



St Mary's CE Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: SUNDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2024, WEEK 2

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Thank you for attending our parent evenings last week. It was really good to see so many of you and teachers are grateful for your support. If you did not manage to make it, we will be reaching out to you to make an appointment.

The gift of a book

Next week your child will come home with a lovely story book - *How Lion became King of Tinga Tinga Land*. The book is a gift to each child at St Mary's from the author and uncle of one of our pupils; we are so grateful for such a lovely donation. Matthew worked with a Disney artist to illustrate the book. We hope children young and old will enjoy it and perhaps it will make it to that special bedtime story time this week in your house.

Racism letter

I am so grateful to the many parents who emailed in to show their support after my recent letter. It was heart-warming to know that you are fully behind all we are doing at St Mary's and that you took on the challenge of having those conversations in your home this week - please keep having them.

Weekly attendance: w/c 11th November

Well done to Year 3 for reaching **The Golden Goal** for the highest attendance and also to Year 3 and Year 6 for the least lates this week!

Year group	Lates	Attendance
Reception	7	94.39%
Year 1	7	97.69%
Year 2	4	98.89%
Year 3	1	99.13%
Year 4	5	98.02%
Year 5	4	97.17%
Year 6	1	95.31%
Whole School	29	97.23%

OTHER NEWS

Friendship week has been a great success again at St Mary's!

The children thoroughly enjoyed 'Odd Socks Day' as a way to celebrate what makes us all unique. The focus of Friendship Week this year was 'Choose Respect'.

Throughout the week, there were many opportunities to reflect on what makes a respectful friend and how we can be respectful friends to each other. There are some brilliant pictures on social media showing all the many wonderful activities including friendship recipes, kind friend artwork, Friendship Week posters and many more!

We hope that all the children have found this an enjoyable week and will continue to be wonderful and respectful friends!



Very special request

Can we *please* ask that important letters are read when we send them home? This week there were numerous hiccups because letters had been overlooked, making for a very difficult time for office staff as they had to make multiple calls home to chase packed lunches for trips or to remind parents of pickup times. The office is already such a busy place and these extra jobs put staff under enormous pressure. Thank you for your support.

Santa Stroll – Saturday 30th November 2024

This year, our Santa Stroll will be taking place on Saturday 30th November, starting from the Junior Site at 9:30am. This is an hour's amble around Twickenham - suitable for everyone and their dog! Whilst chatting with friends and family and taking in the superb sights of the surrounding area, we will be raising much needed funds for the Princess Alice Hospice in Esher.

Everyone taking part will be given a Santa hat for a small donation. In order to buy the hats, we would be very grateful if you could fill out the Google form below and offer a donation. Last year we raised over a thousand pounds!

<https://forms.gle/78u4A54ydQ6Kg9Pt7>

Hamper of Cheer

During our class worship, we discussed how we could do something for the elderly at Christmas. We would like each class to make a hamper to support the elderly who may be feeling lonely at Christmas time.

We would kindly ask each child (if they would like) to bring in one small donation for the hamper please. For example: bubble bath, a reading book, adult colouring or toiletries. It could be as simple as making a lovely Christmas card to add to the hamper!

Please could these donations be brought into school by the **latest of Friday 22nd November 2024**.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 6th December

Please note, there will be a non-uniform day on Friday 6th December where children can come dressed in their own clothes. No fancy dress or football kits please. In return, please donate a bottle (either alcoholic or non-alcoholic) for the FoSM Christmas Fair that is taking place on Saturday 7th December.

Christmas Fair Poster Competition

On Saturday 7th December, we are having our annual Christmas Fair at our middle site. FoSM are looking for St Mary's children to design a poster to advertise this.

They are looking for beautiful and fun Christmas or fair scenes to get people excited about our big event. Get yourselves in the Christmas mood and have some fun drawing, colouring or painting this weekend!

There will be a lucky winner on each site, who will see their picture turned into a fabulous poster, receive £5 to spend at the fair and will have the great honour of cutting the ribbon to open the entire fair!

Your pictures will need to be turned into posters, so here are a few guidelines to help:

- A4 portrait please
- No writing (we will add the details in)
- No glitter or things stuck on your drawing (it doesn't come out very well when it's printed)
- Make them big, bold and beautiful for everyone to see!
- Please put your name and class on the back of your poster

Please hand your posters into either of the infant, middle or junior site offices no later than Friday 22nd November please.

Weekly School Social Media Posts

Remembrance Day

On Monday 11th November, St Mary's stopped at 11am to remember those who lost their lives in conflicts and wars. The Junior Site service included the laying of wreaths by House Captains. Prayers of peace were shared and reflected on by all.



FINALLY

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for my friends and family who encourage me. We are sorry for ruining your beautiful world and for not saying thank you. Please help us to make the right choices in dark times and please help us to love our neighbours. Please help us to save your world by guiding us down the right path. Amen
Evie S, 4H

Diary dates: reminders

Thursday 21st November

6KG Class Assembly
(link class Year 1, Nightingales)

Saturday 30th November

Santa Stroll (Junior site at 9:30am)

Friday 6th December

Non-uniform day

Saturday 7th December

FoSM Christmas Fete (Middle Site)

Monday 16th December

2pm and 6:30pm - Junior Carol Service
(years 4 - 6 at St Mary's Church). *Please note
that all junior site children are expected to
attend both services.*

w/c Monday 2nd December

Last week of school run clubs

Friday 20th December

Last day of Autumn Term
(school closes one hour earlier)

Monday 6th January 2025

First day of Spring Term

Your sincerely



Angela Abrahams

Headteacher

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