



END OF TERM JOINT NEWSLETTER SPRING 2

Friday 31st March 2023

Email: office@stmarysinfschool.org.uk or office@stmarysjunior.org.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Hulme. Chair of Governors: Mr B Tomkins

Safeguarding Statement: This school takes notice of and adheres to all the national and local policies and guidance in regard to Safeguarding Children and Young People.

Lead Safeguarding Person Junior School: Mrs M Kenny, Nursery & Infant School: Mrs. M Quinn.

Safeguarding Deputies: Mrs. S Hulme, Mrs F Black & Mr S Pratsis & Mrs E Heath, Safeguarding Governor: Mr. T Richmond

A message from Mrs Hulme



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, may we wish you a most holy and happy Eastertide. These times away from work and school are especially important to be able to spend time relaxing with each other. Please take time too to remind each other of the reason why we celebrate the time when Christ died for each and every one of us and rise from death with the message that God looks after us in eternal life.

Thank you to the many people who have supported us this term , PTA members, those walking pupils to swimming , adults accompanying on trips in addition to the other activities and the families who take the time to show appreciation for the staff who are committed in making school a great place to be.

We are welcoming Mr Patrick on his return to St Mary's as music teacher from the summer term, we are looking forward to the more frequent tunes on the piano again.

Please remember Miss Framp in your thoughts as she prepares for her Holy wedding on Saturday. We wish her and her husband much joy and happiness in the future. She will return after Easter to be known as Mrs Framp.

Next term will be one of much more activity to include many short weeks of four days only and celebrations to mark the coronation too.

Happy Holidays

Well done to all the talented musicians who took part in 'MyBand' music sessions this half term. The concert on Wednesday this week was fantastic and we can see the growth in confidence with the musical skills. Thank you, Donna-Maria for supporting our young talent at St. Mary's, it is amazing to see you all up on stage together with so much enthusiasm!



Football match against Tweeddale

On Monday evening, our Year 5 football team played their first ever game against Tweeddale Primary School. This was the first time the boys have played together as a team and they were brilliant. It was 2-2 going into half time but the boys managed to win the game 4-2. A big well done to our goal scorers Louis and Harrison for scoring a hat trick! Thank you to all the families who came and supported, we hope we can continue our success going into Year 6!



Woodfield

On Wednesday, a larger Year 5 squad played against Woodfield. Under the guidance of their coaches Joe and Aiden from Year 6 (and our encouraging supporters), the team won their game 2-0! The boys played brilliantly, with man of the match being awarded to Reuben. Thank you to Louis for being our captain for the game and hopefully our winning streak continues!



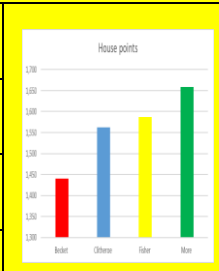
News for the week

Infant - Stars of the Week

R Hedgehog	Nylah-Jade
R Fox	Havana
R Squirrel	Maya
1 Robin	After Easter
1 Sparrow	Katrina
1 Wren	Nancy
2 Heron	Sofia
2 Jay	Sochikanyma
2 Woodpecker	Jessica

Junior - House Points

4th place is Clitheroe
3rd place is More
2nd place is Becket
1st place is Fisher



St. Mary's Award

3 Willow	Poppy
3 Mulberry	Caoimhe
3 Hawthorn	Raphael
4 Poplar	Matylda
4 Ash	Daisy
4 Rowan	Daniel
5 Elm	Callum
5 Sycamore	Yara
5 Birch	Ciara
6 Copper Beech	Charlton
6 Oak	Sadie
6 Chestnut	Holly

Governors Fund

To date we have received £7975 from parents contributing to the Governors Fund, to ensure future investment in our schools, if you have not paid the Governor's Fund as of yet, please be reminded it's not too late to log in to Parent Pay to make a donation.



Donations of recycled paper.

From time to time, the school is offered donations of stationary from companies who close offices. The school is always very appreciative of these offers as extra paper is useful on a daily basis. Thank you to the families who have previously kept us in mind. We also make good use of surplus rolls of wallpaper too.



As a school, we aim for 97.4% attendance, which would bring us in line with the expectations. Unfortunately, many children had not achieved this percentage last term. We really need the help of our parents to raise our attendance this term by ensuring children are attending school each day.

Registration Group	Attendance %	Punctuality (lates) %
Froglet AM Nursery	95.2	0.26
Froglet PM Nursery	81.4	0.26
R Fox	94.0	0.49
R Hedgehog	93.6	0.22
R Squirrel	96.3	0.99
1 Robin	93.5	0.63
1 Sparrow	94.3	0.24
1 Wren	93.0	0.43
2 Heron	96.1	0.30
2 Jay	95.9	0.63
2 Woodpecker	93.5	0.17
3 Hawthorn	96.6	0.20
3 Mulberry	95.9	0.11
3 Willow	96.9	0.19
4 Ash	97.0	0.55
4 Poplar	94.5	0.31
4 Rowan	95.2	1.60
5 Birch	97.1	0.27
5 Elm	95.3	0.40
5 Sycamore	96.1	0.10
6 Chestnut	96.2	0.39
6 Copper Beech	96.1	0.97
6 Oak	96.4	0.10

Tracking poor attendance.

For those pupils whose attendance is below 96%, we will be asking parents to collect letters from the school office. Please be reminded that staff are here to support families with problems of ongoing absences. Poor punctuality is also reported as it may trigger an absence mark. Children need to have good attendance to support their well-being and academic achievement, we need to work together to maintain this for our children.

Safeguarding News

Deciding what's appropriate for children to see online

The online world gives us access to a huge amount of information and services, but the scale of information available also means that there is content that is inappropriate for children. What is or isn't appropriate is up to individual parents and carers to decide, and could be based on things like age, ability, beliefs and family values.

What are parental controls?

Parental controls allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content. They work across your WiFi, phone network, individual apps and devices.

Parental controls can help you to:

- plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for
- create content filters to block apps that may have [inappropriate content](#)
- manage the content different family members can see.

Visit the NSPCC helpful Online Safety link - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Wednesday Word

Please click on the link below to access the weekly Wednesday Word - <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/half-term-holiday->

Spirituality

The children were welcomed back to school for the Season of Lent, learning that this is a time to prepare spiritually for this coming week where we think about Jesus' death and resurrection. We took part in our own Stations of the Cross, and wrote Lent prayers and promises and shared liturgies. At lunchtimes, in the Junior School, members of the Y6 Chaplaincy Team provided prayer and reflection activities for pupils in the chapel. Year 5 shared the story of the first Holy Week with their outdoor Easter Reflection. We were happy to welcome many parents and friends of the school to this outdoor passion play, and thank the children for their reverence. Palm crosses from the African Palm Cross Society were given to all children and staff across the Federation.

Thank you for your support of our Lenten charity, The Catholic Children's Society in their appeal for 2023: Building Bridges [Donate - Catholic Children's Society](#) Please return your donation boxes to school after the holidays.

We wish our Muslim neighbours 'Ramadan Mubarak'. In our assemblies last week, as Ramadan began, we shared information about this time. We cannot wait to find out about the celebrations once Ramadan ends in April. The Church calls Christians to work with people of other religious traditions. The Apostles Peter and Paul asked us "to 'maintain good fellowship among the nations' (1 Peter 2:12), and, if possible, to live part in peace with all men."



News from Nursery

'Come Outside' has been a great topic for exploring the many changes that take place in the Spring. We have spent time outdoors where we have made mud soups and mud pies and looked for birds and mini beasts within our school environment. We continued our topic by exploring some great texts: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Snail Trail and What the Ladybird Heard.

We were all excited to listen to What the ladybird heard next and What the ladybird heard by the Seaside. During our topic of Growing in RE, we also explored how our surroundings have changed from winter to spring and listened to the Easter Story. The children did really well recalling the main The Easter Story and we used props in order to help retell the story.

We wish you a very happy and peaceful Easter and look forward to the children returning for the final term!



News from Reception

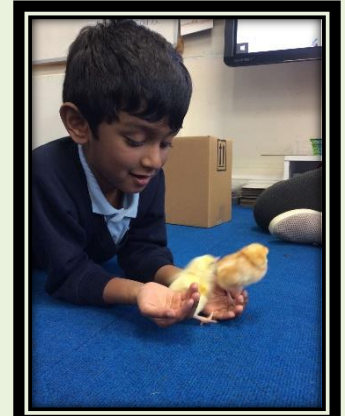
This term we began our Fairy Tales topic by reading lots of different traditional tales and dressing up as our favourite Fairy Tale characters for 'World Book Day'. After reading the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk', the children had great fun planting beans and growing their very own beanstalk. Our RE topic this term has been 'Growing'. We went on a spring walk and the children enjoyed observing signs of spring and new life. We were really lucky to have 'Living Eggs' in our

school and to watch the eggs hatch into chicks. The children loved holding the chicks and learning about the life cycle of the chicken. The children were excited to learn the Easter Story and are looking forward to celebrating Easter at home. We are looking forward to starting our next topic 'Minibeasts'. We would like to thank you all for your donations and wish you all a blessed Easter.



News from Year 1

We have loved our Moon Zoom topic and have been getting very creative - with aliens, rockets and astronauts! One of our biggest highlights during this topic was the spaceship crash landing that happened in our Mary garden. This event has inspired the children to try a range of activities from acting out stories through role-play, designing and creating their own rockets in DT, writing postcards from space in English, learning about astronauts Tim Peake and Neil Armstrong in history as well as the moon landing and learning interesting facts about the different planets. It has been a very busy half term. We wish you all a happy and safe Easter break.



News from Year 2

What a busy half term this has been. In this half term, we have experimented with different growing conditions to see what seeds need in order to grow. We have enjoyed reading the story of The Green Ship in English where the children created their own version and picked where their ship was able to go. One of the biggest highlights this half term was the chicks visiting. Watching them, turn from egg to chick was magical and holding them was even more special. In art, we have explored a famous artist and learned about his life. The children have learned many facts about Van Gogh. We wish all our families a lovely Easter break.



News from Year 3

Year 3 took a trip back in time at the start of this term as we visited Butser Ancient Farm. The children visited the site to take in their roundhouse, Iron Age village and also their reconstructed Roman villa. It was an excellent trip and the children enjoyed the activities, which included fence building, jewellery making and artefact hunting, but the highlight was witnessing the working Roman toilets. The trip complemented our learning about the Iron Age and will be useful for the children's learning next term when we look at the Roman period in the UK and across Europe.

In English, we have worked hard at putting together a recount of our trip, some poetry and have done written work alongside our chosen text, *Cliffhanger* by Jacqueline Wilson.

We have studied fractions, mass, length and perimeter in our maths and science has been filled with examining rocks, the rock cycle and soils.

In RE, we reflected about the meaning of Lent. We wondered about what it must have been like for Jesus to give and fast and we prayed and prepared for the memory of his passing and resurrection.

We hope you have enjoyed the term and look forward to welcoming you back in Summer 1, refreshed from your Easter break.



News from Year 4

Spish, splash, splosh! Year 4 has been looking at all sorts of liquids and solids, classifying them, identifying them and testing their properties. Our favourite lessons have been those science lessons where we have investigated the changing states of water vapour to water, then to ice! This has nicely linked to our Geography topic of water cycles, where we had a virtual talk from Thames Water about water conservation. Year 4 have also had the opportunity to attend Mass at Holy Cross this term. This is to support children and adults around the world who are unable to attend mass for a variety of reasons. On World Book Day, we enjoyed reading the story 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. Using this book as our inspiration, we created a piece of artwork depicting our planet. We particularly liked using watercolours as a medium to decorate our pictures.

Well done for a superb and busy term Year 4, you have all worked so hard! Enjoy your Easter break.



News from Year 5

We have been fascinated by life cycles in Year 5 this half term. Do you know how long an elephant's pregnancy lasts? Ask one of us and you may be surprised by the answer! We were not surprised by the children's focus in their lessons: we have thought about fractions, decimals and percentages; have found out about the lives of different naturalists; visited a real Tudor home in Cheam; and have been using watercolour-painting techniques. Most importantly, we have prepared to share our passion play with the school. It was a privilege to share our Easter Reflection with the school community, and it has really helped us in our preparations for Holy Week.



News from Year 6

Year 6 have enjoyed a busy but productive half term as we prepare for our exciting end of year! We have continued to study hard in preparation for SATs and students have also brought in models to reflect their learning about biomes in our Geography learning. A particular highlight this week has been our trips to the Natural History Museum, which has helped to further develop our understanding of evolution and inheritance in Science. As well as this, our students have continued to represent the school with distinction and great success in football, netball, table tennis, multi-sports and quiz events in inter-school competitions. We are proud of their ever-increasing maturity and hard work and look forward to a successful final term.



Dates for the Diary

TBC means To Be Confirmed (dates may be subject to change)

	NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL	JUNIOR SCHOOL
Mon 3 rd – 14 th Apr	Easter Break (School Closed)	Easter Break (School Closed)
Mon 17 th Apr	INSET DAY 4 (School Closed)	INSET DAY 4 (School Closed)

Tues 18th Apr	School Begins for Summer 1 Term	School Begins for Summer 1 Term
Thurs 20th Apr		Yr 5 Swimming
Fri 21st Apr	PTA Donation Day	PTA Donation Day Year 6 Worry Ninja Workshops PTA Junior School Disco 5.30pm – 7.15pm
Weds 26th Apr	1 Wren Coronation Assembly at 9am – further details to be sent soon 2 Jay Coronation Assembly at 2.45pm– further details to be sent soon	
Thurs 27th Apr	1 Sparrow Coronation Assembly at 9am– further details to be sent soon 2 Heron Coronation Assembly at 2.45pm– further details to be sent soon PTA AGM Meeting at the Infants Hall at 7pm	Yr 5 Swimming PTA AGM Meeting at the Infants Hall at 7pm
Fri 28th Apr	1 Robin Coronation Assembly at 9am– further details to be sent soon 2 Woodpecker Coronation Assembly at 2.45pm– further details to be sent soon	3 Hawthorn trip to Natural History Museum Year 6 Worry Ninja workshops Year 4 PTA Cake Sale – Date Change
Mon 1st May	Early May Bank Holiday (School Closed)	Early May Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Tues 2nd May	R Squirrel Coronation Assembly at 9am– further details to be sent soon	
Weds 3rd May	R Hedgehog Coronation Assembly at 9am– further details to be sent soon	Year 3 Coronation Assembly – Further details to be sent shortly St. Mary’s C Team vs St. Cecilia’s at St. Philomena’s Court
Thurs 4th May	R Fox Coronation Assembly at 9am– further details to be sent soon	Yr 5 Swimming
Fri 5th May	Nursery AM Coronation Activities in the Classroom– further details to be sent soon Nursery PM Coronation Activities in the Classroom– further details to be sent soon	Year 6 Worry Ninja workshops Year 4 Coronation Assembly – Further details to be sent shortly
Mon 8th May	Bank Holiday proclaimed in honour of the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III	Bank Holiday proclaimed in honour of the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III
W/C: 9th – 12th May		Year 6 SATS WEEK
Thurs 11th May	Reception Ecology Centre Trip	Yr 5 Swimming
Fri 12th May		Year 5 Coronation Assembly – Further details to be sent shortly
Thurs 18th May	Ascension Day	Ascension Day 3 Willow trip to Natural History Museum Yr 5 Swimming
Fri 19th May		Year 6 Coronation Assembly – Further details to be sent shortly
Mon 22nd May		3 Mulberry trip to Natural History Museum
Thurs 25th May		Yr 5 Swimming
Fri 26th May	Reception PTA Lolly Pop Sale Last day of Summer 1 Term	Last day of Summer 1 Term
29th May – 2nd June	Summer Half Term (School Closed)	Summer Half Term (School Closed)
Mon 5th June	School Begins for Summer 2 Term	School Begins for Summer 2 Term
Weds 7th June	Inclusion Governor’s Committee Meeting – Junior School	Art Gallery Juniors 5.30pm – 7pm Inclusion Governor’s Committee Meeting – Junior School
Thurs 8th June		Yr 5 Swimming

Fri 9 th June	PTA Donation Day	PTA Donation Day
Mon 12 th –Fri 16 th June		Year 6 Residential Trip
Weds 14 th June	Art Gallery Infants 5.30pm – 7pm	
Thurs 15 th June		Yr 5 Swimming
Fri 16 th June		Primary Borough Athletics
Mon 19 th June	INSET DAY 5 (School Closed)	INSET DAY 5 (School closed)
Thurs 22 nd June		Yr 5 Swimming
Fri 23 rd June		Year 3 PTA Lolly Sale
Tues 27 th June	Resources Governor's Committee Meeting – Junior School Curriculum & Standards Governor's Committee Meeting – Junior School	Resources Governor's Committee Meeting – Junior School Curriculum & Standards Governor's Committee Meeting – Junior School
Thurs 29 th June	St Peter and St Paul (Mass)	St Peter and St Paul (Mass) Yr 5 Swimming
Thurs 6 th July		Yr 5 Swimming
Thurs 13 th July	Full Governing Body Committee Meeting – Junior School	Year 5 4 th Dimension Full Governing Body Committee Meeting – Junior School
Thurs 20 th July	Nursery Last day of Summer 2 Term	Nursery Last day of Summer 2 Term
Fri 21 st July	Last day of Summer 2 Term – School Finishes at 2pm	Last day of Summer 2 Term – School Finishes at 2pm

General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR)

The 'UK General Data Protection Regulation' (UK GDPR) brought about changes about how we can use your personal data and keep it safe, and strengthens your rights over your own data.

Please refer to our privacy notices on the school's website for details of how sensitive or private information about yourselves and your children stays safe.

