout the year, therefore gloves, and sun hats are also advised.

SEND

We are an Inclusive school, so everyone is always welcome to read, attend or access anything listed in this section of the newsletter.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

The last term seems to have flown by, but I know that for many, this was a very long term, with the challenges of home schooling. Many of our SEND learners attended school for the period of lockdown, which meant we were able to continue with interventions and provisions in the usual way. All pupils have now had their Individual Support Plans reviewed and new plans are now in place. All parents and carers should have a copy of the new plan, which will be reviewed at the end of May/beginning of June to put interventions in place for the next school year. If for any reason you have not had your copy of your child's plan, please contact their class teacher who will provide one for you.

SEND toolkits: This term, we are introducing 'toolkits' to support children with their learning. These small folders have been made for each individual and contain useful resources to help them with things they find difficult. These will belong to your child and move with them as they go through the school and into their next classes. They will be adapted and added to as their needs change. Here are some of the resources for the younger children, but the older children will also have resources that are appropriate for their needs:

These will help the children become more independent learners and then raise their self-esteem, which will in turn help them make progress.

SEND support sessions: Unfortunately, the reading support session was postponed due to unforeseen circumstances, and will now take place on Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 1.30pm. Please join the meeting using this link:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/chs-dcsa-hgu>

I look forward to working with you to support your child further.

Together, we can make a difference!

Mel Barron

Inclusion and Pastoral Leader

PTFA News

Please 'like', 'share' and keep an eye on our Facebook page [Facebook Page](#)

Next Event

Bee-Yourself Non-Uniform Day Friday 21st May

In celebration of World Bee Day, children are invited to come to school dressed in a way that represents them – their interests, hobbies, activities, favourite things. Bee-You!
We are asking for a donation to class teachers of £1, £2 or £3, you choose!

Intra Class Sunflower Growing Competition

Each class will be provided with seeds and items needed to grow some sunflowers, but which class will have the skill and drive to help theirs grow the tallest?
The winning class will receive £50 to spend on their class or classroom.

Easter Raffle

****Officially the biggest fundraiser St Mary's has ever had!****

WOW! A grand total of £1514 was raised.

Thank you everyone that bought tickets, sold tickets, and donated prizes.

Congratulations to all of the lucky winners.

Egg-stravaganza Treasure Trail

We hope you enjoyed the trail around Burton Latimer, we did!

This event not only gave lots of us a fun few hours over the Easter holiday, but also made £222!

Thank you to everyone that took part, it was great seeing families wandering the town filling in their trail sheets.

Bee Walk

We hope by now you will have either seen the Bee Walk area, or have heard the children talking about it.

Now officially opened and in use, the Bee Walk is a natural, sensory area for our children to enjoy for learning, quiet time, and breaktimes.

Thank you to the volunteers that gave up their own time to work on this project, and to our school community for the fundraising that enabled us to support the rejuvenation of this area for our school.

A virtual opening video was shared with the children in school, it can be found here <https://fb.watch/547fiw-VRL/> for you to see.

Name the Bee Competition

Thank you to everyone that has entered the name the bee competition. Winners will be announced very soon, and the top 3 will receive chocolate prizes!

Other ways to support our fundraising

Here's how you can support us anytime...

smile.amazon.co.uk - every time you order from Amazon Smile a little bit is donated to us.

How to set up St Mary's on Amazon Smile on the phone app - [instructions here](#)

Use the charity number 111218.

[The Giving Machine](#) - click through The Giving Machine and we will receive a percentage of your purchase from many online shops.

Quick Sign Up Code: 57630