



JOINT NEWSLETTER

Friday 23rd July 2021 - Sunday 25th July - 17th Sunday in ordinary time

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. S Hulme Nursery & Infant School: Mrs. M Quinn.

Safeguarding Deputies: Mrs. S Hulme, Mrs. H Nicholls, Miss F Sullivan & Miss E Bryant Safeguarding Governor: Mr. T Richmond

Although the sharing of photographs with family and friends is a great thing to do, please be reminded of the schools safeguarding procedures and refrain from taking pictures at school events. Thank you for your support regarding this as we all need to work together to look after our pupils.

A message from Mrs. Hulme, Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another school year, we join together to reflect on the challenges and the highlights. Within the last couple of years being affected by COVID - life has been somewhat difficult and for some - very sad.

The children are amazing, they are resilient and faithful to the ethos of their school. Thank you to parents for your support and loyalty, this is really appreciated. We have seen the year 6 pupils bask in the enjoyment of performing their musical production of The Lion King, seeing how good they are and how much they enjoy that element of school life. We join together to wish for a bright future for each and every one of them and ask Almighty God to be at their side as they journey on to young adulthood.

The PTA also needs huge thanks for continuing to come up with new ideas as to how they can join the community, work together and bring some simple pleasures to the playground with small treats - ice creams- thank you. We also need to acknowledge the parents who are leaving us too, those who have worked tirelessly, giving their time to work for the school organising events and fundraising. Thank you- your dedication is much appreciated.

I would also like to thank the staff and governors who have St Mary's Catholic Federation at the centre of their hearts, wanting to create a haven of learning for the children.

So as we say farewell to Year 6 pupils at the end of the summer term and sadly goodbye to a number of staff, we wish you all a most enjoyable summer break and look forward to seeing you back in September.

With special regards to you all
Mrs. Hulme

Spirituality

On Thursday 22nd July, Bishop Paul Hendricks presented 27 members of the Year 6 Faith in Action group with their well-deserved badges and certificates. Throughout the year, these pupils attended all four reflective sessions (two virtual and two in school), completed a minimum of 20 hours of service, kept a reflective journal throughout and completed a final piece to represent their journey in faith. Both Bishop Paul and Mary Harvey, our Diocesan Faith in Action Coordinator congratulated the pupils on their achievements and spoke very warmly about how impressed they were with the pupils' actions and reflections. Well done, Faith in Action 2020-2021. You are wonderful witnesses to the Lord. Keep up the good work in your new schools.



NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

News from Nursery

It doesn't seem possible that it is almost the summer holidays and that the children's year in Nursery is coming to an end. The children have been resilient, hardworking and wonderful during a year which had times of uncertainty due to lockdowns and isolation periods for some families. We are grateful to our families for their continued support, your contributions make a big difference to your children's love for learning. We think you are all amazing and know you are ready for the new and exciting adventures you will have in Reception.

We have made the most of every last minute in Nursery and this term enjoyed visits from Police officers and a 'Zoo Lab' alongside learning about 'Superheros' and discussing 'Our Adventures'. The children took part in sports day and a sponsored scoot. They love to be outside exploring and have shown great curiosity by asking questions about the world around them. The children have enjoyed learning songs and dances linked to our topics, literacy and maths. You can enjoy listening to some of these on Google Classroom. I hope you all have a wonderful summer, stay safe and enjoy making special family memories.



News from Reception

Well this year has certainly been a very memorable and unusual year. I know that we will all have memories of lots of fun, laughter, learning, lockdown and home schooling to say the least from this school year! We would like to say how proud we are of all the children in Reception for all their tenacity, hard work, creativity, singing and learning that they have done both in school and at home, you are all truly amazing!! We have lots of fond memories of the children playing and learning together in school. We are sure that the children's transition to Year One in September will be an adventure where they will have lots of fun and learn lots of new things in their new class. We can't wait to hear how their learning journeys continue in Year One.

Thank you parents for all your wonderful messages, support and contributions that you have made over the last year, they have all made a difference to enhance the children's learning and our school community, well done.

We wish you all a wonderful Summer, have fun and remember to continue your learning and to share the love of Jesus with each other.

God Bless,

Miss Penston, Miss Santos and Mrs. Kwasniewska



News from Year 1

Summer Term in Year 1 has been busy as ever. We have loved our Moon Zoom topic and have been getting very creative - with aliens, spaceships and astronauts and even solar system hats! We have written adverts for trips to the moon and descriptions of the man on the moon (he's called Bob!). In history, we have learnt about Neil Armstrong and the moon landings of 1969 and Tim Peake.



The children have loved using Scratch to write their own code to make a spaceship fly to other planets. In science, we have been learning about the senses and the parts of the body that we use to see, hear, smell, touch and taste. The children learnt about our global neighbours in our topic on the Universal Church. We also heard about the work that CAFOD does with our brothers and sisters overseas.

It's been another unusual year, with lockdowns and absences, but it has been wonderful to watch the Year 1 children develop as learners. We are grateful to all the parents for the part so many of you have played this year in their learning and in supporting the school and the children. We hope you all have a lovely, well-deserved summer break!

News from Year 2



It's incredible to think that we have come to the end of another school year - and what a year it has been! Summer 2 in Year 2 has been full of fun, laughter and joy, tinged with a few tears as the children prepare for the next stage of their learning in the Junior school. We have explored lots of things about pirates - found our pirate names, spoken like a pirate (Aaaahhhrrrrr!) and researched facts about famous pirates such as 'Blackbeard'. We explored the importance of exercise and discussed how we need to eat foods from each of the different food groups. We developed our map skills, finding out what a key is and created our own treasure maps of the playground. We enjoyed our transition visits to the Junior school, where we played, met our new teachers, had a picnic with our friends and the highlight - watching the Year 6 production of The Lion King. We wrote letters to our buddies in Year 3 and were so excited when we received a reply! Last week we celebrated the end of Year 2 with a year group Liturgy followed by a fun afternoon with the amazing Crazy Clare (many thanks to the PTA for arranging this for us.) Thank you to the support you have shown to the children and staff over the year. Wishing you all a wonderful, safe summer holiday!

Stars of the Week

Reception only this week! R Hedgehog - Jacob R, R Fox - Poppy P, Reeva S and Ivy-Rose Z

JUNIOR SCHOOL

News from Year 3

Year 3's Summer 2 saw us study the picture book Tuesday and for the children to create their own follow up story, taking it on from where Tuesday ends up. The children have really used their creativity and imagination with this and there has been a huge array of what may happen next.

In science we have been studying plants. We have looked at the parts of plants and flowers, the children dissected Lilies in one session and we have also looked at the types of pollination and plant reproduction. We finished up with a look at the types of seed dispersal plants use, particularly fruit.

Our Geography focused on different settlement types and the reasons behind why some settlements are located where they are. We also looked at how the River Wandle has been used over the years.

In the penultimate week of term, we were lucky enough, along with year 4, to have into school some bushcraft experts. Our session was excellent and really complemented our learning in History, the stone age, and English, Stig of the Dump. We looked at some artefacts which stone age people may have used and learned how to make a fire. We had a demonstration of how to start a fire using a friction technique known as a Bow Drill. After this each of the children got to use a flint and steel to start small fires using cotton wool as the fuel.

The year 3 staff would like to thank parents and carers for all their support this year, in what has been a difficult year again. We would like to wish you all a terrific summer holiday and, to the children, all the very best for year 4.

News from Year 4

Summer term 2 has been scientific! Year 4 have been looking at the two main groups of animals; vertebrates and invertebrates and all of the differences within those groups. We have been classifying, grouping and identifying habitats too.

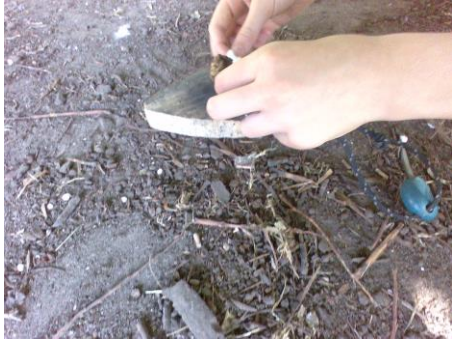
This work then led into our non-chronological reports about an animal each child chose to write about. Using year 4 grammar features we showed off our very best work by writing them up neatly - and some of us even used pen - so we are year 5 ready!

Our geography work on beaches and coastal areas also linked into science as we looked at the human impacts on these areas. We have also been using maps to locate and identify features of coast regions and compare this to our own.

These maps have grid references which link into our maths learning on position and direction, using coordinates to locate items and move across a grid.

In addition, we performed to the year 3 classes virtually to show off the 9 musical pieces we have learned in our cello and violin sessions. This was fantastic and some children were even able to perform solos on the violin too.

Finally, we have been contemplating our progress over what has been another strange year, and looking forward to more learning opportunities next year. The year 4 team continues to be grateful for the support of the parents and carers who make teaching in year 4 so rewarding and know that we all now need a break - enjoy the summer holidays!



News from Year 5

There have been so many memorable moments for Year 5 during this last half term of the year. One of the most remembered and enjoyed activities is that we could have opened up our own pizzeria restaurant in Year 5. The children absolutely loved pizza taste testing a variety of pizzas and the making of the pizza using the skills of kneading, rolling and shaping. We even designed our own mini pizza box to take their pizza home in. We're sure everyone at home managed to have a taste test - if you didn't, you'll have to make your own batch of summer holiday pizzas where the child can make improvements to their making skills and try out other ingredients for toppings.

Unfortunately, we didn't manage to get to Hampton Court Palace this year but nonetheless we feel as if we have learned much about the history surrounding it. The children wrote convincing 'time-slip' narratives based at the palace and incorporated an artefact that had the power to take the character back in time to the Tudor era. The description used and imagination applied was brilliant - we loved reading these narratives. As an alternative to visiting the palace, we explored the palace virtually and got creative as we journeyed virtually.

Another one of the summer 2 highlights was the opportunity as a year group in music to perform to professionals visiting from the Royal Opera House and some individuals participated in The Royal Opera House - Building block/Create and Sing rehearsal.

We are so incredibly proud of the children's resilience during the difficult and unpredictable times we are in. The Year 5 team would like to thank the parents and carers for their on-going support throughout this academic year. We wish all pupils the best as they take on the next stages of their St. Mary's journey as they transition into Year 6. Enjoy a restful summer holiday everybody!

News from Year 6

It has been a wonderful final half-term for Year 6 and we have all been on lots of journeys together. It is now the end of the children's time at St Mary's and all the staff are proud of each and every one of them. Seeing them learn, play and grow throughout the year has truly been a privilege.





Each and every worked so incredibly production 'The Lion have clearly paid were spectacular, confidence and sets, face-paints show the dazzling the year group have-disappointed that



person in Year 6 has hard on the end of year King' and all those efforts off. The performances the songs were sung with pride and all of the props, and programme designs all range of skills and talents well done! Whilst we were we could not go to 4th

Dimension the children had an amazing time at Littlehampton beach, where they enjoyed building spectacular sand castles with moats and towers together, paddling in the sea and playing team sports on the field (including a ginormous game of football!).

Another journey Year 6 were lucky enough to go on this half-term was a trip to London Zoo. It was lovely to see the children so enthralled and fascinated by all the animals we were able to see on our trip. The children were brilliant at applying their scientific knowledge and learning to talk about animal adaptations and characteristics. Some of the children showed particular bravery,



facing their fear when entering the reptile house and open spider exhibit (the butterfly pavilion was much more welcoming).

Whilst some of our journeys this half-term has required some lengthy coach journeys, another shorter journey Year 6 underwent was to the local Ecology Centre. Here children were in awe of all the local wildlife they could find when they went pond dipping. It was a brilliant trip where the children were

able to explore the local wildlife and identify them based on their characteristics- we were especially amazed by the number of newts that were discovered.

We are so proud of the children's resilience over an uncertain and unpredictable term. The Year 6 team would like to thank the parents and carers for their on-going support throughout this academic year. We wish all pupils the best as they each head off on the next chapter of their learning to secondary school, taking with them what they have learnt and cherished memories of their time here. Have a well-deserved break and enjoy your summer holidays!

St. Mary's Award:

3 Hawthorn - Chinuo N, **3 Mulberry** - Hannah S, **3 Willow** - Jack C, **4 Ash** - Amarachi O, **4 Poplar** - Ruby P, **4 Rowan** - Gabriella V, **5 Birch** - Matthew M, **5 Elm** - Alisha K, **5 Sycamore** - Martin S, **6 Chestnut** - Mateusz A, **6 Copper Beech** - Dominic C, **6 Oak** - Harry C

Music



One of the highlights of 2020 - 2021 was the virtual assembly performance and workshop to Year 6 from Roger Wright who was the first 'Simba' in the West End 'The Lion King' and his guest artist Eric Appapoulay who is Cat Steven's lead guitar player on Friday 9th July. Roger shared his musical journey from his days of modeling to being the King of the West End.

From September till May at school, Music lessons have been virtual as well as Wider Opportunity lesson for Year 2 learning the djembe and Year 4 learning the violin and cello.



In Year 5 they have been learning songs from 'Create and sing Carmen' by the Royal Opera House and participated in The Royal Opera House - Building block/Create and Sing rehearsal on Friday 11th June with Mr. Ainscough and Mr. Barrett. During the rehearsal they explored a range of activities from vocal production to stagecraft from the Create and Sing programme which they have been covering in music this term.

If you wish to learn an instrument next year, please contact the teacher directly to arrange lessons. Your teacher will be in touch with you to liaise when lessons will commence in school.

Infants -

PIANO

Mr. Z Mancuso zino_music@yahoo.co.uk

Juniors -

PIANO

Mr. P Aslangul philaslangul@yahoo.co.uk

VIOLIN/VIOLA

Miss A McDade amcdviolin@me.com

CELLO

Mrs. D McGregor debbiecelloteacher@gmail.com

GUITAR

Mr. J Freedman jules.freedman@outlook.com

BRASS (trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone) Mr. P Martin paulmartin37@hotmail.co.uk

DRUMS

Mr. G Roberts garethdrums@mac.com

Thank you to all the peripatetic staff who have worked with the children this year - Mr. Roberts, Mr. Aslangul, Ms McDade, Mr. Freedman and Mr. Mancuso. A big thank you to all of you at St. Mary's for the wonderful years of music that I have had the privilege to be part of.

Wishing you all the best, Mrs. Roberts

PE

It's been a busy summer term right up until the final few days. We were delighted that all children got to take part in Sports Day events. They were a little different compared to last year but all events ran smoothly and the children had a blast! It was brilliant seeing them so involved and so excited to take part, coach and support. Their enthusiasm makes all the hard work worth it.

Children across the federation have enjoyed 'Euro fever' over the last month as year groups celebrated these events in different ways including sweepstakes, watching the highlights, making flags/banners/pictures, tournaments and more! It was lovely to see them get excited about it and for lots of them this was their first experience of a big international tournament. We have been focusing on the Olympics in all year groups for the last couple of weeks, hoping to raise children's understanding and awareness of this competition so that they can enjoy it over the summer holidays.

All children at the juniors took part in a cricket taster session hosted by Surrey Cricket. The feedback from staff and children was that it was a lot of fun and great opportunity. There are lots of cricket clubs locally if your child is interested in having a go, click [here](#) to find out more.

Next year we are looking forward to welcoming back Coach Niall who many children will remember from two years ago. In preparation with him we have enjoyed curriculum mapping, equipment auditing and now he's looking forward to September and seeing all the children again!

In September we will be able to let you know what clubs we will be able to offer. There will be some old favourites and some new opportunities.



Finally, we love hearing about the achievements of our pupils out of school. Ronan A, 3W was 'Player of the Season' for his Gaelic Football team. This was his first full season playing for them so this is a fabulous achievement and we're very proud of him. We have a few Round Towers Gaelic Football players through the school. If this is something you think your child would like to have a go at contact secretary.roundtowers.london@gaa.ie

E-Safety



ParentZone -

Here are some great E-Safety links -

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/>

<http://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>

PSHE Association

PSHE - Juniors

A PSHE priority this year has been the 'health and wellbeing' of our community: ensuring that we all know ways to help ourselves and one another during times of change. Over the summer months, it has been lovely to see classes take their learning outside and embrace opportunities to be active as well as mindful. This year's Mental Health Awareness Week theme was 'Connect with Nature', giving children the chance to reflect on others' and their own issues as well as being given the tools to help improve their wellbeing by connecting with God's world around them. We are lucky to have such lovely grounds here at St Mary's to inspire us. In RE this term, there has been a link to PSHE with the topic of 'Stewardship' focusing on taking care of the wider world and our local environment.



As part of their 'Relationships' topic within PSHE this term, children have gained a better understanding of what makes a positive and healthy relationship amongst friends and within families. They have also had the opportunity to discuss the importance of valuing difference and challenging discrimination using resources from No Room for Racism. Each year group has also had the chance to discuss the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relevant to their age-group. All of these issues raise vital discussions which we are sure you will continue at home.

Despite restrictions, there have been lots of opportunities for team building and cooperation across the school this term, as you will have read in this newsletter: from school trips to musical performances and sporting achievements. Year 5 have also been busy preparing to welcome their Year 2 buddies in September. We look forward to building on cross-school initiatives given wider opening in the next school year.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>



Travel

Thank you to Parents and Carers for continuously choosing to use active methods of transport to bring your children to school this year. Our Summer hands-up survey rewardingly revealed that your top choice is to walk, closely followed by park and stride. A lot of you scoot to school, while many would like the opportunity to cycle. The Autumn term will bring new initiatives to encourage even more of you to choose to leave the car at home.

Why not continue the campaign over the summer holidays by trying a TfL family activity? You could [Count your collective steps](#) in a week or [Bling your bike and sparkle your scooter!](#) Doing these will mean you're ready to begin the school year in sustainable style. As always, remember to keep yourself safe on the roads.

<https://tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey/>

<https://www.brake.org.uk/get-involved/take-action/mybrake/knowledge-centre/advice-for-parents-and-families>



Can you help? Homestart Sutton is on the lookout for volunteers to lend weekly support to Sutton families with young children. Training will be given. If you are interested, email emma@homestartsutton.org.uk for an application pack.