

ST. MARY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderful week of showcasing our pupils new skills and knowledge acquired during our special events taking place in schools! Bollywood Dancers, African drumming and this week recorder recitals and steel pan performances! It has been a pleasure to share these special performances with our parent and carer community!

Last week, our talented Y3 Green class treated us to a drumming medley during their African Drumming performance. They performed an array of different rhythms and sounds on the drums and informed us all of where their drums originated from too!

Our Year 2 children transported us into the wonderful world of Bollywood last Friday after taking part in a full day dance workshop. The dance company came highly recommended; in fact, one of the dancers had appeared in the latest film Aladdin! The children learnt different Bollywood dance moves and practised making their own choreography. They performed so brilliantly and they even inspired all of our parents and carers to join in as well.

We are really looking forward to continuing on with our exciting performances with our wonderful year 6 playing the steel pans and our Year 4 recorder recital. We welcome you into our school to celebrate the talents of the children!

Yours Faithfully,
Mrs Matthews

Class Corner



This term, year 3 has been having a fantastic time exploring our local area. Last week, we were able to carry out an interesting field study. We went to two different junctions to observe different modes of transport (cars, motorbikes, buses, walking and bicycles). On our journey, we also found areas to match map os symbols that we had identified last week. We used our grid reference map to locate where we were and where each place is located. By doing this we have been able to improve our mapping skills and identify potential issues with traffic in Walthamstow. As we conducted our field study and recording data, we also began to think carefully about the issues that the traffic is presenting for ourselves and the local community. We have now analysed our data and written a letter to Stella Creasy about how we could improve our roads.



Attendance

Our whole school attendance for Week 3 was 95.6%.

Our whole school attendance for Week 4 was 96%.

Well done St Mary's!

Our whole school attendance for this academic year is: 94%

Gentle Reminder:

If your child is going to be absent due to illness, please leave a message for the office team on the school absence line by calling 020 8521 1066 and dialling 1.

If you need to collect your child for a medical appointment during the day or they are late to school due to a medical appointment, you will need to provide the school office with an appointment letter/record.

Head Teacher Drop- Ins

Mrs Matthews holds a Tuesday morning drop in-session, which takes place between 10:30-11:30 each week, please send an email to **st-marys-school@genesistrust.net** to make a 15 minute appointment.

Healthy Snacks



We would like to remind parents and carers that St Mary's is a Healthy School. Children should not bring chocolate bars, crisps or fizzy drinks as morning snacks, if your child does bring these in, they will be replaced with a piece of fruit and sent home with them at the end of the school day. Please ensure that should you like to provide your child with a snack that it is a healthy option. Nut free cereal bars, yoghurt bars or fruit bars are recommended.

All children are encouraged to drink water regularly – please ensure that your child is bringing in their own water bottles, these can be refilled during the school day.



We are proud to be a nut free school!

School Nurse Drop In



Our wonderful School Nurse, Caroline, will be holding some drop in sessions for parents to pop in and meet her. If you would like to meet with Caroline, she will be in school for around an hour at the times below. No appointment is necessary as these are drop in sessions, we would just ask that you please wear a mask and complete a lateral flow test before attending.

March 14th 2022 - 9:15 - 10:15

April 4th 2022 - 14:30 - 15:30

May 9th 2022 - 9:15 - 10:15

June 6th 2022 - 14:30 - 15:30

July 4th 2022 - 9:15 - 10:15

Young Transformers



Our Spring Curriculum

EYFS - Creative

Mindful Movement origins can be found 5000 years ago in Northern India. Yoga is more popular than ever before. It is not only brilliant for your physical health but also for your mental health. Reception children will learn what yoga is and see that yoga can be performed by people of all ages (yes, even babies). They will work with a yoga teacher on simple yoga techniques. By nurturing our bodies, we look after the mind as well.

Year 2 - Creative

Dancing is not only a way to keep fit, but also a form of art. In Year 2. Children will learn why people enjoy dancing and how dance is expressed in different parts of the world. They will work with a professional dancer to devise a dance for performance. With their peers they will learn to keep to the beat, execute dance moves and find joy in dancing. By dancing together, we celebrate our bodies just the way they are.

Year 4 - Creative

The drum is the oldest musical instrument. Year 4 children will learn where the drum originated and how it is played in different parts of the world. They will work with professional drummers in a workshop to create their own drumming piece which will be performed to the school. By beating the drum, we get into the rhythm.

Year 6 - Caring

In computing, Year 6 will use the Tinkercad programme to design and print key rings for our new autumn term pupils in EYFS. A welcome gift from our oldest pupils. By reaching out your hand with a gift for someone new, you show true friendship.

Year 1 - Caring

We are lucky enough to have three alpacas at St Saviours: Captain, Marshall and Marvin. In year 1, the children will learn about these amazing creatures and have the opportunity to visit them. They might even want to be taken for a walk (only if you give them a snack). Afterwards, children will get to visit the Forest school to build fires, shelters and bug houses. By being gentle and showing care to animals, we show true love to God's Creation.

Year 3 - Caring

Bake to educate: education changes lives but many girls around the world do not have the same opportunities. Children will learn how young girls in some parts of the world miss out on education and how this affects their life chances. Pupils will plan, prepare, bake and sell cakes to support girls around the world in less fortunate circumstances. By educating all children, we offer them the opportunity to make a positive change.

Year 5 - Community

Children will learn where the idea of an English afternoon tea came from and what afternoon tea includes. This knowledge will be used for pupils to prepare their own class afternoon tea including cups and saucers. Of course Year 5 will need to dress up in their best clothing. By studying our traditions, we strengthen our own identity.

Home - Mandatory - Confidence

At the start of a new year, it is important to take another step into independence. Pupils are encouraged to learn how to change their bedding at home, including pillowcases and duvet covers. There is no harm in working together on this. By taking charge of day to day routines, we learn how to step with confidence into the world

For more information on our Young Transformers Project, please visit our Young Transformers pages under the Pupils tab on the St Mary's website.



African Drumming Performance

At St Mary's, we are lucky enough to have the team from Bantu Arts each week coming to teach our children African Drumming. This week, our Year 3 green children put on a wonderful African Drumming performance in the school playground. They performed enthusiastically and with confidence and wowed us with their drumming.

Well done Year 3 Green!



Our Councils



This week, the School Council, the Learning Council and the Eco Warriors met up to formally introduce themselves to one another, established the role of each council/team, how we carry ourselves as councillors/representatives and our areas of responsibilities. Over the next few weeks, the children engaged with these Public Services will endeavour to uncover how their peers feel about a range of topics and issues and will come together to create action plans going forward to benefit the entire school community. We are very excited to see how enthusiastic each member of the Public Services is and cannot wait to share the impact of their actions with you soon!

We will meet again soon and will keep you updated.



Parent Prayer



Parent Prayer is on Wednesday evenings at 8pm on Zoom- twenty minutes of prayer and reflection. A relaxing space for parents to come together at the end of the day. All are welcome!

If you would like the zoom link, please email Jacintha Danaswamy at: jacintha@stmaryswalthamstow.org.



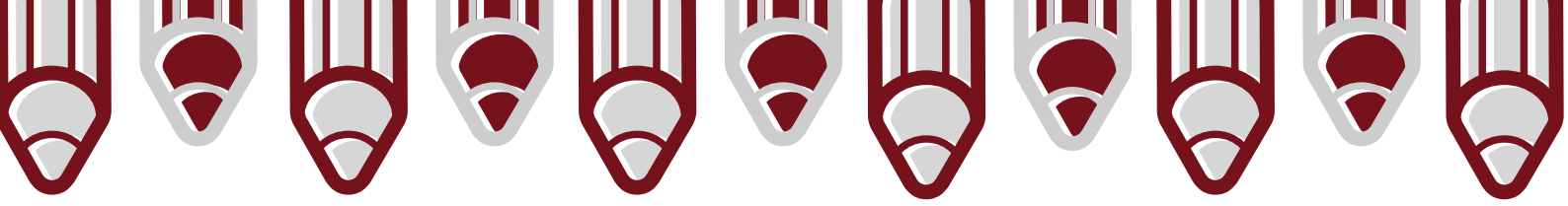
Bollywood Dancing Performance

We ended week 6 with a fantastic Bollywood dance performance by Year 2! We were so lucky to have Darren, who is a Bollywood dance specialist, come in to teach us some of his skills. Year 2 then performed for their parents and carers in the playground. They got to show off their amazing new skills, and they even managed to show their families a trick or two.

The Year 2 parents and carers did a great job at getting involved, we have never seen moves quite like it!

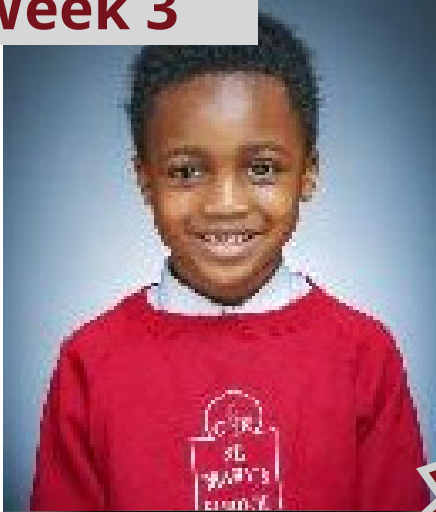
Well Done Year 2!!



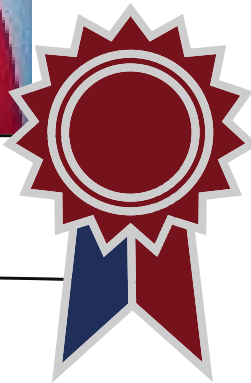


Progress and Presentation Stars!

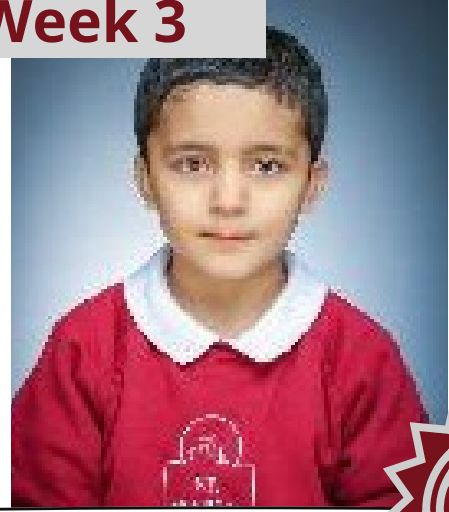
Week 3



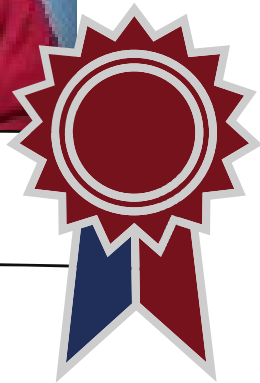
Levi
Presentation Star



Week 3



Atta
Progress Star



Week 4



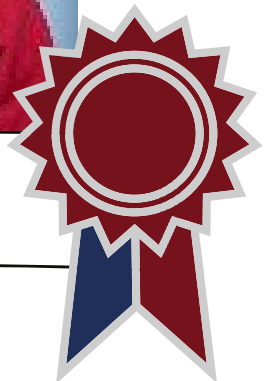
Aoife
Presentation Star



Week 4



Antonia
Progress Star



Upcoming Events

Spring Term 2022

- **Tuesday 1st February 2022**

Year 6 - Steel Pan Performance

- **Friday 4th February 2022**

Year 4 - Recorders Performance

- **Tuesday 8th February 2022**

Year 3 Purple - African Drumming Performance

- **Friday 11th February 2022**

Year 5 - Disney Musical Medley Performance

HALF TERM

Monday 14th February - Friday 18th February 2022

- **Friday 4th February 2022**

Year 3 Yellow - African Drumming Performance

Our Shining Stars!

Week commencing 17th January 2022

Reception

Isabelle, Nathan & Luca

Year 1

Kenzo, Evelyn & Elsie

Year 2

Mohamed, Ali & Ruben

Year 3

Asher, Matilda & Roman

Year 4

Georgia, Lilia & Lebron

Year 5

Ellie, Chloe & Violet

Year 6

Cameron & Denzel

Our Shining Stars!

Week commencing 24th January 2022

Reception

Max, Louis & Ayla

Year 1

Maksim, Arthur & Freddie M

Year 2

Alice, Euan & Phoebe

Year 3

Olympia, Lilla W & Sophie

Year 4

Leroy, Poppy & Matyas

Year 5

Christos, Charlie & Shade

Year 6

Jaysha & Keshawn

St. Mary's Christian Vision

I AM THE VINE AND YOU
ARE THE BRANCHES. IF
YOU REMAIN WITH ME AND
I WITH YOU, THEN YOU
WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT.
LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I
HAVE LOVED YOU.
(JOHN 15).