

St Mary's CofE Primary School

Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving God's Creation

Friday 10th February 2023

Newsletter 11

Our core Christian Values: Compassion, Koinonia (Community), Courage, Creativity, Service, Truthfulness

Multi -Sports Event

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, some of the children participated in a joint Multi-Sports Event alongside Trinity Church School.

The children had an amazing time playing a variety of sports as well as making new friends. Each child participated in Handball, Hockey and Tag Rugby.

"Hockey was really fun." ET (Y5)

"I liked playing handball because it was really entertaining." CB (Y4)

"I scored four goals in hockey." DB (Y6)

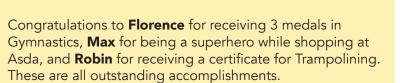
"Rugby was a great game to get to know everyone because you have to speak to the other players." JT (Y5)

"Rugby was very energetic and when you scored - it was fun!" JT (Y6)





Outside Achievements



House Points Winners

Well done to the **Emerald** Team for being our House Point winners this term.

Attendance Winners

Congratulations to **Eagles** last week and this week **Rabbits** for excellent attendance.

Christian Values Awards

The children recognised for demonstrating our Christian Values over the last two weeks are:

Courage	Рорру
Compassion	Noah L, Charlie R.
	Freddie W-J
Service	James, David, Jenson
Creativity	Oliver





Reading Booknic Event

What a fabulous day we had last Friday at our first **Young Readers Event**. There was a real buzz around the school and it was even labelled *'the best school day ever'* by Aidan in Year 3!

The day was filled with lots of story-telling and reading and ended with the children choosing their very own book to take home and keep.

This is the first of three **Young Readers Events**, we hope the day sparked excitement and has the children eager for the next one.

Our day had a *Teddy Bear's Picnic* theme and involved us making book-themed bunting for our classrooms, decorating cupcakes to look like teddy bears, and going on a *Bear Hunt* on the school grounds. We then tucked into the yummy cupcakes whilst sharing our new books.

It was lovely to see the children in Lions, Badgers, and Foxes working together, helping one another and having lots of fun.





Speak Out Competition

Lily, Mog and Elsie competed at the *MNSP Speak Out competition* this week. They debated whether primary school children should be given homework. They all spoke with clarity, conviction and confidence when debating in front of a large audience. They represented the school with distinction and should feel extremely proud of themselves. Well done Lily, Mog and Elsie!





INTERNET SAFETY DAY

This week classes have been taking part in additional internet safety activities. This year's theme of 'Let's talk about it' has sparked lots of conversations about being safe online.

With the help of our Digital Leader team, Ks2 and Ks1 took part in internet safety assemblies which looked at things that might go wrong online, what we can do about it and who can help us.

Each class has been thinking about who they can talk to if they have a problem online, both at school and at home. Activities have included, live lessons with the BBC, role play, story creating, ranking issues and board game creation.

With your help, *Safer Internet Day 2023* can be a springboard for conversations that shape how we talk about and respond to online issues, not just for one day, but throughout the whole year. So when you're at home or out and about, try making space for conversations about life online.

If you would like more information about keeping your child safe online click on this link: <u>https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023/parents-and-carers</u>

Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to the children who received a Headteacher Award.

Ducklings: Rabbits: Badgers: Foxes: Lions: Eagles: Olivia, Amelie Kiereese, Dexter M Freddie, Bella Pippi, Molly Mog, Milly and Matilda Owen, Leah Mai



Children's Mental Health Week



This week has been *Children's Mental Health Week*. Each class has been thinking about how we can care for our mental health and find time to be calm and share any worries or concerns we may have.

Activities have included mindfulness, yoga, sharing stories, working together to be creative, artwork, and spending time being still and calm. The theme for the week has been *Let's Connect* and the children have also been thinking about the importance of relationships and how that can help with our sense of well-being.

We have also taken part in *Dress to Express day* where we could come into school wearing our own clothes, expressing ourselves in whatever way we wanted to.

This is such an important issue - thank you for your support and donations to the charity Place2Be which provides mental health support services for children and young people. Some helpful information for parents and carers has been provided by Place2Be and is attached to this newsletter or you can visit

https://www.place2be.org.uk/

Hedgehogs

Class News:



Wow, these past few weeks have been so exciting in Hedgehogs. We had a lot of fun making apple crumble last week. After discussing the components we would need and the order in which we would mix and cook the ingredients, we made some wonderful crumbles ourselves. Yum!

The children met some amazing pets belonging to the children in Ducklings Class including a gorgeous puppy and pony.

This week is *Children's Mental Health Week*, we made a special trip to *The Lodge*, a special classroom in the school, where we relaxed with breathing exercises, affirmations, and peaceful meditation.

We have been thinking about *Valentine's Day* and all of the people that are special to us, while also taking full advantage of the sun's appearance by spending a lot of time outside and of course, going on numerous welly walks.

EYFS Team





Ducklings



Class News:

We have had a fantastic fortnight in Ducklings Class with some very exciting learning opportunities being provided for the children.

Last week, we learnt all about the role of a vet and how we could take care of animals. We were very lucky to have a visit from *Peanut* and Butter the Guinea Pigs, Victor the Tortoise, Bowser the Rabbit, Waffles the Puppy and Toby the Shetland Pony! The generosity of our school community in giving their time to come and share these amazing animals with us blew us away. Thank you to you all, we absolutely loved the experience.

This week, we have enjoyed learning how to keep our minds healthy. Every day this week we have used our chime to practise the skill of *stilling*, breathing slowly and deeply to ease any tensions in our bodies. We have talked about the things that make us happy and sad and what we can do if we ever feel like we need help. The children have been fantastic at being respectful and listening to others' ideas.

In Phonics, the progress the children have made in their writing has been phenomenal! We have very much enjoyed learning lots of new *2 letters, 1 sound.* Look out for these in our reading books as they will be popping up more frequently next term.

Well done Ducklings, a fantastic term for you all.

Mrs Winney & Mrs Munro



Rabbits Class News:

How have we reached the end of Term 3 already? It's been a very busy end-of-term with lots going on in Rabbit Class.

On Monday we had a lovely afternoon showcasing our amazing Maths skills with parents and family members. We taught them how to play Maths games and use our resources to support our Maths skills. Thank you to those who were able to join us.

Each day this week we have spent time focusing on our mental health as part of *Children's Mental Health Week*. We have thought about who is important to us and how we are connected to them, making rainbows, taken part in yoga, learned some breathing exercises and read stories with lots of positive messages, we particularly liked *'Tilda Tries Again'*, it sparked lots of conversations about not giving up!

We have also been taking part in Safer Internet Day. We learned about the story *'Hanni and the Magic Window'* and discussed who we could go to for help with a problem, online or offline. Then we had great fun creating our magic windows.

On top of all of that, in English, we have finished writing our story innovations of the *'Storm Whale'.* There have been some brilliant creativity in them!

As Historians, we have explored old toys and games, with marbles being a big hit with the class. As Scientists, we've been describing different seasons and as Artists, we've designed logos to celebrate the anniversary of Conygre hall.

As we approach the end of another term and the halfway point in our year, I just want to mention how amazing Rabbit Class are. They work hard, have kind hearts, and support each other as one big team. I am looking forward to next term where we will be starting a new history topic all about *Transport*.

Have a restful half-term!

Mrs. Roberts



Badgers Class News:



What a busy term we have had! It has been non-stop in Badgers Class over the past two weeks. We had a very enjoyable afternoon with parent and family members coming to join us for a DT-themed afternoon. The children have been learning about structures and what makes a structure strong and stable. They put this knowledge to the test by creating a chair for *Baby Bear*, because *Goldilocks* broke his favourite chair. They had to use a variety of different materials and it was interesting hearing their opinions about which materials worked best.

We have also taken part in *Children's Mental Health Week* and have spent time talking about the connections we have with special people in our lives and how these people and those relationships can help us.

In Computing, we have been learning about *Programming* and have been creating algorithms for how to move a *Beebot* around a course that the children designed. The children had to think carefully about the level of detail they included in their instructions so that the *Beebot* knew where to go.

Finally, we were lucky enough to receive a visit from Reverend Blewett who presented the children with their own Bible. The children have really enjoyed looking through these very special books and a huge thank you goes to Reverend Blewett and the church for giving these to us.

Well done for all your hard work this term Badgers!







Class News:



Term 3 seems to have flown by! What a term it has been!

Our DT Topic culminated in us designing and making our tarts. This was hugely successful and it was great to see children trying new fruits and vegetables. The highlight was Poppy finding her new favourite vegetable - asparagus.

We had a brilliant time at the *Booknic* making bunting, going on a *Bear Hunt*, decorating cupcakes and choosing our very own book to take home. Thanks to Zach and Maggie's mum and Mrs Roper for the yummy cupcakes! We hope the first of these three events has sparked a love of reading.

This week, we have celebrated Children's Mental Health Week and have been taking part in a range of events aimed at improving our mental health. We kicked our week off with a *Taskmaster Challenge* to make the best rainbow we could. It was great to see the children being creative and working together.

In Jigsaw, we worked in teams to design a garden for a group of people facing a challenge. The children designed gardens for the elderly, people with hearing impairments, those who have lost loved ones and the ill just to name a few. They worked within a budget and came up with an opening event. They worked well in their teams and showed great consideration of how to adapt their gardens to suit the users' needs.

In Maths, we have been learning the *8 times table*. Ask the children about their favourite saying to help them remember 8x8.

Finally, thank you for coming to our Parent Workshop. We hope you enjoyed our Ukulele performance and Science showcase.

Have a lovely half term,

Miss Guest and Mrs Downing

Lions



Class News:

What an amazing fortnight in Lion Class.

We had a fabulous Friday completing lots of book-based activities and were delighted to choose a new book to take home. *The Teddy Bears' Picnic'* was a brilliant way to finish our activities. In the afternoon, we created fantastic multimedia self-portraits in our Parent Workshop. We had great fun showing our creative talents to our parents. The children were surprised at how different everyone's artwork looked.

Lion Class participated in a BBC live lesson as part of *Safer Internet Day* and considered what we worry about online and thought about the best strategies to help us, for example, blocking a user.

During *Children's Mental Health Week*, we have completed a series of challenges from *Taskmaster Education*. We created rainbows, invented new games, choreographed a dance routine and created self-portraits using natural materials. We also solved a series of puzzles answering a special question on Friday.

In English lessons, we have planned, written and edited a narrative that built tension. We described how a person is feeling through their physical actions and we've used a range of literary devices to build suspense.



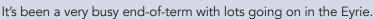
Mrs. Hayward





Class News:

Eagles



Reverend Blewett and a representative from the *Bibles for Children* charity came in to present each of our class with their very own copy of the *Good News Bible*. We would like to thank them for their kind donations. Our Eagles certainly enjoyed having a look through these special books.

We have enjoyed developing our gymnastic skills in PE this term and our latest session created the most excitement yet as we coached each other through the different ways in which we can use *flight* from hands to travel over apparatus. We looked at a range of vaults that progressively became more technical. It was good fun!

Also in Term 3, we have been exploring 3D modelling in our computing sessions. Using an online app called *Tinkercad*, we have been learning how to manipulate and modify digital 3D objects, rotating, duplicating and grouping them to create our 3D name badges which have the potential to be 3D printed. It has been brilliant to see the children's enthusiasm for this project and their enjoyment of trying something a bit different on the computers.

Finally, thank you to those parents who were able to come in and join us for one of our Science lessons. Our current topic is *Light* and we have been learning about how light travels and reflects off objects to enable us to see things. We embarked on an ambitious project to design and make our periscopes to enhance our understanding of these scientific ideas. It wasn't easy but was another exciting and different activity to motivate our Year 6 learners and the support from our visiting adults during this session was very much appreciated.

As we reach the halfway mark in this academic year, I would like to say a huge well done and thank you to all of our amazing Eagles for representing our class so brilliantly and working so hard. I'm looking forward to spending the second half of the year with you all and seeing how much more we can achieve together.

Mr Daniels

Christian Value -Courage



Our Christian Value this term is Courage. This week, we explored what it meant to be courageous, using this acrostic poem:

- C Carrying on when things are tricky
- O Overcoming fear
- U Understanding and facing challenges
- R Risk being out of your comfort zone
- A Always believing
- G Going for a goal
- E Empowering yourself

"Remember that I have commanded you to be determined and confident! Don't be afraid or discouraged, for I, the LORD your God, am with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Bible Presentation

Last week, we welcomed Ruth Reeve from the charity Bibles for Children to St Mary's, along with Reverend Blewett. They came to present children in years 2 and 6 with their very own copy of the Bible. Our thanks go to *Timsbury Churches* Together for sponsoring this. We hope the children enjoy their Bibles and get much pleasure from them for years to come.



Leadership Teams

By Mia (Y6) St Mary's News Team

We have multiple leadership teams in our school. They all help our school in many different ways. The teams are:

School Council:	Albie, Indigo, Robin, Molly, Jude, Lola P, Esme, Louie.
Eco leaders:	Noah, Luca, Pippi, Charlie B, Felix B, Isaac, Leah-Mai.
The News Team:	Liam, Jayden, Violet, Emily R, Willow, Lily M, Heidi, Mia and Esme.
The Digital Team:	Evelyn, Freddie, Joe B, Zach T, Bobbi, Alex, Shay.
Global Links Team:	Rowan, Lottie, Martha, Casper, Spike, Jasmine, Lola G, Freddy, Freddie.
Worship Champions:	Harrison, Merryn, Bear, Ronnie, Alissa, Freddie P.
Library Monitors:	Oscar, Evie, John, Edith, Isabella, Daisy, Amelia.
Play Leaders:	Rosalie, Leo, Sol, Phoebe, Finlay, Oscar, Jack, Noah, Digby, Florence.
Equalities team:	Bea, Dawson, Tavie, Imogen, Ava, Ben M, Matilda, Evie, Lily.

Each team plays a part in helping our school community.

We talked to some of the teams' members about what they like about the teams:

Louie and Robin from the School Council said, "We like the school council because we get to do assemblies on important things about the school."

Pippi and Isaac from the Eco Team said, "I like that we help the wild and do things like litter picks and help the environment. I like the idea of making a bee garden too."

Alex from the Digital Team said, *"I like being on this team because you can do a lot with computers. I think the internet has infinite possibilities."*

Lily and Willow from the News Team said, *"I like Journalism and like writing up the news about the school. I like it when we interview people."*

We talked to Ronnie in the Worship Team who said, *"I like coming up to the front and doing important assemblies. I also like planning things in church."*

Evie from Equalities said, "I like that if something isn't right or equal I am someone to sort it out. It is a lot of responsibility."

Noah, who is one of the Play Leaders, said, *"I like to help tidy up stuff in the shed and put stuff away with friends."*

Jasmine from Global Links said, "In global links, we find people from around the world and welcome people to our school."

Edith, who is on the Library Team, said, "We sort books which is fun because I am organized and I like books."

We talked to some people around the school about what they thought about the leadership teams and they said that they think that school leaders are going to make the school a better place.

Dates for your Calendar 2022/23 - Term 3

Date	Event	Notes
27th February - 3rd March	Book Week	Whole School
2nd March	World Book Day	Whole School
7th March	Mid-Somerset Festival	Y1-Y6
17th March	Comic Relief	Whole School
21st March	Dance Umbrella	Y1/Y2
21st March	Down Syndrome Day	Whole School
30th March	Easter Service at St.Mary's Church	Whole School

He's Back!



We are pleased to announce that GB Paralympic Goalkeeper Giles Moore will be returning to visit our holiday camps this February Half Term.



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FREE MUSEUM ENTRY FOR FAMILIES THIS HALF TERM!

11th - 20th February

Maximum 2 free adult entries per child $\gamma_{\mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{Y}}}}$ All under 18s go free!

See **www.holburne.org** for creative activities available this holiday

Don't miss:

Alberta Whittle: Dipping below a waxing moon, the dance claims us for release **27 January to 8 May** Illustrating the World: Woodcuts in the Age of Dürer **21 January to 23 April**

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