



## JOINT NEWSLETTER

Friday 28th May 2021 SUNDAY 30th May - The Most Holy Trinity

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,

Wishing you all a *Happy Summer Half Term* to you all.

On Trinity Sunday whilst enjoying a feast to celebrate the Christian doctrine of the trinity, take time to think about the three persons of God; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Also have you visited The Roman Catholic Church of the Most Holy Trinity in Dockhead, Bermondsey? It was built in 1957-60 by H S Goodhart-Rendel and is listed a Grade II - Add it to your tourist list!

How lovely it was to have our first Parent Forum meeting in 18 months, a great step towards normality. You can probably imagine the variety of discussions that was had. Lots to think about going forward.

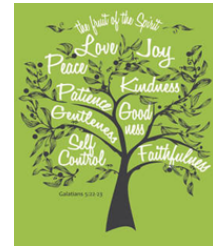
Each year group is busy planning for the next and final half term before the summer holidays and we are so impressed with how the children have reintegrated back into normal school life. Long may it continue!

What a year we have had, hopefully now, as everyday life returns to a more normal pattern we can look forward to planning days out with our families and friends and enjoying life as we used to know it. We just need the sunny weather to top these outings.

Enjoy the rest, next week.

## Spirituality

Sunday's great Feast of Pentecost marked the end of Eastertide. We pray for an openness to the gifts of the Spirit in our lives so that we, through the grace of God, may share the fruits of that same Spirit with others.



Monday was the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church. Throughout the month of May, we pray most especially to Our Lady, asking her to intercede for us with her Son, Jesus. This week both schools have shared a special Crowning of Mary liturgy led by Mrs. Norbury.



### **Prayer to Mary by Pope Francis**

*Mary, woman of listening, open our ears;  
grant us to know how to listen to the word of your Son Jesus  
among the thousands of words of this world;  
grant that we may listen to the reality in which we live,  
to every person we encounter,  
especially those who are poor, in need, in hardship.*

*Mary, woman of decision,  
illuminate our mind and our heart,  
so that we may obey, unhesitatingly,  
the word of your Son Jesus;  
give us the courage to decide,  
not to let ourselves be dragged along,  
letting others direct our life.*

*Mary, woman of action,  
obtain that our hands and feet move "with haste" toward others,  
to bring them the charity and love of your Son Jesus,  
to bring the light of the Gospel to the world,  
as you did. Amen.*



At the Junior School, the Y6 Faith in Action team met for their final reflective session. They learned about Catholic Social Teaching and were both shocked and surprised to hear

some global statistics, e.g. 2 billion people have no access to a household toilet. Here at St. Mary's we are very fortunate to be blessed with so many things. We pray for an end to injustice and for the courage to do what we can to make life better for others. Over the coming weeks the Faith in Action group will be putting together a Final Piece to represent their journey in faith. Please keep them in your prayers.

## NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

### News from Nursery

Super Froglets to the rescue! The children in the Nursery have really enjoyed the topic 'Superheroes'. We took part in Superhero training while wearing capes and masks, the children had to practice different physical skills such as crawling, throwing, balancing and jumping.

In literacy the children enjoyed the fiction texts 'There's a Superhero in my book' and 'Supertato' The baddies in the texts really caught the children's imaginations especially when they caused all sorts of mischief in our class such as freezing a key in ice and locking up Superhero's friends. We used these tasks to create curiosity around number, shape and mark making. Creating some wonderful opportunities for learning such as creating traps for Evil Pea and talking about the shapes we used.

We have been using non-fiction texts to learn all about the jobs of real life superheroes such as police officers, firefighters and doctors. We enjoyed a visit from our school link police officer who talked to the children about the importance of knowing their full name and address as well as giving them the chance to try on police hats and jackets.

Thank you for the continued support you offer your children and our school. We look forward to some brighter weather as we move into the last half term of the academic year and begin to get ready for the exciting transition many of the Nursery children will make into Reception.



### News from Reception

We have come to the end of this half term is learning topic of Minibeasts.

The children have enjoyed exploring and finding out new facts about a variety of different Minibeasts. They have also enjoyed looking at the work of the illustrator Eric Carl and have created some fantastic Minibeast themed art and crafts based on his artwork.

In Literacy the children have enjoyed reading the stories 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'The Very Busy Spider' and they have created their own story maps to help them

rewrite the story and have made up our own versions. They have also been working very hard on their cursive handwriting. In phonics this half term the children have revisited phase 2 and 3.

Math's: This half term we have been looking at time and the language related to time. The children have been learning to sequence daily events, days of the week and seasons of the year. We have also focused on numbers above 10. We have practiced ordering numbers and recognising random numbers. At the end of our half term we have been very busy doubling objects and numbers. The children have been challenged in each topic by beginning with practical tasks and progressed to word problems.

Reception were very lucky this half term to be visited by lots of animals from 'Zoo lab', they got to touch a cockroach, a slithery snake, a slimy African snail, and see a hairy tarantula and a Scorpion glowing a vibrant blue-green under UV light! They loved learning all about the different animals and made new friends along the way.

Thank you children and parents for all your hard work at home. We know that this is an unusual time for you all but the support you have given your children, each other and the school has been very much appreciated by everyone. We hope you all enjoy some rest and sunshine over half term and we look forward to seeing you next half term when we will begin our next topic 'Why is water wet?'.



### News from Year 1

This term in Year 1 we have been learning about animals in our topic 'Paws Claws and Whiskers'. We have learnt about different types of animals in science (reptiles, amphibians, fish, birds and mammals) and met some of them when 'Zoo Lab' came to visit us. As well as learning about animals, we have continued learning about plants by planting beans and observing how they change week by week.

In English, we have based all our writing on The Tiger Who Came To Tea. We have retold the story and also written invitations to our own tea party. We made sandwiches for our tea party and wrote instructions for how to make a sandwich. The children were very excited to have their own tea party.

In maths we have been busy counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, and using it to help us answer questions. We have also been grouping and sharing objects and halving and doubling.

In RE we learned about and celebrated some holy days; Ascension Day and Pentecost with special liturgies as we are still unable to go to Mass at school. We continued our May devotion to Our Lady with a Crowning of Mary service led by us and streamed to the rest of the Infant school.

In computing we have been using iPads to take pictures of minibeasts on our bug hunt. We learnt about the different bugs and made charts to show how many of each bug we found. The children are very enthusiastic about insects and love discovering different ones in the outdoor areas of our school.



### News from Year 2

In Year 2 the children have been learning about plants in our topic 'Scented Garden'. In Science, we have investigated what plants need to survive. The children enjoyed observing changes in the different plants week by week.

In English, we have based our writing on *The Green Ship*. We have retold the story using a range of writing skills. We have linked our History topic to Art by experiencing the life and works of Vincent Van Gogh.

In Maths we have learnt about directional and positional language. The children enjoyed applying their knowledge by creating a set of instructions for their partner to follow.



Stars of the week  
Week Ending 28th May 2021

JUNIOR SCHOOL

### News from Year 3

This half term Year 3 have centered their English learning around the story of Cliffhanger By Jaqueline Wilson. We learnt about the features of a postcard and looked at formal and informal writing types. This culminated in the writing of a postcard to our buddies in Year 6. We are eagerly awaiting our replies! In maths we have worked incredibly hard on the topic of fractions, including comparing fractions, equivalent fractions, finding a fraction of a number and more recently adding and subtracting fractions. Next up for us on our maths adventure is time.

History has brought us through the Iron Age and to the doorstep of Roman Britain. We met Boudicca and learnt about one of the first prominent women in British prehistory. In science we started our topic of plants and learnt about the functions of parts of the plant and even dissected a lily to see the parts of a flower. In the final half term, we will look more at pollination and how seeds are dispersed.

In RE we have been looking at the Holy Spirit and how Jesus' disciples received this glorious gift. After looking at the story of Pentecost we looked at how we can use the

gifts of the Holy Spirit to be better Catholics. We hope you have an awesome half term and rest up for one final half term in year 3.

#### **News from Year 4**

We have had an enjoyable half term in year 4! Our Ancient Egyptian learning in History has been linked to our English writing where we recreated our version of 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' to an Egyptian themed story and our DT work in which we made Egyptian Cushions. This has been a topic which the children have thoroughly enjoyed!

In maths, we have been engrossed in time and decimals. The children have enjoyed telling the time and linking their prior knowledge of fractions to help them. The children have continued their learning of states of matter in science and enjoyed learning about the water cycle and a variety of experiments including creating our own water cycles and our washing line experiment.

#### **News from Year 5**

Our Tudor learning has been linked to our writing, we wrote convincingly as market inspectors in the Tudor era. We build up our learning and even 'hot seated' in role as the market inspector. In maths, we have been fully immersed in decimals and linking our understanding to percentages and to our prior knowledge of fractions.

Within our science learning of 'properties and changes of materials' we have had the opportunity to explore the properties of solids, liquids and gases. The oobleck from Year 4's learning made a reappearance as we explored non-Newtonian substances. Year 5 have very enquiring minds and are always ready to predict, experiment and record results. Perhaps the children can show you how to keep a tissue dry when dunking it inside a glass straight in water?

We wish you all a happy and restful half term!



#### **News from Year 6**

We have had a truly ENLIGHTENING start to our half term in Year 6! We enjoyed a short film where the main character found trash which became treasure. She used reflective objects to create a wonderful scene in her home, and we then copied her in science. We explored reflection and refraction and apologise to all parents who lost a £1 coin when this was shared at home. We also apologise if the sound of 'Tinga Tinga' has entered your living room, but the children have very much enjoyed discovering that stories which explain animal adaptations do not match the scientific explanations we learned about

last term. These stories have inspired us to write our own which we will share with our buddies as shadow puppet shows. In PSHE, we continue to have several lessons a week, and the children have covered travelling safely, timetables and emotions about going to High School in September. Before September, of course, we will perform Disney The Lion King Jr, and in our Music and DT lessons we have been eagerly preparing for this memorable event.

## St. Mary's Award

### Music

Over the last few weeks' music lessons have moved from being taught virtually to in class. How wonderful to hear the children singing beautifully!

Year group Hymn Practice and Sing and Praise is back in full swing celebrating Mary for the month of May.

### PE

We have been pleased to maintain our usual good levels of activity during curriculum time including PE lessons, active lesson and physical activity breaks and are now enjoying the return of extracurricular activities and enhancement workshops.

Year 3 enjoyed a Circus Skills workshop where they tried out new skills and tricks whilst Year 4 had a go at alternative multiskills. It is great to get back to giving the children opportunities to try new things and have new experiences, something they severely lacked over the last year. Later in the term we look forward to a team building activity morning for both Year 5&6 (separately) and cricket taster workshops for all junior year groups, following its success at the infant school, the junior staff have this week been able to begin their 1:1 PE CPD with Sarah Coffey from Sutton School Sports Partnership. The aim of the sessions is to refresh and build on teacher PE knowledge, support the embedding of 'Real PE'.

Curriculum swimming is being arranged to begin again with Westcroft. We will start with Y6 as a priority and then look to other year groups as we have a clearer idea what guidance will suggest in September.

We have been able to get some extracurricular activities running again to the delight of the children. At the moment all clubs must happen in year groups bubbles so we have Martial arts across two nights (y3&4 and Y5&6) and tennis (Y3) at the juniors and a new Y2 tennis club at



the infants. We are looking into what opportunities there are for clubs and have asked the children their opinion too! We look forward to delivering our full programme of extracurricular activities as soon as restrictions allow.

## E-Safety



### **ParentZone -**

Here are some great E-Safety links -

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

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

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

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

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

### Attendance

The attendance figure for w/c  
21.05.2021

### House Points