

St Mary's Newsletter

Summer Term – Friday 16th July 2021

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Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly - 98.4%

Attendance Year - 97.8%

Let Your Light Shine... as You Grow Matthew 5: 15-16

Dear parents, carers and friends of the school,

Head's Lines

As we draw to the end of the Summer term, in what has been another incredibly eventful year, the pupils of St Mary's continue to display their excellent attitude and strong work ethic as we all shortly head off for a well-deserved Summer break.

This week we have held our annual Sports Day (which as you know we were unable to hold last year due to the first lockdown) and this year it was split into a Key Stage 1 and separate Key Stage 2 event (with more information coming up below). We also treated the children to a Dinosaur Animatronics workshop – which went down really, really well with the children and was a fabulous way of rounding off the recent set of engaging events and interesting visitors to the school. We also held our Meet the Teachers online events and we are currently preparing our Parent Packs, which will be sent out to classes next week.

Year 5/6 Performance of Super Stan and Class assemblies:

Earlier on this week, the Year 5 and 6 pupils have also performed their play Super Stan to the school – which everyone agreed was absolutely hilarious, magnificently acted and a show that was loved by the whole school. This performance has been videoed and will be shared with parents and carers at the end of the term. In addition, all of the classes have now completed videoing, editing and sharing their class assembly videos. Please visit the school website using the following link to enjoy these wonderful videos (please note that the Reception video will be available on Tapestry) <https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/key-stage-1-2-class-assemblies/>

Sports Day!

Well done to everyone involved in Sports Day yesterday. After a two year break I have got to say that it was a really lovely event and the children showed their usual resilience and good sportsmanship – celebrating each other's successes as well as their own teams. Moreover, we were very lucky with the weather (in the fact that it wasn't too hot or too cold - even though it has been really patchy and unpredictable over the last few weeks). However, it was really clear that all of the children had a really great time taking part in all of their many races, which included: the Water Dash, Space Hopper race, Egg and Spoon race, Bean Bag Balance race, Skipping race, Obstacle race, Sack race, Flat race and Relay event – with the Key Stage 2 pupils taking part in some additional events – such as the Tug of War and Slow Bike race.

The pupils in both KS1 and KS2 performed admirably, with congratulations going to the Red team for winning the Key Stage 1 event with a whopping 556 points. In Key Stage 2 the winners were the Blue team, who scored an outstanding 666 points! The combined winner of both tournaments was the Blue team who scored a magnificent 1204 points to take this year's Sports Day trophy! Therefore, congratulations to all of the members of the Blue team!

As ever, special thanks need to go to Miss Driscoll for all of her hard work and organisation in making this event happen. I would also like to thank you for all of your support of the school. I am sure everyone would have been desperate to come along to support our pupils and we very much look forwards to welcoming you all to next years event. Please keep an eye out for the huge array of photos that were taken of the event which we will share with you as soon as we have put them together!

Key Stage 1 event			Key Stage 2 event:		
Position	Team	Points	Position	Team	Points
1 st	Red	556	1 st	Blue	666
2 nd	Yellow	550	2 nd	Yellow	576
3 rd	Blue	538	3 rd	Green	566
4 th	Green	478	4 th	Red	562

Overall positions of Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 events:		
Position	Team	Points
1 st	Blue	1204
2 nd	Yellow	1126
3 rd	Red	1118
4 th	Green	1044

Next year's classes! New class teachers and members of staff for September:

A quick reminder of next year's classes and the staff members for each year group:

Name of class:	New Year Group:	Class staff members:
Butterfly class	Reception	Mrs Jeewan, Mrs Hunter
Ladybird class	Year 1	Mrs Potter, Miss Nicholson, Miss Driscoll, Miss Dodd
Caterpillar class	Year 2	Mr Pike, Mrs Boyce, Miss Flack, Miss Dye
Grasshopper class	Year 3	Miss Allin, Mrs Wulfse, Mrs Slade, Ms Murnane
Firefly class	Year 4	Mr Brown, Mrs Trust,
Busybee class	Year 5	Mrs McInnes, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Norman, Mrs Tickle
Dragonfly class	Year 6	Mr Clarke, Mrs Smith

A fond farewell...

Sadly, today, the whole of the St Mary's community will bid a very fond farewell to Faye Jeff's, the St Mary's Pre-school Manager. Faye has been in role for 17 years – which is an absolutely phenomenal achievement – especially in such a busy and demanding role. Everyone connected to the St Mary's community will be in complete agreement that Faye has been a steadfast and loyal servant, not only to the Pre-school community but also to the local families who she has helped and supported so knowledgeably during that time.

I am sure you will all join me in sending your very best wishes to Faye on her new and exciting journey. I know that she will be greatly missed by everyone here.

Bubble and school changes:

As you will be aware, the government has made some significant changes to the guidance to schools which will begin at the start of the next academic school year. Therefore, from the start of the Autumn term the school is going to make some significant changes to our own school arrangements.

From September, there will no longer be any bubbles, which you will be aware have been in existence since the start of the Autumn term last year. This will mean that children will be able to interact throughout the school day, which will include break times and lunchtimes as well as daily worship. We will also remove the staggered end of day arrangements. This will mean that all classes will finish at 3.15pm. The start of the school day will continue to be at 8.30am; however, children will not need to queue up to go into class as they are now. As soon as our pupils arrive in the morning they can walk straight into class where they will be greeted by their new class teacher.

Please note that when pupils are collected at the end of the school day at 3.15pm parents and carers will still need to queue up in their pre-existing lines. Parents, carers and pupils can continue to use either the double gates at the front of school, as well as the Caton's Lane gates in the mornings and the end of the school, as they wish.

The school will still encourage and continue to adopt sensible measures to reduce the risk of COVID transmission, which will include increased hand washing and sanitising, mask wearing in crowded indoor spaces. Furthermore, mask wearing around the school site will no longer be necessary, but we will continue to use them around the school site up to the end of this term.

End of term:

Please remember that the school will **break up at 1.30pm on Wednesday 21st July** for the last day of term. Please note that there is an **INSET day for staff at St Mary's on Wednesday 1st September** and the children will return for the new academic school year on Thursday 2nd September and we will look forward to welcoming you all back from 8.30am on that day. Term dates are available on the school website

Mr C. D. Jarmain

Headteacher at St Mary's

KS1 & KS2 Class Assemblies - July 2021

Please find below the links for will also find our class assemblies on our school website on the following link: <https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/key-stage-1-2-class-assemblies/>



Year 1 - <https://youtu.be/EVL5IWjvoT4>

Year 2 – <https://youtu.be/g6X9OkZF0H8>

Year 3 – <https://youtu.be/WFPvPf6Lnis>

Year 4 – <https://youtu.be/FzSOcaiwZYs>



10 benefits of playing board games:



- 1) The simplest benefits are learning to wait your turn and to follow the rules - both really important life lessons!
- 2) Strategy games are useful in helping the frontal lobes of the brain develop, where you learn planning, organizing, and making good decisions.
- 3) Can help a struggling reader – some games will help them to expand their vocabulary and flex their spelling skills.
- 4) Games in which players have to remember several pieces of information at once (such as who did what, and where) might help a child who is having trouble with reading comprehension.
- 5) Board games can sharpen your child's focus. Board games, when played without interruptions, can help lengthen a child's attention span. Finishing a board game without interruptions will help lengthen the declining attention span of children in a world filled with digital distractions.
- 6) Some board games can teach the value of teamwork if a collaborative game.
- 7) Taking turns and practicing patience during a game — even when things don't go their way — can help children (and adults!) to have more respectful responses rather than stomping off and slamming their bedroom door shut.
- 8) Board games can soothe anxiety.
- 9) They can show children how to be a good loser. Playing by the rules and encouraging them to use coping skills and promote resilience when things don't go their way.
- 10) Board games are a great way to unplug. The lack of technology required to play board games makes them special. They are a simple way to get quality, screen-free time with children.



I have really enjoyed playing a range of different board games with the Year 6 Board Games Club. The group demonstrated great resilience, team working, friendships and they were all super at following the rules (and some games had much more complicated rules than others). Well done!!

Mrs Jeewan

Gymnastics Clubs KS2

This term our gymnasts from Years 3-6 have been meeting as two groups (Years 3/4 and Years 5/6), in which they've been busy honing their skills, building their fitness and testing their courage! Over the last few weeks we have run competitions during the sessions and all the children have really impressed us with their creativity, determination and good sportsmanship. We'd like to share the long-awaited results!

Overall

1st - Nashaiya (4) and Aston (5)

2nd - Grace (4) and Lilly (5)

3rd - Amelia (4) and Lana (5)

Special Awards

Floor - Daisy (4) and Tyler W (6)

Vault - Elsie (4) and Tyler S (6)

Bench - Fraser (3) and Freddie A (5)

Stars of the Term - children who have consistently demonstrated perseverance, determination, high standards, kindness and compassion to others, resilience, helpfulness and good sportsmanship.

Lily B (4), Scarlett F (4) and Tia (5)

We'd like to say thank you and well done to ALL the children who came to the gymnastics clubs this term. You have all impressed us and been lovely to work with!

Miss Bennett and Miss Willis



Reception Class Update



Well done Butterflies for your last full week in Reception. We have had such a busy week—'**Dinosaur Day**' with the really amazing Dinosaur Workshop and joining in with a range of races in **Sports Day**!



The class have also enjoyed meeting both their new teachers for Year 1 and spending some time in their new class.

- ◆ **Stars of the Week**—All of **Butterfly Class** are our well deserved Stars of the Week! and for the year for making such wonderful progress and being such a well behaved class!
- ◆ Well done to Araoluwa and Harry for joining the **100 Club**, consistently reading at least 100 of the high frequency words! Well done to the 8 children who took part in **Early Talk Boost**—they have all made excellent progress with their looking, listening and communication skills. Thank you parents for reading the books with them too. We are going to continue KS1 Talk Boost in Year 1 & 2.

Thank you parents for all your amazing support this year and especially during the start of the Reception year and when we had the Spring term lockdown!!

Mrs Jeewan & EYFS team



Year 1 Update

An exciting final full week in Ladybirds class! In English the children have been on a bear hunt, enjoying Michael Rosen's famous book and thinking about what the bear's cave would look like. In Maths we have looked at telling the time to the hour and half hour. They have had lots of fun this week watching the Year 6 performance and meeting a dinosaur on the playground. Thursday was action packed on the field joining in with Sports Day. All the children tried their hardest and competed brilliantly. Lots of fun was had by all!!



Ladybirds are all stars!!!

Miss Nicholson and Mrs Potter & Year 1 Team

Year 2 Update



We've had so much fun this week! The Dinosaur workshop was fantastic—we learnt all about the dinosaurs, what they ate and how fossils are formed. Then we couldn't believe our eyes when a couple of baby dinosaurs were brought out for us to meet... Mia the Triceratops and Bella the Velociraptor were hilarious. Bella tried to bite us with her sharp teeth however Mia was very sweet. Then we met Sophie who was an 8 year old T-Rex. Even though she was only 8, she was massive and enjoyed trying to hit Steve with her tail.

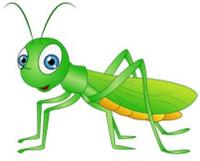
Sports Day was fabulous. Miss Driscoll is working hard to put together a video of photos to share with our families. We all tried our very best and really enjoyed all of the events, especially the Water Run! Red house won and we all got special medals.

Just a reminder for next week—Forest school clothes for Monday and please make sure that you wear a long sleeved top and trousers or leggings as there are lots of nettles, long itchy grass and brambles around! Please also remember a sun hat if the weather is warm.

Mrs Robinson and Mrs McInnes & Year 2 Team



Year 3 Update



Year 3 have had an extremely busy week this week! They were able to watch the Year 6 production of Superstan on Monday morning and loved it. Grasshoppers sat beautifully through the production and thought the production was very funny.

We also had a visit from not one, but three, dinosaurs on Wednesday! The children learnt facts about dinosaurs and how fossils in between meeting the different dinosaurs. Luckily, all of the dinosaurs were very friendly! During Sports Day yesterday, all of the Grasshoppers performed brilliantly! They tried their hardest in each of their races and cheered on and supported their classmates well.

To end the week, Year 3 have been able to go and visit their new classroom and teacher for next year. I hope they all had a fantastic day and look forward to hearing more about it next week!

Miss Allin & Year 3 Team



Year 4 Update



We are almost at the summer holidays now! Firstly, on Monday, the pupils were treated to experiencing the year 5/6 production. It truly was a fantastic performance in which the pupils did an incredible job with their acting and singing. The songs were incredibly catchy, and I have heard the pupils signing them all week!

In our Maths lessons this week, we have looked at data and how it can be displayed. We have started by learning how to read types of graphs and learning about the different axis. The pupils managed even to draw their own graphs with data!

During our Science lessons this week, we have continued to look at our states of matter unit. We conducted an experiment involving the understanding of condensation and the different reversible states of water.

Finally, the pupils loved the experience of having the animatronic dinosaur in school! They were all courageous as it was quite realistic, and some children even touched the dinosaur!!

Have a great weekend,

Mr Brown & Year 4 Team





Year 5 Update

The Bees have finished off their final full week of Year 5 with their moving up day, which I'm sure felt a bit like déjà vu! They reflected well on what it means to be a Year 6 next year and all the extra responsibilities that come with it!

They also had a great time at Sports Day, where they all tried their absolute best and I was really impressed with how they cheered their teammates on. Even more exciting (if that's possible) than Sports Day however, was the visit of a dinosaur! The children had a wonderful time learning about dinosaurs and all wanted to say a big thank you to Mr Pike for organising the event!

Mr Clarke & Year 5 Team



Year 6 Update

It was so lovely to share the production this week with all of key stage two and then key stage one. It was great for them to see how hard the children have worked and they all thoroughly enjoyed it - lots of laughs were had by the children and the adults watching. I can't wait for you to see in next week either live or on the video we send out.

On Wednesday we had a visit from some dinosaurs; the class enjoyed learning about dinosaurs and fossils and meeting the large scale puppets.

Yesterday morning, the children had a virtual English lesson with a teacher from SWCHS; they did me proud and showed off all they had learnt and it helped ease any worries about lessons in secondary school. Finally, we had sports day on Thursday afternoon and all the class gave it their all and really enjoyed the wide variety of races this year. Congratulations to blue group who were the overall KS2 winners. **Mr Pike & Year 6 Team**



Diary Dates



Mon 19th July	- Year 2 Forest School (pm)
Tue 20th July	- Year 6 Picnic (Bring packed lunch)
Tue 20th July	- PTA Break the Rules Day
Wed 21st July	- Year 6 Performance & Leavers Assembly (9.30am)
Wed 21st July	- Last Day of Term - Finish at 1.30pm
Wed 1st September	- INSET - Non Pupil Day
Thu 2nd September	- First Day of Autumn Term
Mon 25th - Fri 29th Oct	- Half-term
Mon 1st Nov	- INSET - Non Pupil Day
Mon 20th Dec - 3rd Jan	- Christmas Holidays
Tue 4th January 2022	- INSET Non Pupil Day
Wed 5th January	- First day of Spring Term

Polite Reminder - School Money Account

Our Finance Manager will be processing the end of year accounts next week, therefore we ask that all **School Money accounts** are **cleared by the end of Monday 19th July** and are topped up to cover any dinners that are planned for next Tuesday and Wednesday, at a cost of £2.30 each. Many thanks



Family Lives - Covid-19 Wellbeing Support

Family Lives are working in partnership with Essex County Council to provide online parenting groups and individual support for any lone parent or parents of children with SEND living in Essex and affected by the impact of Covid-19.

For more information, call Kath or Louise on 0204 522 8701 or 0204 522 8700. Alternatively, you can email us at services@familylives.org.uk.

www.familylives.org.uk

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