

St Mary's Newsletter

Autumn Term – Friday 20th November 2020

Telephone 01799 523384

Email: info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk



Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance

Weekly – 97.9%

Year to date – 98%

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

Messages from the Headteacher:

What a busy week it has been, once again, at St Mary's!

Virtual Open Day:

On Wednesday we held our annual Open morning for prospective parents and carers—with one key difference—that we did it **virtually** this year! Please check out this link where it will take you to a section of the school website and you will be able to enjoy all of our promotional and information videos! You might even see your own child or children! Thanks to everyone who helped to support the school by appearing in any of our videos or if you helped put one of these amazing videos together!

Virtual Open Day <https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/open-morning-18112020/>

Spirit of the Wild:

As part of our engaging curriculum offer and also as part of our Making Memories initiative, on Thursday we were so blessed to be able to welcome Ben and Hannah from Spirit of the Wild for our pupils in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2. Over the course of the morning, the pupils were introduced to a wide variety of fascinating species and some lucky pupils bravely volunteered to hold a few. Mrs Jeewan even held a huge tarantula! Very courageous! Needless to say that the children had an absolutely amazing time as they saw some incredible and varied creatures. They all had an amazing day!

(Please read on to see the wonderful photos and write-up of this amazing event later on in this newsletter).

Anti Bullying week (& odd socks day)

This week marked Anti-bullying week and on Monday the pupils and the staff at the school wore odd socks to commemorate this important event. I started the week off with a daily worship assembly session which I had filmed over the weekend, using some resources and videos from the Anti-Bullying Alliance. We discussed the importance of treating each other with respect and showing kindness to each other, as well as highlighting the difference between a personal disagreement and bullying. The children also carried out some other activities during the week which included making some impactful posters, which have already been laminated and will be displayed around school.

PTA 7 Marathon event—raised over £3000—see photos in newsletter

Finally a **HUGE** well done to everyone involved in Tuesday's PTA 7 Marathon's sponsored event. I am sure you will agree that the £3000 raised from this event was an incredible amount and the money will be well spent to support our new school library initiative and also for some special treats for the pupils (to be revealed very soon!). Thank you so much to Gemma and Ruth for organising this and a further huge thank you to all of our parents and carers for their incredible support—it is very much appreciated!

Mr C. D. Jarmain

Headteacher at St Mary's

Children In Need - Fri 13th Nov

Thank you to the whole school community for supporting our Children in Need Onesie day last Friday. We managed to raise a grand total of **£217**.



Safety - Adventure Playground

May we please remind all parents and carers not to allow their children to use the Adventure Playground equipment either before or after school as it is not safe to do so at that time due to the fact that the children are not properly supervised by members of school staff. Many of the pieces of Adventure Playground equipment may also be slippery at this time of year and use of this equipment may lead to accidents. Thank you for your support in this matter.



COVID19: Polite reminder:

Just a quick reminder that we would politely ask all parents and carers and visitors to the school to wear a mask when entering the school site, for example when picking up or dropping off your children.

If you have a message for the school office please remember to email your request or question into the school on info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Service 11th November 2020

Please see the following link to view our school Remembrance Day Service;

<https://youtu.be/DT1Hwg3sHgw>

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to the Poppy appeal. We will let you know how much we raised as soon as RBL confirm.

Friendship

Truthfulness

Perseverance

Trust

Compassion

Respect



Some of our Shining Lights



Athletics Tournament Certificates



PTA 7 Marathons Event – Wed 18th November:

Wow! Wednesday's sponsored 7 Marathons raised a massive **£3000!!!** Thank you so much for sharing the link with friends and family, and for your own sponsorship money. The sponsorship page will remain open until the 27th November. Thank you so much for all your support. JustGiving link

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/friendsofstmaryscofeprimaryschool?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ExactTarget&utm_campaign=20201116



Gemma & Ruth, PTA



Spirit of the Wild Visit

Reception & KS1

Wow, what an amazing visit we had from the **Spirit of the Wild**. The children got to meet so many animals and creatures including: barn owl, snowy owl, parrot, cockroach, millipede, tarantula, meerkat, skunk, fruit bat, tortoises, bull frog, large toad, and Thanos the snake! We were very proud how well the children listened, and they were very respectful, calm, gentle and well behaved. The children answered questions about the animals and learnt some new information.



Weekly Class Update

Reception	<p>Reception have had another busy, amazing, and exciting week! The children have enjoyed our story 'that pesky rat' and thinking about how we treat each other. For 'Friendship day' the children made friendship bracelets and cards for family and friends.</p> <p>Butterflies enjoyed running for the school sponsored Marathon and looked great in their bright outfits. Thank you to all their family and parents who sponsored them!</p> <p>The children have watched the first episode of 'Hector's World' learning about being safe online, 'e-safety', and that they should not give anyone outside of their family or school their personal contact details.</p> <p>On Monday we had a Maths afternoon where we enjoyed learning about the conservation of number and took part in several fun maths activities developing our number recognition and adding skills.</p> <p>Well done to all of Butterfly class for some wonderful phonics and reading work this week, and especially to Thomas E and Quillian who are both our 'Stars of the Week' for some Wonderful writing of animal names.</p>
Year 1	<p>Another busy week in Year 1. In our topic learning we are looking at old toys and teddy bears and linked to this we have been looking at the characters from Toy Story and how we can describe them in our English sessions. In Science, we have looked at some toys in class and discussed the materials they are made from and why. In Maths, we have been doing lots of practical activities making part-whole models. Alongside all this, the children have taken part in the sponsored marathons, helping school to raise an enormous £3000 and enjoyed a visit from the Spirit of the Wild company, meeting a variety of creatures.</p>
Year 2	<p>Caterpillars have had such an exciting week! We ran our socks off (and danced, too!) for the sponsored marathon. The children were very speedy and had huge smiles as they whizzed around the playground. The fun didn't stop there as we then had a visit from Spirit of the Wild. We met owls, meerkats, skunks, spiders, toads, frogs and geckos to name a few. It was a very special experience for us all. To top it all off we have started to get to grips with our nativity play! We are all beyond excited having learnt which parts we are all playing and beginning to get a feel for the songs. The scripts will go home soon for those with lines, so please have a look with your child. We will make contact soon about costumes.</p>
Year 3	<p>The Grasshoppers have had another busy week! They have used clay to create their Ancient Egyptian amulets based on their research and designs and are looking forward to painting them next week once they have dried. Year 3 have also been listening to and comparing pieces of classical music. They listened to Tchaikovsky's 'Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy' and 'The Dying Swan' and compared these. They also had a fantastic time on Thursday afternoon joining the Year 6s to take part in a series of athletics activities. As a class, we have been talking about Anti-Bullying Week this week and discussing what it means to unite against bullying. The children have made some really thoughtful points about how they can unite against bullying.</p>
Year 4	<p>Fireflies have been very busy this week. In Science, we have been learning about Living things and their habitat. The pupils discovered all the life processes all living things must do to survive. During our Maths lessons this week, the pupils have done a fantastic job in tackling the formal method of multiplication and even got onto multiplying three numbers together. During our Literacy lessons, we have started to write our own Viking myths, focusing on creating an atmosphere for our settings. During our PE lessons this week, we used a compass to map out directions, we then had to run in different directions for us to practice our distance running. Well done on a fantastic week! Well done to Hayden, who is our Shining Light this week.</p>

Year 5	<p>Bees class have had a great time this week! In English, they wrote some spectacular adventure stories that centred around a normal day at St Mary's being interrupted by a surprise visitor...from outer space! Then children then wrote the rest of the story, taking their readers to other planets of the solar system and even to strange planets beyond!</p> <p>In Science, Bees were shocked to discover that the weight of an object does not affect how fast it falls to the Earth! The children carried out an experiment to test the speed different objects fell. Most of the class thought heavier objects would fall faster, but were proved incorrect! What actually altered the speed was the area of the object - air resistance was the force that determined speed of fall.</p>
Year 6	<p>This week in year 6 we have started learning how to write a flashback. We began by thinking of our own memories and writing them, then we watched a piece called The Piano and used the old man's memories to practise writing from the present into the past. In maths, we have been simplifying, comparing and ordering fractions by finding the common denominator. We have also been practising long division and long multiplication. In science, we built circuits and testing the voltage of different cells and batteries. We discovered the impact more voltage had on bulb, buzzers and motors and recorded our finding. In PSHE, we watched a spoken poem called 'To This Day' and created poems or pieces of art representing the long-term impact bullying can have. Some of these posters are now displayed around the school to emphasise our school's bully free ethos.</p>

Diary Dates



Friday 27th November	-	PTA non-uniform day – children to bring in chocolate for the PTA raffle and chocolate tombola on Friday 11th December
Monday 7 th December	-	Year 3 Egyptian Day
Friday 11th December	-	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 11th December	-	PTA Raffle
December (Date TBC)	-	Year 5 Christmas Unwrapped (Virtual and prerecorded)
Monday 14th December	-	Christmas Lunch
December (Date TBC)	-	Reception Virtual Nativity (Video will be emailed to parents)
December (Date TB)	-	Year 1 Virtual Nativity (Video will be emailed to parents) (Bring Christmas jumper in a named carrier bag by Monday 7th December to wear in the film)
December (Date TBC)	-	Year 2 Virtual Xmas Performance (Video will be emailed to parents)
Friday 18th December	-	Last day of term—School finishes at 1.30pm