

As we love, we flourish
As we flourish, we aspire
As we aspire, we achieve
Together, we are a family



Newsletter
4th February 2022



St Mary's CE Primary School, N8

Jesus said: Love one another as I have loved you - John 15:12

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we march on through this term and just as the spring flowers are starting to emerge from the dark, cold winter, we are also experiencing seeds of hope on the Covid front. Whilst we still have a few classes that remain subject to bubbles, we are keeping everything crossed that these will end within the next few days. Throughout the school, we are also seeing fewer children and staff testing positive for Covid and we sincerely hope that we have now seen the worst of this dreadful virus at St Mary's.

However, let us not be complacent and please remember to test as and when you need to, if for example you are experiencing any Covid-related symptoms and report any positive results to the school office as soon as you can.

Events at our school are also returning to some semblance of normality. Class assemblies have again resumed as have class trips and sporting events. Subject to rates of infection continuing to decline, the number of fun, creative and enriching events will therefore continue to increase over time.

As it is Safer Internet Day next week, one event that I would like to draw your attention to is the parent and carer E-Safety Workshop which is happening next week on Monday. You can attend in person at 9am on Monday 7th Feb (Rectory Gardens) or via Zoom to the same session at 6pm in the evening. Please contact the school office if you would like the Zoom link. All parents and carers are welcome at this informative session lead by Mr Cummins, our computing and E-Safety lead.

Best wishes

Calvin Henry
Headteacher

Information and Reminders

Nursery Assembly – Tuesday 8th Feb at 9.30am – all nursery children are invited to take part

Jade Class Assembly – rearranged to **Tuesday 8th Feb at 2.30pm**



E-Safety parent and carer workshop – Monday 7th Feb at:

- 9am in person at RG OR via Zoom at 6pm.
- Contact the school office for the zoom link.

Haringey Half term fun

Go to the post on our website to see the full document - <https://stmarysn8.co.uk/>



SchoolMoney

We would love to hear your feedback for our SchoolMoney system now that we have all been using it for several months. Have you got the app yet? Did you know that you can use Dinner Top Up or Club Top Up to put on larger amounts (regardless of the amount showing in the box)? If you have any other comments and suggestions (cheers and moans!) please email swalker@stmarysn8.co.uk.

Term Dates for academic year 2022-2023

The governors have approved the term dates and Inset days for the next academic year. They are attached to the email along with this newsletter, and are already on the school website in the News/Term Dates section.

<https://stmarysn8.co.uk/news-events/term-dates/>

Free Music Resources



HARINGEY
MUSIC SERVICE

A Lovely Music Resource from Kids Concert Co & Haringey Music Service

Holly Cullen-Davies from the Kids Concert Co has been working in partnership with some year groups to inspire children to take up and to practise musical instruments. The Kids' Concert Company are professional musicians from a diverse range of backgrounds who deliver live concerts in schools. They also have a series of 30min podcasts which are available **FREE** to listen to at home. They include a fantastic range of music, are educational and are presented by top professional musicians some of whom your children may have met in school. They recommend listening to these in your own time simply by clicking on this link which takes you to the Haringey Music Service SoundCloud.

<https://soundcloud.com/user-878767550/sets/instrument-podcasts>

Neighbours and Road Safety

Reflecting our Christian Value of Community, please can parents and carers be more thoughtful about our neighbours around the school, especially those who live in Rectory Gardens. We have good relationships with them, but have regular reports of some parents and carers being rather thoughtless whilst waiting to drop off or pick up their children. Please do not:

- Park over private drives (or the school car park entrance)
- Reverse into private drives (or the school car park entrance)
- Leave your car engine idling
- Loudly play music/radio

Thank you for your support on this.

Also, please do not allow your children to walk or run across the road at RG when they emerge from the carpark at the end of the day. They should walk along the pavement in front of the school and cross the road on the raised crossing. Please emphasis to your children that it is safer to cross the road on the raised crossing and that they should always take care when crossing roads generally.

Year 3 Emerald Class Assembly

We all very much enjoyed the Emerald Class assembly last week which was all about Ancient Egypt. More photos are on the school website in the 'news feed' section on front page, and on the Year 3 page (found under the Classes tab)

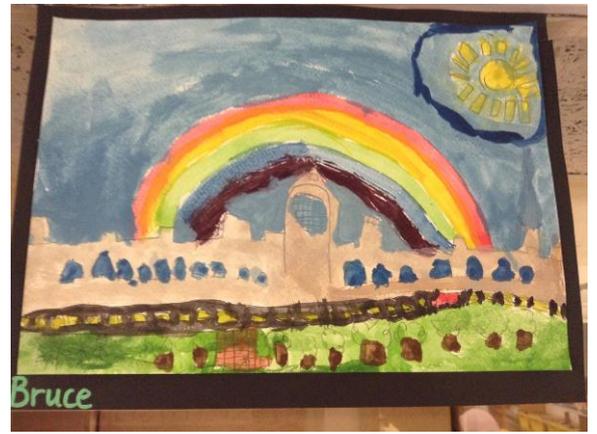
<https://stmarysn8.co.uk/>



Year 2 Art

In art, Y2 have been focussing on landscapes, with particular reference to the artist Danny Markey. Markey is a British artist who was born in Cornwall and has had art shown all over the world. We studied landscapes by him, looking at his use of colour and common themes that appear in his paintings. We then looked at different techniques associated with using water colour and finally we took a famous local view and painted it using techniques and ideas gained from looking at Markey's work.

'I love art' said Lazaro. 'I like the rainbow in his beach painting' said Bruce. 'I really tried hard to think about the colours' said Mabel. 'I tried to add shadows to Ally Pally' said Elena. See the rolling 'News' section on the front pages of the school website, and on the Year 2 page (found under the Classes tab). <https://stmarysn8.co.uk/year-groups/year-2/>



Y5 trip to the Mosque

Each of the Year 5 classes recently had the chance to tour the Wightman Road Mosque. This gave our children the opportunity to deepen their knowledge about Islam as well as the role that the mosque plays in our local community.

Walk/Scoot/Cycle to School Day = Trees!

Further to new update in the last newsletter, our Rights Respecting Ambassadors would again like to thank everyone who took part in the Walk/Scoot/Cycle to school day last year. The funds raised from that day have allowed us to buy 6 fruit trees which have been planted in the grounds at Rectory Gardens. We have planted the following trees: Bramley Apple, Williams Pear, Opal Plum, Czar Plum, Crab Apple, Stella Cherry.

Mr Bruce and Charlie from Aspect Gardens, helped us to plant the trees whilst our RRS Ambassadors gave their year groups detailed information about the type of tree, when it would flower and fruit as well as optimum conditions for growth, how we should care for our trees and why we have planted these specific trees in our playground. As well as the beautiful blooms in spring, we hope to enjoy their fruit and the wildlife that they will attract into our playground environment. Thank you to the RRS Ambassadors for promoting this event and for their fantastic research into the specific trees. More information can be found on the Rights Respecting page of the school website – <https://stmarysn8.co.uk/about-us/school-policy/a-unicef-rights-respecting-school/>.



Nursery	The children have been learning about a range of different animals and have had fun learning how to milk a cow and building their own zoos. They have learnt about the Lunar New Year, and made their own dragon and danced it inside and out to welcome in the Year of the Tiger. They will be continuing with the 'tiger' theme looking at Henri Rousseau's <i>Surprise</i> and reading Judith Kerr's <i>The Tiger that Came to Tea</i> culminating in having their own tiger tea party before half term.
Reception	In English, the children have started their new text <i>Peter and the Wolf</i> taught through the T4W scheme and are learning the words and actions for the story map and writing key words linked to the text. In topic, they are focussed on the planets in the solar system and have created their own planet art with foam and marbling ink. In maths, they are learning about the composition of numbers 6, 7 and 8, continuing the focus on simple addition and subtraction number sentences for each number. In RE, they have learnt about Chinese New Year, and the significance of the colours red and yellow. In response to this they made their own Chinese lanterns and Chinese pellet drums.
Year 1	In English, the children have enjoyed reading the story <i>Grandad's Island</i> by Benji Davis and then worked on retelling and writing the story using time connectives. In their topic lessons, the children have explored their family trees and where they come from. The children have enjoyed investigating toys through history and bringing in their favourite toys and sharing them with the class. In maths, the focus is on measurement skills, comparing and subtracting different lengths using cubes and rulers.
Year 2	The children have been learning about Neil Armstrong and his incredible exploration of the moon in our topic unit. In English, they have innovated the characters and setting in their Talk4Writing text, <i>Click Clack Moo, Cows That Type</i> . In maths, they have been working on addition and subtraction using the column method and will shortly be exploring measurement, beginning with length. In science, they are investigating habitats and living things and in RE, they are learning about the stories Jesus told and why they are important to Christians.
Year 3	The children have been innovating and writing their own stories based on the book <i>The Dark</i> by Lemony Snicket, discussing vocabulary, sentence types and punctuation to create tension and suspense. In maths, they are adding and subtracting 2 and 3 digit numbers with regrouping and exchanging and then applying their knowledge to solve word problems. In geography, the topic is Settlements and the children are looking at different types of settlements and comparing them. In RE, the focus is on the Jewish religion, and the children have learnt about Passover and what it means to Jewish people.
Year 4	In science, the focus continues to be Sound and the children have enjoyed supporting our planet, by collecting lots of recyclable materials, ready to make their own instruments. In maths, the focus is negative numbers and investigating how negative numbers are used in everyday life. In English, they have completed their contemporary narrative inspired by Anthony Brown's <i>Gorilla</i> .
Year 5	Children have been annotating the adventure text <i>Sandy Cove</i> and they are now planning and writing their own adventure story. In maths, they have been multiplying by 1 and 2 digits before moving onto division with remainders and making connections with how this fits into their everyday lives and solving problems based on multiplication. All Year 5 classes went to the Wightman Road Mosque this week. This gave the children the opportunity to deepen their already growing knowledge about Islam and learn about the role that the mosque plays in our local community.
Year 6	The Victorians are the current focus in history and to link to this, in English, the children will be writing a newspaper report about a child chimney sweep or factory worker and exploring the difficult conditions that many children had to endure. In maths, they have been dividing and multiplying decimals and applying this knowledge to a range of problems and reasoning questions as well as revising multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. They have also begun the topic of Electricity and have made several different types of circuits.



Lunar New Year dragon dancing in Nursery



Y5 visit the local mosque



Learning about the composition of the numbers 6, 7 and 8 in Reception.

Parent School Association (PSA) News

Dear Families,

Get ready for a very exciting term!

We held our first meeting of the year last week where we planned the next PSA events. The minutes will be loaded on to the PSA section of the school website for you to view. <https://stmarysn8.co.uk/parents/psa/psa-committee-members/>

Cake Sales

Your sweet tooth will be thanking us as we have cake sales coming up next week:

- Rectory Gardens - Thursday 10th February
- Church Lane - Friday 11th February

Please let your class rep know if you can help out at the sale. Do bring along some cakes for us to sell - no nuts.



Discos

Don't worry, you can burn those extra calories by boogieing the night away at the school discos:

- Church Lane - Friday 4 March
- Rectory Gardens - date TBC

World Book Day – 3rd March

We have a new PSA event to celebrate World Book Day. We will be holding a second-hand book sale at both sites after school. Please start putting aside any used books which you could donate to the school. This is a brilliant way to recycle books and allow other families to enjoy them.

Other Dates to note in your diary are:

- Easter Egg Hunt - 2 April
- Parents' quiz night - 13 May

By supporting these events, you are helping to raise money to spend on fantastic experiences for your children.

If you want to do more, we still need a new secretary for the PSA. No experience is necessary, you just need enthusiasm and a desire to do good things for our children. Please contact Stmarysn8psa@gmail.com if you think you can help or would like to know more.

And we are still looking for class reps for Y1 Tangerine, Y2 Buttercup, Y4 Crimson, Y5 Turquoise and Y6 Amethyst. It's not a difficult job - the main task is to communicate PSA activities and information / reminders to your class parents either via WhatsApp or Classlist. Please do consider volunteering. You can contact Hilary Grierson on hilarygrierson@icloud.com for more information.

Get involved and help us provide the best school experience for our kids. It is only with your help and support that we can organise all those little extras that will make school life magical.