

Annual Church Report 2021 – St Mary’s C of E Primary School

January 2021 saw the introduction of another Covid national lockdown which meant home learning for the majority of our pupils and managing social distancing for the children who were allowed to attend school. This was a huge challenge for staff, pupils and parents/carers alike who showed great patience and resilience. The Governing Board are extremely grateful to all concerned for their support and for seeing the school through this trying and stressful period showing amazing flexibility and fortitude.

March saw the return of everyone back to school. The staff and children were all very excited and relieved to be getting back together in the classroom. The first day back celebrated World Book Day with the children dressing up as their favourite character from a book they had read and this was a fun and engaging



way to get the children back into their lovely school.

Later in the spring term Year 4 discussed the importance of the environment and conducted experiments on different plastics. They learned about the damage that using single-use plastic causes, especially to our oceans. This was part of an annual event called Earth Hour which promotes caring for the planet.

At the end of May the PTA organised a fun Danceathon for every class in the school. The Danceathon took place outside on the school playing field with a wide range of dance music and colourful disco lights. The event raised a fantastic £2300 for the school.





Over the summer holidays there were some exciting building works carried out at the school. New decking and roofing was installed outside the Early Years classroom for the children to enjoy outdoor play and learning.

Changes were also made to the layout of the library area to create rooms for 1 to 1 tuition or small meetings, a music practice room and a larger meeting room. These changes have proved really popular and helpful.

Four new basketball posts have been installed in the playground and new adventure playground equipment has been installed in the school field.

Highlights of the autumn term were sessions run by the 2 Johns, who are ex policemen and who explain to the children the importance of on-line/e-safety in an engaging, humorous and memorable way.

The children were encouraged to wear brightly coloured clothing to celebrate Light Day where they spent the day learning about light festivals from different religions around the world. They had a special Collective Worship in the afternoon where the different year groups shared what they had learned during the day.

The Key Stage 1 pupils performed their Nativity Play in church to the whole school on one day and then two performances to parents and carers on the following day. The children sang, danced and acted with great maturity for ones so young.



Finally, the school has coped very well with the outbreak of the Omicron Covid variant including teachers taking additional lessons for colleagues who have been off work and office staff rolling their sleeves up and

helping in the kitchen.

The Board of Governors are extremely proud of the wonderful team at St. Mary's.