



February End of Term Joint Newsletter - Friday 11th February - Spring 2 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



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for your support this week when attending PAR Meetings. We have been delighted that they have gone really well and that we have been able to invite parents into school. The children gain so much from these joint meetings at this time in the year including the preparation that goes with the process.

Now you have a week ahead of you to try and turn the alarm clock off and take it a little easier without the school routine.

Enjoy the longer days. May you and your family keep well.

The next half term is always a special one leading up to the important feast of Easter- it comes round quickly!

Where to find the appropriate communications?

Class Based Activities/Reminders - Google Class Room

Safeguarding Alerts - Email from School Office / Website under Latest News

Newsletters - Email from School Office / Website / Google Classroom

Communication/Trips/Events - Email from School Office and Website under Latest News

Communication: If your query is personal to your child - please request a meeting with the class teacher in the first instance, this will hopefully enable us to respond quickly to resolve any concerns.

Spirituality Sunday 13th February - 6th Sunday of Ordinary Times

The prayer that Jesus taught us, Our Father, is one we know well and pray often yet how often do we actually stop and think about what the words really mean for us and our daily lives. This week pupils in Reception have been doing exactly that in a chaplaincy session led by Mrs. Norbury. Using items such as a globe, a crown, a hard hat and a high visibility jacket, the children were helped to understand the meaning of the words which can otherwise seem complicated and old fashioned. They also learnt actions for each line of the prayer as a memory aid. I'm sure they will share them with you if you ask them!

Table Talk Topic for this week - Say there is food that you don't like, but someone else does. Is that because it tastes different for you, or because you don't like the taste and the other person does?

NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

News from Nursery

We have had an action packed half term in the Nursery learning all about 'Fairytales'. We were sent a picnic basket with porridge to try from the 'Three Bears' and had an exciting 'Fairytale Tea Party'. The children took part in their first PE lesson and have been fantastic each week as they practise taking off and putting on their shoes and socks. We have played games and danced while practicing a range of gross motor skills. We wondered about what would happen if we left water outside overnight and were amazed when we discovered it had frozen and created us ice decorations. In RE the children have reflected on their learning by having end of topic services and enjoyed having a go at retelling the 'Presentation at the Temple' story using Godly play. Next Half term our topic will be called 'Come Outside'. We will wonder about the changes we observe during Spring, enjoy planting and growing plants as well as understanding the importance of looking after our Natural world.

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, we have also been extending our sentences using describing words to describe the animals e.g 'A giraffe has a long neck'.

The children have also been learning lots of math's during this half term as part of Mathuary. 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.

The children really enjoyed observing and listening to the birds in our school grounds as we went on our class bird watching walks as part of the RSPB bird week. The children made tally marks on their bird lists to tally the amount of different birds they saw; these were then reported to Miss Simpson to submit to the RSPB Bird Watch.

During our Chinese Dance Workshop each class took part in learning a dance to retell the story of the Chinese New Year. 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' with an exciting creativity day where the children enjoyed recreating some London landmarks like the London Eye, Buckingham Palace and Big Ben. We have loved reading our key texts 'Katie in London' and 'Paddington at the Palace' and have created some wonderful pieces of work such as information leaflets. 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. Our maths work focused on addition and subtraction within 20 initially, followed by place value, where we explored numbers within 50. 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.

Well done to everyone for all their hard work this half term. Enjoy a well-deserved break!



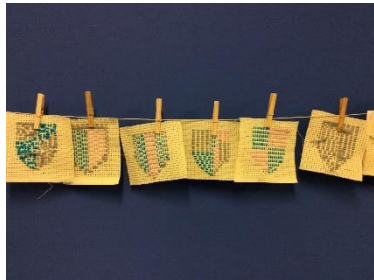
News from Year 2

Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed our Towers, Tunnels and Turrets topic this term. We used The Tunnel by Anthony Browne to inspire our writing and the children enjoyed writing their own alternative endings to the story. We have worked on multiplication and division in maths and also statistics - creating tally charts, pictograms and Block diagrams.

We have learnt all about William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings, as well as what Norman castles looked like. There have been battle re-enactments and role playing of life in Norman castles.

Our topic has also inspired us in our art. We have made our own Bayeux Tapestry, drawing our version of sections of the original. We even had a go at sewing a shield shape. We are finishing off our topic with a Medieval themed day.

In RE we were thinking about books and learning about the Bible. Some of our loveliest writing this term came when the children wrote their favourite Bible stories.



Stars of the Week (Infants)

Week Ending 11 th February 2022	
R Fox Class	Amelia N
R Hedgehog Class	Robin P
R Squirrel Class	Alba B
1 Robin Class	Isaac V
1 Sparrow Class	Vincent S
1 Wren Class	Eva S
2 Heron Class	Ashton K
2 Jay Class	Gabby T
2 Woodpecker Class	Caoimhe F

News from Year 3

It has been a very busy term in Year 3! In English, we have produced some fantastic pieces of writing focusing on the Roman myth 'Romulus and Remus'. Leading up to our final write up, we learnt about multiplication and division in Maths, focussing on the 8 times table early on in the half term before moving to 2 and 1 digit multiplying and dividing using those ever so tough formal methods. We are coming to a close on our exploration of the Iron Age as well, looking into their settlements and how the way they lived is different to the way that we lived.

Finally, we have looked into nutrition all the way through this half term, looking at both the food pyramid and food groups, our skeletons as well as how animal's skeletons are different to ours.

It has been a calmer half term and the children are all proud of what Year 3 have achieved. Enjoy your Half Term holidays.

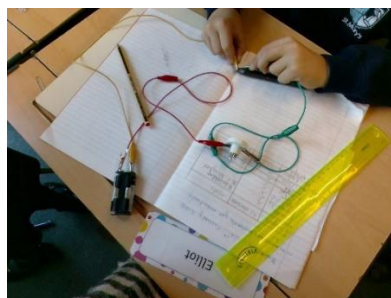
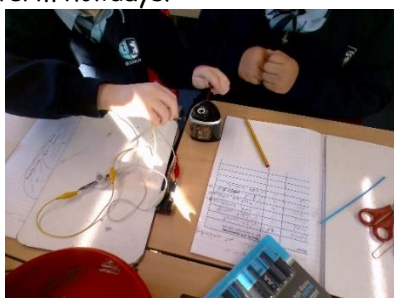


News from Year 4

This half term has been absolutely jam packed with exciting topics! At the start of this half term we looked at our new topic of The Iron Man, which has been our focus in English, Science and D.T. After reading through it we took the chance to create our own version as we looked into dilemma writing and writing around a problem. We have been linking this into our D.T by designing our own models of the Iron Man's head, building on our knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes. In Science, we have been creating our own circuits whilst using different conductors and insulators!

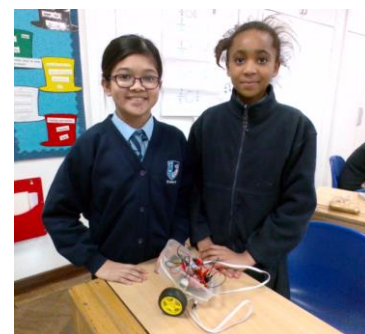
We've started learning all about the Vikings in History, why they came to our shores, their society and common misconceptions about them (who knew Vikings never wore horned helmets?) as well as learning about their gods and songs related to them.

A huge well done to everyone in Year 4, you've all worked incredibly hard and can now have a well-earned rest. Enjoy your half term holidays!



News from Year 5

This half term, we have been finalising our history topic of the Ancient Greeks and have been busy reading, planning and writing our own Greek myths where we have made cross curricular links to English. We used our descriptive language to describe setting and character as well as including a Greek god from the Ancient Greek times in our story to make it convincing. 'Stormbreaker' by Anthony Horowitz has been our driving text in English in the last few weeks of half term - this text has allowed us to experience a suspense narrative and really explore the character of Alex Rider whilst using our reading skills throughout.



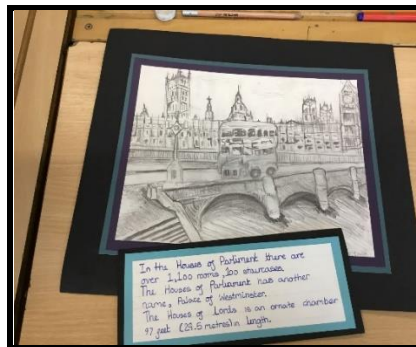
We look forward to channelling our 'wonder and discovery' with our new history topic in the next half term of the Tudors (local history) and continuing the science topic of 'living things and their habitats.'



News from Year 6

It has been an extremely busy half-term for Year 6 with every child taking every opportunity to learn and grow. Lots of the Year 6 children have represented the school in numerous ways, whether that be showing great athleticism and sportsmanship in netball or football matches, taking part in workshops from the Royal Opera House, participating in Chaplaincy or exploring Chinese New Year with a dance workshop.

The children have shown great creativity across lots of subjects this half-term. The models they created of different parliamentary buildings from around the world were spectacular and truly helped to inspire their speeches in English of what they would do if they were Prime Minister: their policies ranged from fair pay for all and free chicken nuggets for every citizen!

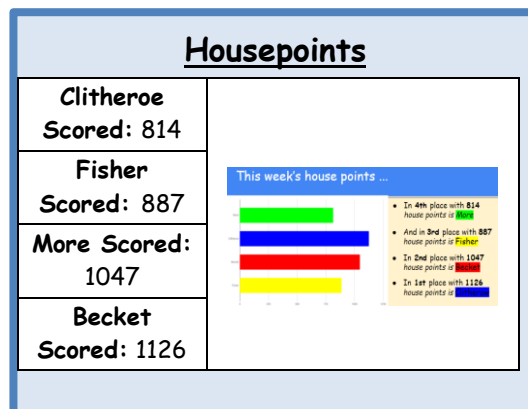


In Art, the children built on their History knowledge of the Industrial Revolution and channelled their inner Lowrys to produce spectacular pieces of artwork focusing on perspective and vanishing points. Next half-term, the children will continue their learning in History further exploring the changes in childhood since the Industrial Revolution and looking at key historical figures during this period of time. The children also showed great creative flair in Science whilst learning about the circulatory system, they made fantastic models of the heart using nothing but a jar, a balloon and some straws as well as creating detailed diagrams of the organs of the body and how the circulatory system helps the body to function.

Every child has pushed themselves this half-term and have worked so hard to achieve their very best. Well done for a fantastic half-term and we look forward to continuing our learning next half-term after a well-deserved break.

St. Mary's Award:

3 Hawthorn	Matylda S
3 Mulberry	Miryam Q
3 Willow	Gabriela J
4 Ash	Lucas T
4 Poplar	Alicia M
4 Rowan	Sean H
5 Birch	Nina A
5 Elm	Alice M
5 Sycamore	Jack W
6 Chestnut	Freya B
6 Copper Beech	Aron D
6 Oak	Daniel M



PE

It's has been great having so much sport and activity going on this half term despite restrictions. We have enjoyed interschool netball and football matches, swimming, workshops and plenty of activity throughout the school day.

All children from nursery to y6 enjoyed a Chinese Dance workshop to coincide with Chinese New Year. They enjoyed bringing to life the story of 'The Great Race' and lots of fun was had by all!

This week is School Football Week. At the juniors we have marked this by having small sided football tournaments in our PE lessons with Coach Niall, having 'panna' tournaments in the MUGA lunchtime, Y6 football matches against other schools and seeing some of 'the best of the best' football through videos on Google Classroom.

Have you been watching the Winter Olympics? It's been so exciting to see the different competitions and at the time of writing I'm still keeping fingers crossed for a Team GB medal! It has been difficult to find good quality videos of current Winter Olympics footage that is suitable to share with all the children across our schools something we have tweeted the BBC and Eurosport to feed this back to them hope for something better in the future.

Sports News

On Monday afternoon, the boys A team took part in a football match against Holy Trinity. The boys worked very hard against a tough team with an excellent goalkeeper. Unfortunately, one of team members suffered an injury and the boys had to play without a player. Luckily, the boys dug deep and played so well together as a team to win the game 9-5. As ever, we're so proud of the boys for representing the school so well and working so well together!



On Wednesday after school, the girls A team and mixed B Netball teams played against Stanley Park Primary School. It was a tough game against a great opposition but the teams played so well together, with many members on the team only joining the netball club a few weeks ago. There has been such a huge improvement since our first match and it is wonderful to see the team growing in confidence and skill. Thank you to all the parents, family members and teachers who came and supported the teams. Well done to everyone who took part, we're very proud to have you representing the school.



On Thursday afternoon, the girls football team took part in a tournament against a number of other Sutton Schools. This was the girls second match and they were so excited to take part. Everyone played so well and we made it through to the semi-finals. Unfortunately, we just missed out on a place in the final, but the girls showed brilliant team spirit and enjoyed every game of the tournament. Well done to everyone involved, we are very much looking forward to another opportunity to play again!



Music

Infants -PIANO	Mr Z Mancuso	zino_music@yahoo.co.uk
Juniors - PIANO	Mr P Aslangul	philaslangul@yahoo.co.uk
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

E-Safety



ParentZone - <https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/>

Be Internet Legends -

https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en_uk/parents/

Here are some great E-Safety links -

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

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

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

<https://www.common sense media.org/>

PSHE
Association

PSHE Juniors

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

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

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

News for the week

Attendance

The attendance figure
for w/c: 11.02.22

Infants: Juniors:

95% 94.1%

Our target is: 97.4%

PTA News



We need your unloved items!

- * Unwanted Gifts
- * School Uniform
- * World Book Day Costumes
- * Hamper Baskets
- * Books
- * Soft Toys

**DONATION DAY
EVERY 1st
Friday of
Half Term**

Junior - Doughnut Sale

The PTA are pleased to announce the Junior School doughnut sale raised £460.

Well done!

School Governors

Thank you to all parents who have returned the gift aid forms. This makes a big difference as we are able to claim £8 for every £35 donated. Please remember to complete the electronic link (Infant - <https://forms.gle/Q3mwAu6vQyySn7SS8> Junior - <https://forms.gle/mBg4YhbLqW9CZAYt6>) in if you have not done so. If you not yet contributed to the Governors fund, please be aware you can still make a payment can be made on Parentpay at www.parentpay.com

Donations of Hardback books

A request for donations of any hardback, children's books, fiction or non, no longer required at home, for an exciting project at school - all will be revealed at a later date! Just regular sized books please, not A4 as in encyclopaedias, annuals etc. Please deliver to the Junior school and thank you for your support. Please drop to the Junior School. Thank you.

Amazing News

We are very fortunate at St Mary's to have many inspiring stories amongst our pupils, parents, staff and wider community. On Saturday morning, one of our parents, Kevin Quinn, was on the Radio 4 Saturday live Podcast, sharing his incredible story about all he has achieved in his life. We are amazed by his story and feel very lucky to have such a talented member of our school community achieving such great things locally. We hope as many parents and carers as possible listen to the podcast and feel equally as inspired!

Year 6 Copper Beech were set a challenge this week of attending junior parkrun. This is a free timed 2km event which runs every Sunday morning at 9am. I am so proud that Sophie from Copper Beech turned up to Nonsuch park on a windy and wet Sunday morning and completed her first ever junior parkrun! What a fantastic achievement and such great dedication from Sophie. I am looking forward to hearing about more of you getting involved and taking part in this amazing initiative each week.

We were thrilled to receive some amazing news about one of our students this week. Charlton in Sycamore won 2nd place in London South Schools Table Tennis Individual Competitions at Wallington County Grammar School. What a superb achievement and so wonderful to hear about the hard work and dedication which goes on outside of school. We're so proud of you Charlton and hope you keep working hard on the wonderful gift you have!



E-Safety - Instagram



Did you know?....

- **You must be at least 13 years old to use the Service**
- **Although Instagram does not claim ownership of your posts, you inadvertently give permission for Instagram to use all parts of your posts by agreeing to the Privacy Notice.**

World Thinking Day

World Thinking Day is a celebration of ten million girls worldwide that has taken place on every 22 February since 1926. It remains a day for all Guides and Girl Scouts to think of each other and celebrate their sisters all around the world. So for this day all Guides and Girl Scouts can attend school in their school uniform.

Wednesday Word

Please click on the link below to access the weekly Wednesday Word:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/growing?pid=MTA101634&v=25.6>