

## **St Mary's CofE Primary School**

Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving God's Greation

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

Newsletter 12

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

### **Book Week!**

Wow! What a brilliant **Book Week** we have had!

The Book at Bedtime event was a real success and it was lovely to see so many children choosing to come back to school to enjoy a story. The hot chocolates went down well and the teachers much preferred it to their usual staff meetings!

We were blown away by the fabulous costumes which were created for World Book Day on Friday. We have some very creative families and it was wonderful to see such a wide variety of characters we're very well-read in Timsbury!

The children took part in a range of activities and competitions across the course of the week. We designed book sleeves for mystery books, completed book reviews, made our own bookmarks, read with different classes and took part in online events.

To recognise all of the winners in the **Book Week** Competitions as well as our Extreme Readers, our Celebration Assembly had to be far longer than usual.

Thank you so much for your support this week with costumes, entering competitions and making our first Book at Bedtime a success. We look forward to many more events like this one and hope it has inspired the children to pick up a book!





DAY 2 MARCH 2023 -

# FOREST SCHOOL

This week at Forest School, the weather was beautiful. Around the fire, Eagles delighted in cooking bread and making s'mores. Common birds were spotted, sketched, and they then created their nests in Rabbit and Badger Class. All of the children at St.Mary's were able to enjoy free time and space to explore and play in the Forest School area.





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

T - Trustworthy words and actions

**Christian Value -**

Truthfulness

- R Respect for doing the right thing
- U Uncovering the full picture
- T Telling it as it is
- H Having all the facts

"These are the things you should do: Speak the truth to one another." (Zachariah 8:16)

## **School Lunches**

Please remember to book your school lunches, the cut off point in 10pm on Thursday for the following week. There has been a significant improvement on the number of lunches being pre-booked, for which we are very grateful. If we can get *ALL* parents pre-booking, that would be ideal - we cannot guarantee your child can have the food they want if they have not pre-booked

#### Attendance

We have a high standard of attendance and we are very proud of this – our children WANT to be in school!

If your child needs to be absent from school, please let us know by 9.00 am so that we know your child is safe. If you do not contact the school, a member of staff will ring home to ensure your child's safety. Your child's absence can only be authorised for illness and medical appointments. The school Education Welfare Officer regularly checks our registers for absence. If a child is frequently absent from school the EWO (Education Welfare Officer) will visit and offer advice to parents and families.

Parents frequently ask about taking their child out from school during term time for a family holiday. We hope that whenever possible parents will arrange their holidays to fit into the school's academic timetable. It is a MAT & School Policy **NOT** to authorise **ANY** holiday during term time unless there are **VERY EXCEPTIONAL** circumstances.

https://www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com/ uploads/files/attendance-expectations-27.pdf

#### Pupil Progress Meetings



Pupil progress meetings will be happening on Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th March. Please look out for a letter with more information at the start of next week.

### Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to the children who received a Headteacher Award.

Ducklings: Rabbits: Badgers: Foxes: Lions:

Eagles:

Spencer, Rowan Indigo, Willow Bella, Theo L Ronnie, Emily H Kaito, Jenson, Jasmine and Jude Digby, Louie



### **Outside Achievements**

**Ronnie** received a trophy and a medal at his football-themed birthday celebration. In the Gymnastics Bar and Beam Competition, **Ava** got three medals. **Lottie**, **Agnes**, **Dexter**, **Spike** and **Digby** were all superstars in the water and received their well-earned certificates.

## Hedgehogs



#### **Class News:**

In Hedgehogs, we have enjoyed a wonderful two weeks following Half-Term.

On **Pancake Day**, we all practised flipping and decorating pretend pancakes before making our own and enjoying a variety of delicious toppings in the afternoon.

We have enjoyed reading our new book for the term 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see?' By Bill Martin and Eric Carle. The children are loving this book, and it has inspired us to do a lot of animal and colour-related activities! To hang on our wall, we are making large images of every animal in the book.

This week is **Book Week**, and we have, as always, shared lots of stories. We have also made bookmarks, enjoyed our "*Going on a Bear Hunt*" tuff tray, gone on our own Bear Hunt through the school grounds, and dressed as our favourite fictional characters.

In the past few weeks, a few new students have joined Hedgehogs, and we are so proud of how well they have adjusted.





## Ducklings



#### **Class News:**

As part of **British Science Month** Duckling Class will be exploring the theme '*Life on Land*'. This week we looked at planet earth from space and noticed that it was made up of lots of green/yellow '*land*' and so much blue '*water*'. The children thought about what they might find on the land and learned about the different types of animals that we have. We discussed the various '*habitats*' of these animals and we wondered what it might be like to have a world without animals - this made us quite sad. We knew that looking after our animals was important and discussed some of the ways we could help animals to '*exist*'. Some children suggested keeping our '*oceans*' and '*land*' clear of rubbish and others said that making sure animals were safe was an important thing to do.

In English, we have loved learning our new class text 'The Little Red Hen'. This week the children performed and wrote their favourite line from the story and I was blown away by some of their sentences!

A great start to our new topic Ducklings!

Mrs Winney & Mrs Munro







Welcome back for Term 4 and what a great start Rabbits have had. In English, we have been busy researching *whales* and writing our non-chronological reports full of interesting facts, we can't wait to share them with you when they're done!

In Maths, the class has been using their knowledge of *number bonds* to add numbers together, spot patterns and solve problems.

In History, we have been comparing *communication throughout time*, Rabbits were amazed to discover phones were not always small enough to fit in pockets! In the classroom we have created our timeline and are busy adding to it as we find out more facts from history, we have added everything we've learned so far. Did you know the first teddy bear was created back in 1903?

Finally, we took part in lots of exciting activities as part of **Book Week**. We learned how to draw "Dave the Pigeon" from a real illustrator, we heard famous authors tell their stories and have been able to ask them questions. A highlight has been Julia Donaldson sharing her newest book and Axel Sheffler creating his illustration in minutes. Rabbit Class could not believe how talented he was. There has been lots of inspiration floating around this week to become an author or illustrator.

We've also been lucky enough to have lots of visitors read us stories, we have had Joe's Mum, Jayden Great Gran, Mrs. Purnell, Dexter's Dad and Mrs. Winney! We love having people share stories with us, thank you!

All in all, it's been a fantastic celebratory week with a love of reading permeating Rabbit Class.

Mrs. Roberts

## Badgers Class News:



Welcome back to Term 4! We have had a fantastic start to this new term and the Badgers have come back with their usual energy and enthusiasm for their learning which is wonderful to see. In Maths, we have been learning about *multiplication* and *division* and have been using practical resources to help us understand grouping and sharing.

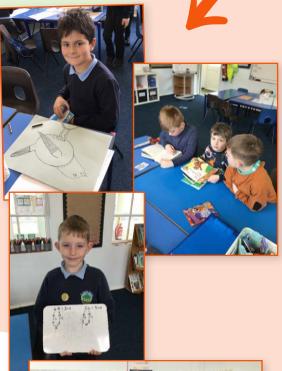
In English, the children wrote some fantastic poems about "10 things that could be found in a witch's handbag". Their vocabulary choices and descriptive writing were brilliant and we had a great time reading our poetry to each other.

In Forest School, the children have been thinking about *Springtime* and building nests for birds. They also enjoyed eating pancakes outside in the outdoor area.

Finally, we have enjoyed celebrating **World Book Day** all this week by doing as many book-related activities as we can. We joined in with a live webinar from the author and illustrator of the *"Dave Pigeon"* books. The children each drew their own *"Dave Pigeon"* character following the guidance and instructions from Sheena Dempsey, the Illustrator. We have also joined in with **Book at Bedtime**, enjoyed paired reading with children in different classes, shared our favourite books, designed our book covers and written the blurb to a book. All in all, it's been a week full of fantastic book activities!



Mrs. Brown





## Foxes



#### **Class News:**

Welcome back!

The term has started with a bang! We have hit the ground running and Foxes Class has taken it all in their stride.

In Maths, we have been working on *dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number* working with increasingly complex numbers and methods. A big challenge was having to be aware of multiples and have confidence in our times tables.

In English, we have been writing our *playful poems*. We tried to include *alliteration*, *onomatopoeia* and *personification*. Once we learned about these literary techniques we have been finding them everywhere.

Our new dance unit in PE is *line dancing*! We have loved learning the routines and trying to stay on time. Make sure you ask them to show you their moves.

Finally, we have had a fabulous **Book Week** culminating in a spectacular **World Book Day**. We read a really funny book called *'Fluff the Farting Fish'* which I am sure you can imagine went down a storm. We designed our book sleeves for it and wrote some super book reviews. We read stories with children in other classes as well as designed our own bookmarks. A tiring but terrific two weeks - see what we did there?

Miss Guest and Mrs Downing

### Lions Class News:



Another fantastic fortnight in Lion Class.

In Science, this term we have investigated the *water in our world*. Mrs. Hayward made some very dirty water which we needed to clean. The class was really surprised at how clean the final filtered water looked and went on to investigate how much water is wasted if a tap is left on for two minutes and were amazed at how much water was wasted! We had great fun creating and decorating water butts (made from milk bottles) and hung these in the playground and cannot wait for it to rain to see how much rainwater has been harvested.

In Computing, we have started to understand *databases* and created one about animals on paper; sorting the information was challenging.

In Maths, we have been learning more about *tenths*, *hundredths* and *thousandths* in *decimals* and linking them to our prior learning about fractions.

In English, we have been writing a newspaper report about the amazing *Philippe Petit* - who walked between the towers of the World Trade Center and were fascinated to learn more about his life.

We really enjoyed **World Book Week**, and created a brand new cover for a mystery book - this was great fun. We have written book reviews and created amazing bookmarks.

Mrs. Hayward



### Eagles Class News:



The Eagles have made a great start to Term 4, launching themselves into some different and exciting topics and projects.

In our English lessons, we have become journalists and have been investigating how *news reports* are written. On Friday 24th February, we spent some time commemorating the anniversary of the start of the conflict in Ukraine. We looked at how reporters have covered this world event on the CBBC Newsround website.

In Maths, we have been learning about the *similarities* and *differences* between ratios and fractions, whilst also beginning to understand what algebra is and how it might be useful to us in real life.

Our school is taking part in *British Science Week* this term and our Year 6 project is to learn all about *affordable* and *clean energy*. The Eagles have been understanding the terms *watts*, *amps* and *volts* and we enjoyed predicting which electrical appliances are more expensive to run than others. We were very surprised to find out that television uses much fewer Watts than a kettle or a hairdryer.

We have continued to have fun, keeping active and staying healthy, during our PE lessons. We particularly enjoyed the hockey tournament we held in our final session. Everybody demonstrated the excellent skills we have been learning and practising over the previous weeks.

Finally, we took part in a live BBC lesson on *Safer Internet Day*, helping to develop a new video game and defeat the evil villain *Master Malware*! We had to solve safety issues in the fictional *'Digital Defence Squad'* game and unlock advice from famous gamers and cyber-savvy celebrities. We also explored some of the risks of online gaming and discussed how to stay safe online.

Mr Daniels









#### **St Mary's School Latest News**



St Mary's News Team

We have had a good start to 2023 here at St Mary's.

Two police officers came to the school to talk about their job. They were Community Safety Police where they go on calls that are part of a bigger investigation, knocking on people's doors to ask them if they had witnessed anything. We all had a very nice time listening and talking to them. We got to ask questions to them. They also visited Year 6 to talk about online safety.

In Year 3, they have been learning about eating seasonally in DT. They made fruit kebabs and drizzled plum sauce over them. They also made a mix of sweet and savory pastries. They are making three different courses to taste new foods.

Reception Class have been having visits from a rabbit, tortoise, guinea pigs, and a Shetland pony. The guinea pigs were Rosie's and they were called Peanut and Butter. The class learned how you care for the guinea pigs and learned what they ate. They also all got a turn stroking them.

They also had a tortoise and a rabbit visit, which were Rowan's. The tortoise was called Victor and Rowan told them how he hibernates and that they eat flowers and lettuce. His rabbit, Bowzer, is white and grey and they found out that you need to stroke rabbits lots and feed them hay.

Lastly, there was a Shetland pony called Toby. The class got to take turns stroking the Shetland and Rosie's mum told them that the horse was very old even though he was super short and showed them the grey hairs on Toby's forehead. She also showed them Toby's big teeth and some of the Receptions fed him grass. Toby then walked down the path in front of the school where they could all watch him. It was a very fun experience.

Last term was filled with a lot of fun and excitement and we hope to have more this term.

### The Teddy Bear Picnic and Book Fair

#### By Lily and Willow (Y4/5)

St Mary's News Team

On Friday 3rd February 2023, Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 had a teddy bear picnic.

We brought in one teddy each to school. We got to decorate a cupcake to look like a bear and we ate them at the picnic before lunch. We all loved our cupcakes and Mrs. Hayward took a picture to remember that awesome day. We interviewed some people:

Felix told us he liked that we brought our teddy bear into school and decorated the cupcakes.

Ben said," I liked decorating the cupcakes."

We also hosted a Book Fair. We were split into six groups so we didn't have too many people in each classroom. In Year 3's and Year 2's classrooms, we made cakes and ate them during the Teddy bear picnic. Another activity was the Teddy Bear Hunt and in the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds, there were 20 pictures of teddy bears that you had to tick off on the chart you were given. It was hosted by Mrs. Brown. The last activity was making book bunting and we had to pick our favourite book and draw the front cover on the paper bunting. At the end we had some stories read to us and when our groups were called up we went into the hall and we got to pick out a free book to take home. We had a great day, but Miss Guest said there might be something similar happening later in the year.

We interviewed some more people and Elsie said that her favourite thing about the Book Fair was getting a free book. Lily also said that she liked getting a new book and she loved reading it at home.

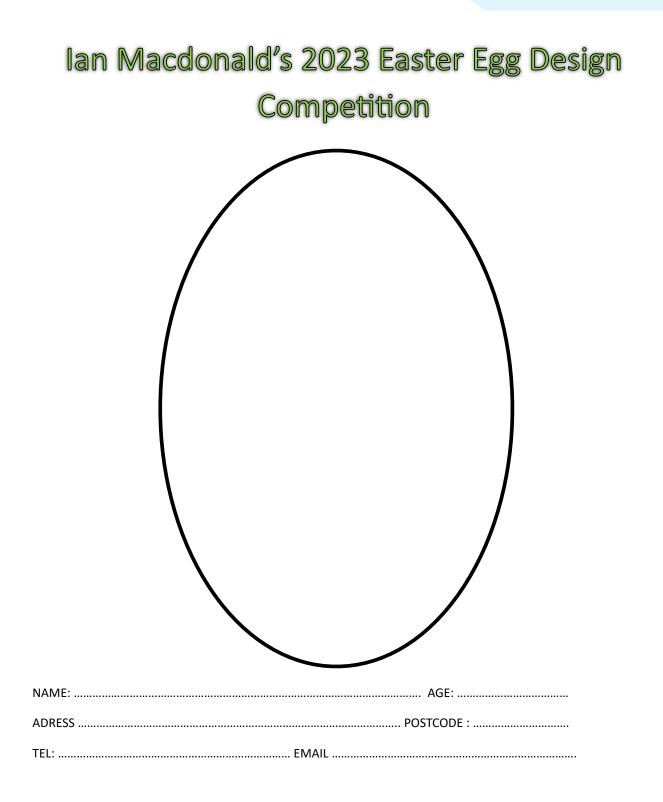
Date	Event	Notes
7th March	Mid-Somerset Festival	Y1-Y6
17th March	Comic Relief	Whole School
21st March	Dance Umbrella	Y1/Y2
21st March	Down Syndrome Day	Whole School
27th and 28th March	Parent / Teacher Meetings	Whole School
30th March	Easter Service at St.Mary's Church	Whole School

#### Dates for your Calendar 2022/23 - Term 4

### **Internet Safety- Roblox**

Roblox is one of the most popular games that children want to play online. The recommended PEGI age is 7+ but some of the games that children can access do have a horror element to them with characters that can seem innocent but are upsetting to some children. Please see the poster as a guide for parents, which outlines some of the risks. Please take some time to talk to your child if they are a fan of this game to check that they are not accessing upsetting images.





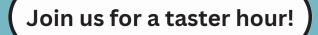
Competition Rules One Winner and two runners-up from each age group 0-7 years and 7-11 years. All entries become the property of Ian Macdonald Insurance Brokers. Closing Date Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2023 Winners will be notified by phone or email on Friday 3 <sup>1st</sup> March 2023. Any winner or runner-up not contacted that day will be notified by post. Prizes will be presented on Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April at 11:30am at Ian Macdonald's Insurance Services Office in Midsomer Norton.	113 High Street, Midsomer Norton BA3 2DA 01761 416937
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We are currently looking for people to help us deliver safety education to children via our exciting interactive village based in central Bristol

Guiding - which includes working with small groups of children and delivering interactive safety activities Hosting - which includes running an opening and closing talk with the children and supporting teachers

Where you can learn about Lifeskills mission, the different roles we offer and have a tour of our realistic village





Wednesday 12th April is the next scheduled taster hour please contact the email below for more information and to book your place!

If you are interested in volunteering for Lifeskills, please call or email for more information. 0117 922 4511 volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk



#### Swapping "Swapping GROWING LOCAL SEEDS

What is Seedy Saturday? We are a local event that offers growers at all stages and ages the chance to share their own seeds, exchange tips and experiences, browse local products and get involved in community activities. Every year there's lots to see and do with something for all the family.

Alongside the community seed swap, this 13th anniversary event has stalls selling seeds and potatoes, spring bulbs and plants, homemade produce, local crafts, plant-based products and gifts. Plus, displays and activities, expert talks and advice, and tasty treats from the kitchen café.

By growing, saving and swapping seeds, you can help to keep some wonderful old varieties alive, conserve biodiversity and create locally adapted varieties.

So come and 'Get Seedy!' Bring your seeds, family & friends, and let's have fun swapping, sharing, growing & learning.

## Enter our prize draw for your chance to win one of three prizes!

If you would like to be kept informed of future events, including next year's event to be held on Saturday 9 March 2024, please write your name and address on the back of this slip, bring it with you to Seedy Saturday 2023 and pop it in the box on the Get Seedy! stand. You will then be entered into our prize draw with a chance to win...

> 1<sup>st</sup> prize - £20 gift voucher and seeds 2<sup>nd</sup> prize - £10 gift voucher and seeds 3<sup>rd</sup> prize - £5 gift voucher







## Seedy Saturday The 13<sup>th</sup> Seed Swap, Potato Day & Green Fair

Saturday 11 March 2023 10am - 2pm

#### The Conygre Hall, Timsbury, BA2 OJQ

- Bring seeds to swap or make a donation if you have no seeds to exchange
- Browse heritage and organic seeds, potatoes, onions, shallots, garlic and plants for sale
- Purchase local preserves, crafts, home-grown and plant-based products
- with inspiring expert talks and advice from local growers • Fun displays

· Pick up growing tips

- Fun aisplays and activities for all the family
  Find out about and
- get involved locally with groups dedicated to gardening, wildlife and sustainable lifestyles



The Kitchen Café

#### Get Seedy! with Seedy Saturday

Swapping • Sharing • Growing • Learning www.seedysaturday.org.uk • seedswap@getseedy.co.uk

## **Exhibitors and Stallholders (A-Z)**

Avon whome host	avonwildilleriosi.org.ok	Du
	Locally based environmental charity, dedicated to securing a sustainable future for wildlife and people through nature reserves, events, education,	Local E
	voluntary opportunities, monitoring and research.	Timm
Beans and Herbs	beansandherbs.co.uk	
	Specialising in organic seed of vegetables and herbs for home growers and allotment holders. Huge range of bean and herb seeds.	
Pountiful Earth	bountiful-earth.com	Weleda Advisor
Boonnior Earn	Local herb walks and notebooks with nature-inspired art prints. Sharing knowledge of plants, the earth, natural cycles, and seasonal living.	Advisor
	facebook.com/CameleyandCluttonToad Saving the amphibians of Cameley and Clutton from being killed on the roads. The success of saving amphibians is growing every year.	E
	cvwg.org.uk	
wildlife Group	An independent local wildlife group actively involved in wildlife conservation and enjoyment, based in the catchments of the Cam and Wellow Brooks.	
Eloise Crump	Selling plants and sunflower seeds to raise funds for Eloise to attend the 2023 World Scout Jamboree in South Korea.	11.00am
	flamingopaperie.co.uk/web/sarahhamblin Exceptional quality, beautiful cards and gift wrap for everyday and special occasions that you simply cannot do without!	12.00pm
Usha Oil	hebeoil.com	All detai
hebe Oil	An organic, handmade body, face and hair oil — an all in one beautiful, natural product for everyone, made entirely from plant-derived ingredients.	Exhibitor
	katewestcott.com	
Designs	Intricate designs of simple beauty on soft earthy linens, from stark winter trees, to bunches of tiny flowers of cow parsley in spring, these incredible images inspire	
	Kate all year round and appear in her work.	Ente
Pennard Plants	pennardplants.com Potatoes, potatoes, potatoes — 50+ varieties sold by the tuber. Also, heritage	Nam
	vegetable and flower seeds, onion sets, rhubarb crowns, fruit bushes and trees and unusual tubers to grow and eat. "Grow what you can't buy!"	Emai
		Posto
Community Forest	rockawaypark.co.uk/community-garden An ongoing project to create a forest garden built on permaculture principles	
Garden	and that's accessible to all. A beautiful space, an educational resource and a wealth of biodiversity that benefits the community and environment.	
RSPB	rspb.org.uk	Terms
	Now the largest nature conservation charity in the country, consistently	Seedy S within s
	delivering successful conservation, forging powerful new partnerships with other organisations, and inspiring others give nature the home it deserves.	or Seed time • E
		11116 • [

- David Thorne David is an avid beekeeper who loves to talk about bees. Find out more about ocal Beekeeper these fascinating and essential insects.
- mmy's Chillies timmyschillies.com Marmalades Made by hand locally and packed with over 50% fresh fruit, they come in a and Jellies range of flavours and heat strengths. "Fruity and delicious, with chilli on the finish!"
- Weleda Wellbeing facebook.com/WellbeingAdvisorStefMillsSomerset Advisor - Stef Mills Offering advice and demonstrations on the organic and natural cosmetic range from Weleda - the oldest organic, biodynamic skin care company in the world.

### **Expert Talks**

Talks take place on the stage. Each talk will last for about 20-30 minutes, with time for questions and answers.

- 1.00am First Aid From Your Garden Helen Gray Malago Medicinals facebook.com/malagomedinicals
- 12.00pm Bees How Does A Colony Work? David Thorne

All details correct at time of going to print. Exhibitors, talks and activities are subject to availability and/or change.

#### nter our prize draw for your chance to win! (details overleaf)

Name:		
Email Address:		
Postal Address:		

Terms and conditions: Only one entry per household • All entries must be made in person at Seedy Saturday 2023 • The draw will be made on Sunday 12 March 2023 and winners notified within seven days • No cash alternative will be given • You will only be contacted by Get Seedy! or Seedy Saturday • Your details will not be passed onto anyone else • You can unsubscribe at any time • Enjoy your garden!