

ST. MARY'S COFE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach December, I realise that Christmas may be very different this year but our preparations for a festive end of term are well underway, as we ensure that our children experience a wonderful Christmas in school. Next week, children will be making their own Christingles and taking part in a St Mary's Christingle service. A Christingle is a symbolic object used in the Advent. Christingle, from a word of German origin, Christkindl, meaning 'Little Christ Child', is used to celebrate Jesus Christ as the "Light of the World". We will also be practising Christmas carols and participating in a St Mary's carol service.

From Monday 7th December, our post boxes will be placed at each entrance so that the children can post their Christmas wishes to their friends. We kindly ask that all Christmas cards are posted before Friday 11th December. Please also include the recipients year group on the envelope. The cards will be then be kept for a minimum of 72 hours before being safely distributed the following week.

On our last day of term, Friday 18th December, we will have our Christmas Jumper Day! All you need to do is get your silliest jumper out and donate £1 to support Save the Children. You don't need a new one - upcycle an old jumper, get crafty or head to your local Save the Children shop (or online!) for a pre-loved festive knit. Together we'll help this year not be so bad, and make the world better with a sweater.



I would like to end with a quote which links to our Christian Value of wisdom:
For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 2:6

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Matthews

The children have been working exceptionally hard this week and I have some exciting shout outs to share with you. A huge well done to these children who have impressed me and their teachers!

A shout out for the whole of Y5 Green for being so patient and flexible, adapting to a new way of learning online this week. Well done!

Finn and Leroy in Y3 Green who have been going on TTRockstars every single day and have made an amazing improvement on the quick recall of their times tables because of this. Well done!

Alice in Y1. She's been an absolute superstar in her online learning. She's shown how keen she is and is always willing to have a go. Well done!

Laura in Y4 Always striving to do her best in all lessons. She produces amazing work and just keeps improving.

Rhalissa in Y2 who has been taking it upon herself to do some extra homework this week. She took home a spare LI and did the lesson again at home! Well done!

Christos, Kit, Eden and Lily Mae in Y4 Green for consistently handing in great amounts of work online and showing independence during this online study period. Well done!

Elena in Y2. She has been writing and illustrating her own book at home. Well done!

Our Councils

In our remote school and learning council meeting this week, we have been looking forward to Christmas and reflecting on the academic year so far.



School Council

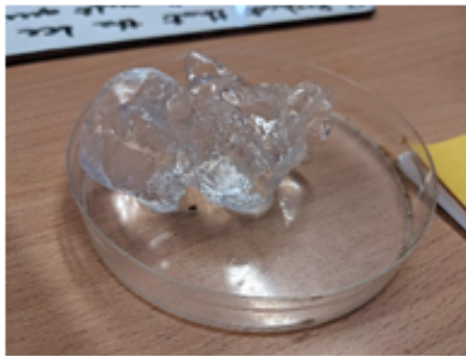
The School Council feels that St Mary's has done an excellent job at keeping children safe in their bubbles and making the daily routine feel "like normal". Some ideas were put forward for exciting Christmas activities in class and Tate in Y5 Purple suggested looking into charitable events, which is something we will press to do in the new year. All of our school councillors enjoyed our Black History Month lessons and the Year 4 Purple councillors said that they "loved visiting the alpacas" as part of their topic.

Learning Council

The Learning Council all fed back positively with regards to the learning going on in classes. Year 4 have described learning as "focused" and Year 5 have been happy with "learning new things but revisiting previous learning too ". All year groups are enjoying their core texts, with specific mentions of the Hobbit in year 6 and Iron Man in year 3. Like the School Council, the Learning Council wanted to see more Christmas-based learning taking place in the festive period. Furthermore, there was one request for "competitions" - watch this space!

Y4 Class Corner

In Year 4, we have been enjoying our learning this half term. Our Science topic throughout the whole Autumn Term has been materials however this term we have been looking at how certain materials change. We have carried out a number of practical experiments; such as, testing the viscosity of certain liquids; seeing how the temperature of a material will affect the speed the item will melt/dissolve; investigating different solvents and how soluble they are; and even thinking about the best place to dry our wet socks! Each of these experiments have allowed us to explore different skills from planning our own experiment, making predictions, carrying out investigations as well as recording results and making conclusions. We are fully fledged scientists now!



Which material is the best insulator?

Why do you think the metal has melted the ice so quickly?

VALUE OF THE WEEK

This week, we have been thinking about the value of wisdom. In our assemblies this week, we thought about the season of Advent and what this might mean to Christians. We discussed how Advent is a period of waiting and preparation and that Christians use the period of Advent to prepare their hearts and minds for the birth of Jesus.

Vanessa also spoke to us about patriarchs and matriarchs and asked us to reflect on our families and identify the people in our lives who share their wisdom and guide us.



KEY UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- As stated in previous communication, we are not able to accommodate large bags and rucksacks in the classrooms. Children should only be bringing in their school book bags containing their water bottle, reading book and reading log.

Thank you for your support during this time.

- We will be returning back to school on Monday 2nd November 2020.




COVID-19: Our Joint Responsibilities

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, students, parents and our community is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to a test at the right time.

- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:
 1. a high temperature: any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
 2. a new continuous cough: coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 3. a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste: a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal
- Your child does not need a test if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.
- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/
- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. **All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.**
- If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.

COVID-19: If your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) outside of school hours (including weekends) please call or text 07759978824 immediately to let us know.



School Streets

What can you do to help?

Below is a template email supporting School Streets which you can either copy direct and send, or amend to your requirements before sending.

Please send your email to:

Councillor Clyde Loakes:

cllr.clyde.loakes@walthamforest.gov.uk

Councillor Ros Flowers:

cllr.ros.flowers@walthamforest.gov.uk

Councillor Richard Sweden:

cllr.richard.sweden@walthamforest.gov.uk

Councillor Vicky Te Velde:

cllr.vicky.tevelde@walthamforest.gov.uk

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to you as a parent, to express my support and ask you to consider School Street for the roads around St Mary's C of E Primary School, E17 (Chestnu Avenue North/South, and Brooke Road). As you are already aware, drop-off and pick-up times at schools can be very busy for teachers, pupils, parents and residents with lots of congested traffic potentially creating a stressful and unsafe environment. It also contributes to dangerous levels of pollution.

Waltham Forest has already piloted several School Streets - with encouraging findings - and I would like St. Mary's to create safer and healthier streets around the school for its pupils and their families.

**Yours sincerely
(Your Name)**



St Mary's Stars of the Week

Reception Stars

Tristan Moniuszko
Harry Green- Figueredo
Kenzo Wellington Ramdeen

Year 1 Stars

Emma Luus
Jessica Jones

Year 2 Stars

Kenza Bourab
Lucy Tanswell
Jesse Rodgers

Year 3 Stars

Lilia Knights
Anaeyalee Johnson
Ruben Vieira

Year 4 Stars

Grace Prime
Lottie Mason- Jones
Kit Stephens

Year 5 Stars

Tate Bennett-Dunkley
Love Ogundipe
Rhazel Williams Burke -
Monrose

Year 6 Stars

Arthur Congreve
Dillon Thomas
Grace Woodhead
Martha Donaldson

St Mary's Presentation Stars

Year 1 Stars

Johan Sikk
Donnan Lafon
Alice Gartland

Year 2 Stars

Tomi Dinan
Darius Ureche

Year 3 Stars

Ted Scannell
Georgia Burnett
Yakira Welch

Year 4 Stars

Hector Murdoch
Avis Johnson
Julia Obloza

Year 5 Stars

Sonny Clarke
Nicole Jaramillo
Imogen Farrell

Year 6 Stars

Miley Mاتيola
Miguel Vieira
Jahfari Burrell

