

JOINT NEWSLETTER

Friday 9th February 2024 - Sunday 11th February, 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time -- Spring 1 Term

Email: office@stmarysinfchool.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: Miss M Kenny, Nursery & Infant School: Mrs. M Quinn.

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

Headteacher's Message



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for your contributions and support during our recent parent meetings that include the pupils directly this term. These are really valuable opportunities to assess in- year progress, to review learning behaviour and set new targets together. Whole school targets at each key stage are ambitious and in line with similar schools driving the importance for all children to achieve their full potential. We have recently focused curriculum monitoring this half term on English and Maths, which informs ongoing action in lessons. We have worked on having good strategies to link the learning together. Thank you again for being part of this whole system.

Although this term has been a shorter one, you will see from each year groups report that much has happened - enjoy the read and best wishes for a restful half term break.

Juniors - St. Mary's Award

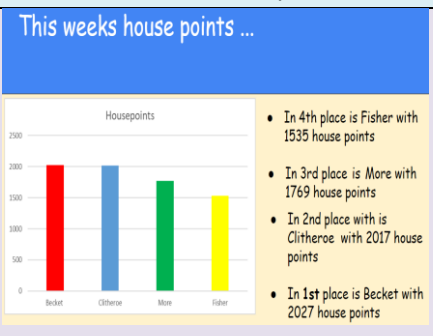
3 Hawthorn	Poppy P
3 Mulberry	Brogan
3 Willow	Harry
4 Ash	Angela
4 Poplar	Rub
4 Rowan	Mimi
5 Birch	Laura
5 Elm	Nathan
5 Sycamore	Joshua
6 Chestnut	Patrick D
6 Copper Beech	Jakub W
6 Oak	Adiele

[Recognition & Reward

Infant - Stars of the week

R Fox	Davi
R Squirrel	Amarachi
R Hedgehog	Sonia
1 Wren	Amanda
1 Sparrow	Vincent
1 Robin	Jenisha
2 Heron	Arabella
2 Jay	Conleth
2 Woodpecker	Nia

Junior - Housepoints



Making adjustments in school for medical reasons

If your child needs to have a risk assessment in place due to a new injury to enable them to fully function safely around the school, please arrange an appointment with the class teacher. This meeting needs to happen before the child can attend school. This is due to health and safety expectations in school.

We ask all families to respect this process and call the school office to arrange.

Thank you

News for the week

Sports News

Football

The boy's team played against St Elphege's this week. They were strong opponents and unfortunately, the team did not come away with the win. However, they worked hard and we hope that we will have a success for the team after half term! Thank you to all the family members who supported the boys.



Netball

On Tuesday, a group of pupils from Year 6 went to Wallington High School to take part in a netball event. They played a series of games, playing with the fast 5 rules. The team managed to finish 5th out of 14 schools, which is a great success. A big well done to everyone who took part and thank you to all the family members who were able to take and collect the children from the event.



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-special?pid=MTA101634&v=119.3>

Spirituality

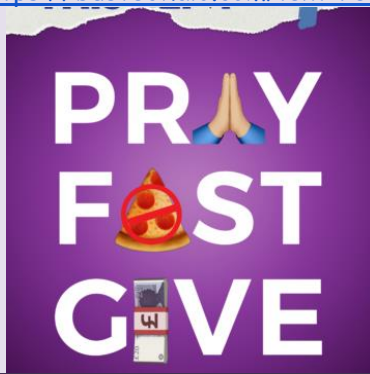


This year **Ash Wednesday**, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent, falls in the half term break. During Lent, we make a special effort to **PRAY, FAST & GIVE**. Our Lenten charity this year is the **Catholic Children's Society**, an organisation which helps disadvantaged families in London and the south east. In the past, families in our school community have received much needed crisis support from this charity. We would encourage you to pray for the work of the Catholic Children's Society and give what you can to support their work. <https://www.cathchild.org.uk/> Lent collection boxes will go home with the children. We thank the Year 6 members of the Chaplaincy Team who have helped to distribute these at the Junior School and who will be giving prayer opportunities to pupils during Lent.

For details about services on Ash Wednesday in our local parishes, please visit their websites:

Holy Family, Sutton Green	https://holyfamilysutton.org.uk/
Our Lady of the Rosary, Sutton	http://suttonsurreyrcparish.weebly.com/newsletter.html
Holy Cross, Carshalton	https://holycrosscarshalton.co.uk/?page_id=137

If you would like to understand a little more about the season of Lent, this website is a useful one for adults:
<https://bustedhalo.com/lent-resources>



News from Nursery

The children have enjoyed learning all about 'Fairytales' this term. We were sent porridge from Goldilocks and the 3 bears and explored which materials would be the best for the 3 little pig's houses. The children have also enjoyed listening to many other traditional tales such as Little Red Riding Hood and Jack and the Beanstalk. In maths, we have continued our learning about numbers and helped maths monster (our class puppet) enjoy learning all about number 3, 4 and 5. During our RE learning the children have enjoyed sharing the different celebrations they have had. We learnt about the celebrations, which happen in Church and heard the story of Jesus visiting the temple for the first time. We continue to enjoy wondering about the world and this week learnt about Chinese New Year. The children had a great time doing their own dragon dancing in PE. Next half term our topic is called 'Come Outside'. We will explore the changes that happen during Spring and enjoy using our outdoor spaces even more!



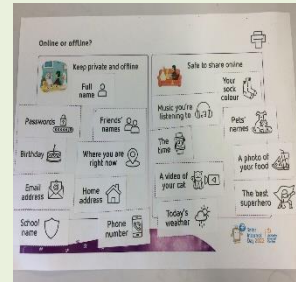
News from Reception

We started our 'Earth and Beyond' topic by using our imaginations to blast off into space, next we learnt lots of facts about space. In the following weeks, we went for an adventure to the jungle and explored the African and Asian animals that live in these habitats. During this term, the children have practised applying their phonic skills to write sentences, and extending the sentences by using describing words to describe the animal's e.g 'A giraffe has a long neck'. The children have also been learning lots of Math's during this half term. They have investigated adding and subtracting one more and one less and describing, ordering, comparing, and measuring the length of different snakes and other items. We finished our topic by exploring Chinese New Year. The children enjoyed an end of term finale by taking part in a 'Chinese New Year Party'. We would like to express our thanks to all of the children who have posted their hard work from all their home learning onto Google Classroom. Please remember to keep practising your reading and phonics over the half term and we are sure the children will also be working hard at home to complete some of their learning linked to their individual targets from parents evening. We hope that you all enjoy a well-deserved half term break.



News from Year 1

We started our new topic 'Bright Lights, Big City' by guessing our new text through different clues such as a blue duffle coat, a red hat, a marmalade sandwich and a suitcase. We have loved reading our key text 'Paddington at the Palace' and exploring London. We have also really enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London in History where we have looked closely at why the Great Fire of London was so important and how it changed the future of London. In Science, we have been learning about weather and the seasons and have had fun using the weather station on the roof of the school to explore the weather over time. On Internet Safety Day, the children learnt about personal information and had to sort information that should be either kept private and offline or information that is safe to share online.



News from Year 2

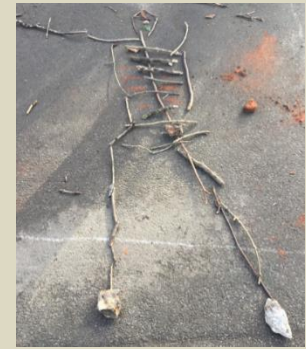
Year 2 have enjoyed their topic Towers, Tunnels and Turrets, where we have been learning about life in medieval times. We have celebrated our learning with our Medieval Day where we have learnt a dance, made coats of arms and shields and had a go at medieval-style writing. In science we have been thinking about how we know if something is alive or dead, or has never been alive, and explaining what animals (including humans) need to survive. We have learnt about the Bible in RE as well as other books that are used in church. Finally, we have celebrated Chinese New Year and also 'Safer Internet Day' where we learnt about the importance of passwords and how to keep them safe.



News from Year 3

This half term has been so busy in our Year 3 classes and time has really flown by! In Maths, we have practised measuring using metres, centimetres and millimetres. The children estimated and compared items around the classroom in different units of measure. In science, we made our own skeletons using twigs and sticks found on the playground. We labelled each of the main bones, which form our skeleton, and we have

continued our learning by comparing other animal bones to those found in our bodies! This has then resulted in us creating our own non-chronological reports in English, explaining the different areas that contribute to healthy living. The children also had the fantastic opportunity to have first aid training, and all children were able to take part and confidently explain what to do in an emergency situation.



News from Year 4

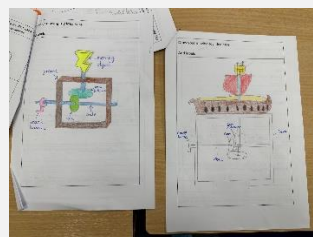
This term in RE year 4 have been learning about how communities work together, following the example set by Jesus as he trained his 12 Apostles to spread the word. We learned to write in the style of Ted Hughes - the author of *The IRON MAN*. We also have been very creative during our Design Technology, working together to make a replica head of the Iron man using wood!

We enjoyed learning about multiplication and division, solving problems as well as fractions and fractions of amounts. Learning about the Vikings was enjoyable, creating our own website and continued to work together in all areas - especially in PE. We are very proud of how the children have all worked hard and with each other.



News from Year 5

As we conclude this History unit in Year 5, we have been fascinated to learn of the legacy of the Ancient Greeks. Like them, we have been philosophers (in RE), mathematicians (in both Maths and Science), and designers (of moving toys using cams in DT). In English, we have read many of the Greek myths and were inspired to write our own, with a main character who was either rewarded or punished for their behaviour. We then moved forward into the world of Alex Rider in the *Stormbreaker* novels - a teenage spy in a story full of suspense. In our own writing, we have tried hard to use similar techniques to Anthony Horowitz: 'empty words', 'show not tell' and plenty of connections between different parts of the story. The Ancient Greeks could swim in the blue waters of the Aegean. Year 5 went to Westcroft each Friday this half term, but it was just as enjoyable!



This half term has continued to be a busy one for Year 6. In music, the children have been learning how to play ukuleles and this culminated in a concert at the end of January showcasing their skills to the parents. We have been preparing for SATs and taking practice papers has highlighted our improvements, but also gave us targets to work on. In history, we have started to learn about the Industrial Revolution and how this particularly changed the lives of children. Geography has focused on learning about different biomes found in our world and the children are getting ready to make their own biomes. Science has also been fascinating as we have learned about the heart and noted the impact that exercise had on our heart. We look forward to Spring 2!



Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

Supporting Common Child Anxieties and Worries - Including Around Exams

For KS2 Parents & Carers

It can be hard sometimes to know how best to support your child's fears and worries. This webinar provides a range of guidance, tips and tools for supporting common childhood fears and worries, including around exams.

This free webinar looks at different ways you can:

- Talk with your child about worries
- Identify key worries
- Support your child with their anxieties and worries
- Provides some key resources



NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Education
Wellbeing
Service

DATE / TIME

Tuesday 27th February, 7.30-8.30pm

Thursday 29th February, 12.30-1.30pm

LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to this event for free on Eventbrite (and check out our others!) by scanning the QR Code or following the link below:

[Click here to book](#)



wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

Dates for the Diary

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

	NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL	JUNIOR SCHOOL
Mon 12 th Feb – Fri 16 th Feb	FEBRUARY HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED	FEBRUARY HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 19 th Feb	FIRST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM	FIRST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM Boys A team Vs Stanley Park@Stanley Park
Weds 21 st Feb		PSHE Meeting for Yr 4 Parents (9 – 9:30am) Year 3 / 4 Racket Pack (Nonsuch High School)
Thurs 22 nd Feb	“thinking day” – children from Rainbow, Brownies, Guides or Rangers may attend school wearing their uniform	“thinking day” – children from Rainbow, Brownies, Guides or Rangers may attend school wearing their uniform Year 3 / 4 Primary Golf @ St Phils
Sat 24 th Feb	PTA International Fayre - (1-3pm - Junior School)	PTA International Fayre – (1 – 3pm Junior School)
Fri 1 st Mar	PTA Wine/Gin Tasting (Adult Event) – More details to follow!	PTA Wine/Gin Tasting (Adult Event) – More details to follow!
Tues 5 th Mar	School Governors Resources Committee Meeting School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting	School Governors Resources Committee Meeting School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting
Mon 25 th Mar – Fri 19 th Apr	PTA Sponsored Read Event – More details to follow!	PTA Sponsored Read Event – More details to follow
Weds 27 th Mar	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting
Thurs 28 th Mar	LAST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM	LAST DAY OF SPRING 2 TERM SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2PM
Mon 15 th Apr	INSET DAY 4 SCHOOL CLOSED	INSET DAY 4 SCHOOL CLOSED
Tues 16 th Apr	FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 1 TERM	FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 1 TERM
Fri 19 th Apr		PTA Junior School Disco – (5:30 – 7pm)
Fri 26 th Apr		Y3 After School Treat Sales
Thurs 25 th Apr	PTA AGM Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School	PTA AGM Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School
Mon 6 th May	EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED	EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED
Fri 10 th May	PTA Ladies Night (Adult Event) – More details to follow!	PTA Ladies Night (Adult Event) – More details to follow!
Fri 17 th May	YR After School treat Sales	
Tues 21 st May	PTA Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School	PTA Committee Meeting at 7pm in the Infant School
Mon 27 th May – Fri 31 st May	MAY HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED	MAY HALF TERM SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 3 rd June	FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 2 TERM	FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 2 TERM
Weds 5 th June	School Governors Inclusion Committee Meeting	School Governors Inclusion Committee Meeting
Mon 17 th June	INSET DAY 5 – TBC SCHOOL CLOSED	INSET DAY 5 – TBC SCHOOL CLOSED
Fri 14 th June		Y4 After School Treat Sales

Tues 25th June	School Governors Resources Committee Meeting School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting	School Governors Resources Committee Meeting School Governors Curriculum & Standards Committee Meeting
Fri 5th July	PTA Bottle Mufti Day – More details to follow!	PTA Bottle Mufti Day – More details to follow!
Sat 6th July	PTA Summer Fayre – More details to follow!	PTA Summer Fayre – More details to follow!
Thurs 11th July	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting	School Governors Full Governing Body Committee Meeting
Weds 24th 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 also 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.