



St Mary's CofE Primary School

Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving God's Creation

Friday 31st March 2023

Newsletter 14

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

Headteacher's Message

It is difficult to comprehend that we have completed two-thirds of our current school year and that there are only two terms left before the summer break. Even though Spring has officially arrived, the weather hasn't made it feel that way. Nevertheless, it is heartening to see daffodils and other Springtime blooms giving bright contrasts of colour to the gloomy, rainy days and to have faith that hopefully, it won't be long before we see a little bit more of the sun!

The children have had a busy Term 4 as the majority of year groups have completed their NFER Math, English, and Reading tests. Both Year 2 and Year 6 are putting in a lot of effort to get ready for their SATs next term, and I have no question that their efforts will pay off with strong results.

Many of you have been into school to attend Parent Workshops and Class Assemblies - I know the children always look forward to their parents and carers being in their classroom and I thank you for making the effort to be here although I know that is not always possible. These will continue through Terms 5 and 6.

I wish you all a happy and safe Easter break. I am looking forward to seeing all of you on Tuesday 18th April, when you will be rested and ready to resume your learning.

Mrs Parsons

Eco Council

Our Eco Team has been busy this term. Isaac, Leah-Mai, Charlie, Pippi, Rafe, Felix, Noah and Luca have been active in keeping track of how much energy we use in and around the school. We were lucky enough to receive a visit from **Energy Sparks** who worked with the Eco Team to understand how much electricity and gas we were currently using and where we could make changes to save energy.

Each classroom has a thermometer, and the team monitors whether it is too warm or too cool to make sure we are using the appropriate amount of energy.



House Points Winners



Well done to **Ruby** for being our House Point winners this Term.

Attendance Winners



Congratulations to the **Foxes** last week and this week's **Eagles** for excellent attendance.

Christian Values Awards



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

Courage	Rabbit and Badger Class
Koinonia	Charlie B, Roscoe
Service	Olivia, Albie, Spike, Oscar E

Headlice

We seem to have a recurring problem with headlice at the moment. Please check your child's hair and treat them if necessary! Your careful attention to this ongoing problem would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

The most effective way to treat head lice is to wash the hair and then apply a conditioner and comb with a fine toothed comb. If lice are present they will become attached to the comb. It is important the hair is checked regularly to prevent any re-infestation.

Please see [Fact Sheet](#).

Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to the children who received a Headteacher Award.

Ducklings:	Ben, Malachy
Rabbits:	Corey, Florence
Badgers:	Theo L, Dawson
Foxes:	Joe B, John
Lions:	Felix M, Felix B
Eagles:	Freddie B, Eleanor



Outside Achievements

Olivia Pope won a Blue Peter badge for entering a competition with a piece of artwork, we are very proud of you Olivia.



Hedgehogs



Class News:

We can't believe how quickly this term has gone, we have been having so much fun in Hedgehogs!

In the last couple of weeks, we have thrown ourselves into our Easter celebrations. The children enjoyed exploring our colourful eggs and helped us build our Easter tree. We made Easter cakes and learned about different ingredients and how to mix them together to make something delicious and of course we enjoyed eating them, yum. The sun came out for us when we did our Easter egg hunt. The children loved hunting for the eggs and recognising the numbers written on them, this led the children to create their own egg hunt for each other which kept them busy for ages!

EYFS Team



Mental Health & Wellbeing:

Parent Smart is a really useful website full of practical tips to support children's well-being and behaviour. It covers all sorts of topics from anxiety, peer pressure, sleep issues, gaming and friendships.

It can be found on the following link:

[Link to Place2Be Parenting Smart](#)



Ducklings



Class News:

So much has happened this fortnight, we have been very busy Ducklings and decided to make use of two large branches that have been in our area. We all worked hard to use the saw to cut up our own logs. We noticed how pretty the tree rings were inside and counted them. Some of us wanted to bang nails into the logs and have fun using the hammers.

The weather wasn't so kind on our welly walk but we had so much fun. The rain poured. Everybody got very wet, but we still found time to enjoy ourselves and learn things about our wonderful world. We enjoyed listening to the lambs in a far-off field. We enjoyed running down the hills, forgetting that we had to run back up them. Even the grownups enjoyed doing that!

Mrs Winney & Mrs Munro



Rabbits



Class News:

How are we at the end of term 4 already?

Last week Rabbit Class showed courage and creativity as they took part in the **Dance Umbrella** at the Bath Forum with year 2. They performed to a sold-out audience and were absolutely incredible! The rest of the school was desperate to see our widely talked about performance so we treated them to our dance in Friday's celebration assembly. In English, we have been writing detailed recounts about our trip.

We also took part in the school's **Science Exhibition** last week. Rabbit Class worked as a whole team to produce a wonderful display about our Science learning this term. They did absolutely everything on the display and worked together to plan how they wanted it to look. We hope you enjoyed learning about life underwater.

In Maths, we have finished *exploring shapes*. Ask us all about the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, we are experts now!

In Art, we have been exploring *paint and mixing colours*. We have used our knowledge of different lines to create some wonderful double-page spreads that ooze creativity.

As Geographers, we have been *observing the weather* more closely. We've used thermometers to track the temperature and have collected lots of rainwater this week!

Have a wonderful Easter holiday Rabbit Class. Enjoy the break and I look forward to seeing you next term!

Mrs. Roberts



Badgers

Class News:



Somehow we are at the end of yet another term and as always, Badger Class has worked hard and had fun with their learning.

The children were very proud to see their work displayed as part of our school **Science Exhibition** and also enjoyed looking around at the work from other classes.

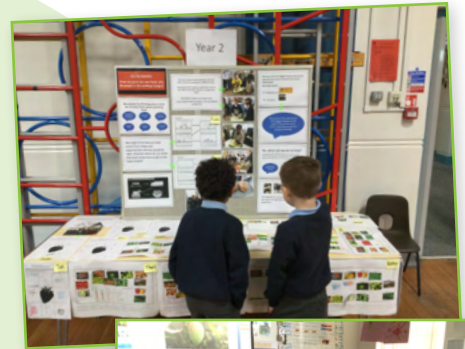
Continuing with Science, we were pleased to have a visit from Paula from the charity **Energy Sparks** visit us. Paula talked to the children about food waste and they were shocked to learn how much food is actually wasted in the UK and then they thought about what they could do to reduce that.

In History, we enjoyed discussing who was to blame for the *Great Fire of London* being such a disaster in 1666. The Badgers were in almost unanimous agreement that it was the lack of action from the Lord Mayor of London in 1666, that made the fire spread so badly. It was interesting hearing the different arguments for and against and then seeing the children vote.

In Computing, we have been looking at *presenting data* and the children learned how to turn their tally charts into a pictogram. They had to work carefully to label their pictograms and then input their data accurately.

Well done for a fantastic term Badgers, wishing you all a wonderful, relaxing Easter break.

Mrs. Brown



Foxes

Class News:



As Term 4 ends, we are so proud of the progress that the children in Foxes have made. They have matured greatly over the last term and their learning behaviours are exemplary.

We have had a busy two weeks culminating in our **Easter Service** at St Mary's Church. The children represented the school brilliantly and definitely brought some Easter cheer on a grey day.

We started our new Maths unit of work on *Measuring* last week. The children enjoyed taking part in a range of measuring activities including working out the size of the playground and calculating how tall they were in meters and centimeters.

In Art, we have continued with our *Stone Age* work and made natural dyes with Mrs. Downing. We experimented with different materials and techniques and created a Stone Age palette.

In PSHE, we have been learning about how to *keep healthy*. We finished our unit of work by creating an poster with our top 5 or 6 facts on healthy living. The children were really good at identifying the need to stay healthy both physically and mentally.

Finally, we would like to wish all of the Foxes Class and their families a restful Easter break. We hope the sun shines and you can get outdoors and enjoy the longer days!

Miss Guest and Mrs Downing



Lions



Class News:

What a wonderful couple of weeks to finish Term 4.

During Maths, we have continued to embed our knowledge of *decimals*, *fractions* and *percentages*. We have also been calculating the perimeter of squares and rectangles.

In English, we have been exploring 'Planet Pandora' as astronauts and writing a non-chronological report about our discoveries on this amazing planet. We used our knowledge of Latin words to give a new creature on Pandora a Latin name - some interesting names were created.

We had great fun putting together all of our learning about 'Why water is so important,' for our **Science Exhibition** as part of **British Science Week**.

In our PSHE classes, we learned some First Aid and practised placing our friends in the *recovery position*. We also wore Odd Socks to celebrate **World Down Syndrome Day**.

Finally, we have been creative in Design and Technology, we worked in small groups to create our unique healthy recipes for bolognese. This was great fun and the wonderful smell of cooking floated through the school. I hope you enjoyed tasting your child's hard work.

Have a wonderful Easter holiday.

Mrs. Hayward



Eagles



Class News:

It's been another busy, productive and enjoyable term in the Eyrie with the Eagles all demonstrating that they have made impressive progress this year through the positive results seen in their recent assessments. I am always so proud of them for the superb effort they put in and also their fantastic learning behaviours, always being so keen to learn from their mistakes and to better themselves.

However, we have had some fun, exciting and interesting projects going on too, including our work for **British Science Week** which you might have seen at the school's exhibition. We used the *Tinkercad* platform on the computers which allows you to design and create 3D virtual models which can be rotated to be viewed from different aspects. Our project involved designing luxury houses that had to be powered using only renewable energy sources, such as wind turbines, solar energy, hydropower and tidal energy. The completed designs were very impressive.

In Dance, we have now begun our next unit which is focussing on *Bhangra*. Bhangra is a folk dance that originated in India and we have been learning a range of different motifs which will be performed in unison to create a whole class routine that should look very effective.

Finally, we have recently been taking part in two national events. **Red Nose Day** for Comic Relief saw us turning up to school in red clothing and then for **World Down Syndrome Day** we have individually planted seeds as a way of demonstrating that, just like our seedlings, we are all slightly different and that is something to be celebrated.

Have a great Easter holiday, Eagles! You've earned yourselves a good break and a restful couple of weeks. Thanks for being such superstars this term.

Mr Daniels

Office News:

School Lunches

Did you get to sample our lovely cooked lunches when you attended Pupil Progress Meetings on Monday? We hope you enjoyed sampling them.

Term 5 Menus will be open for booking from Wednesday the 5th of April and can be booked for the whole term.

Inset Day

First day back will be **Tuesday the 18th of April.**

Young Readers Event 2 - Badgers, Lions and Foxes

After the success of our first event **The Teddy Bear's Booknic** in February, we are excited to share with you the details of our second Young Readers Event days.

The next event will be on **Friday 21st April** and will have a **Heroes Vs Villains theme**, For this event, the children are invited to come into school dressed as a hero or villain from their favourite book, Think *Supertato, The Big Bad Wolf, Miss Trunchbull, Matilda, Voldemort, Harry Potter, Cruella De Vil, or The White Witch*. When you start thinking of them, there are heroes and villains everywhere!

There will be a variety of enjoyable activities at the event, as well as the chance for your child to select a different book to keep. We anticipate even greater success with this event because the previous one was so successful and got the kids buzzing about reading.

If you have any superhero or villain-themed decorations that we could use for the hall and classrooms, please pass them on to your child's class teacher.

WHATSAPP

WhatsApp says the minimum age of use is 16, however many younger children still use this app.

There are various safety risks associated with WhatsApp, such as:

- Bullying, particularly in group chats.
- Risk of exposure to age-inappropriate material
- Threat to safety due to location sharing settings
- Spam and hoax messages
- Group chats with unknown people.

We do not recommend the use of WhatsApp for any Primary School child (due to the age restrictions and outlined risks).

There is a full parent guide from National Online Safety attached to this Newsletter. This guide fully outlines the risks associated with WhatsApp and offers further advice for parents.



Dates for your Calendar 2022/23 - Term 5

Date	Event	Notes
31st March	END OF TERM 4	Whole School
17th April	INSET DAY	Whole School
18th April	BACK TO SCHOOL - Term 5	Whole School
21st April	Young Readers Event- "Heroes vs Villains"	Year 2, 3, 4 and 5
28th April	Wear Blue for Autism Day	Whole School
1st May	May Day Bank Holiday	Whole School
5th May (PM)	King's Coronation Tea Party	Whole School
8th May	King's Coronation Bank Holiday	Whole School
17th May	KS2 Basketball match vs Trinity	KS2
17th May	KS1 Sports Event @ Trinity	KS1
26th May	END of TERM 5	Whole School

PTA News



- The PTA would like to thank everyone involved in the Easter Bingo with special thanks going to Alex Lines who very generously donated some fabulous chocolate prizes from Mars.
- The PTA would also like you to have a spring clear out during the holidays as we have The Jolly Jumble Sale coming up at school on Saturday 29th April.
- Don't forget that we have a PTA Facebook page where you can keep up to date with all the latest news:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068086840109>
- If you'd like to help us raise funds just by doing your Internet shopping then you can do this very easily via our easy fundraising link:
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarysprimaryschooltimsbury/>
- We would love to hear from you and what events you'd like to see from the PTA. If you have a couple of minutes to complete our anonymous survey it would really help us:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KHK9SZ5>

If you'd like to get involved with the PTA as a member or as a friend of the PTA, please feel free to have a chat with me - Stef - at the school gates (I'm the one with purple hair) or contact me on 07790778453 - stefmills@aol.com

Science Exhibition

By St Mary's News Team

On Thursday 23rd March, our school held a **Science Exhibition**. Each class took part and worked on different projects to display.

All of the classes looked round the hall where it was being held and got to see what the other classes had done. Parents were able to look around in the morning and after school too. There were even some activities based on the projects to play with.

We asked some of the adults and they said that all of the displays were really interesting and presented well.

Year 2 made bread and talked about why people go hungry. They made gardens by cutting out pictures of things like apples, raspberries and strawberries and saying what their favourite food is in their garden. Violet said that her favourite food was strawberries.

Year 4/5 were learning about water. They learned the three states of water: ice, water and gas (water vapour). They also learned that actually if you put all the children in the world in groups of five, one in that group of five children wouldn't have enough clean water to drink that doesn't make them sick.

Year 6 learned about sustainable energy and how to calculate watts, amps and volts. They then created a house with at least three sustainable energy sources. Some people did it on Tinkercad and others drew it.

The other classes did various projects on things like light and recycling.

Overall, the whole thing was really good and each class enjoyed making different projects for the displays.

RED NOSE DAY FOR COMIC RELIEF

By St Mary's News Team

On Friday 17th March, our school celebrated **Red Nose Day**.

Red Nose Day is a yearly appeal for **Comic Relief** and everyone came into school wearing red. There were posters around the school telling people about Red Nose Day and when it is.

Red noses were being sold outside of school by the School Council and they raised £184.

On Thursday, we held an assembly for Comic Relief and if you wanted to you could do a comedy routine. Some of the Y6 girls did a sketch of the duck song and some of the Y6 boys told jokes.

The classes also did activities throughout the week based on **Red Nose Day**.

The whole day was a great success and everyone had lots of fun.



SAVE THE DATE

Your children are needed to sing!

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of
Conygre Hall

June 10th

(more to follow)

MOVEMENT - BREATH WORK - RELAXATION

Multidimensional
movement practice to help:

- counteract
sedentary lifestyles
- increase strength & range
of motion
- decrease stress &
boost relaxation

ALL bodies welcome!



9 & 11am in Timsbury & online

YOGA FROM THE INSIDE

Timsbury Library Easter trail



Starts
Saturday 1st
April

The Easter
Bunny has left
behind some
letters but
they've become
all jumbled up -
solve the word
and receive an
egg prize

Join the library today!

NITTY GRITTY FACTS OF LICE.

WHAT ARE HEAD LICE?

Lice are small, wingless, greyish-white insects with flattened, elongate bodies with oval heads. They are about 1/16 to 1/8 inch long.

WHY ARE THEY SUCH A PROBLEM?

Every civilization in human history has tried to get rid of head lice. But they're still here. That's because head lice are very, very good at what they do - and because, until now, there has been no safe, reliable way to remove an entire infestation (head lice, nits AND 'live' eggs) quickly and easily. As in the movie 'Alien', if you don't get rid of the eggs, you end up right back where you started. That's why the Nitty Gritty Comb really is such a huge breakthrough - because it's the only way to get the whole job done.

WHERE CAN HEAD LICE BE FOUND?

Head lice spend their entire lifespan in our hair, clinging tightly onto it as soon as they emerge from their eggs. They tend to stay close to our scalps in order a they feed directly from our blood, and they cannot survive for long once they have been removed from the head.

HOW DOES SOMEONE GET HEAD LICE?

Head lice are very good at moving from one host to another during head-to-head contact. When your hair is touching someone else's, even for a few moments, there is an opportunity for head lice to migrate. This is why they are so prevalent amongst primary school children.

HOW CAN YOU DETECT IF SOMEONE HAS HEAD LICE?

Often there is no sign of infestation until nits - hatched empty egg cases - start to become visible as they grow out in the hair. As we keep saying... not everyone itches. It's best to use the Nitty Gritty Comb to do a careful visual check for nits, eggs and head lice once or twice a week. The best time to do this is when you wash and condition the hair, as in dry hair they will move rapidly away from the area being examined. Detection will be easiest with conditioner on the hair, as this will immobilise the lice. Section the hair and comb from the scalp downwards. After each

stroke check the teeth of the comb for live lice. Fully grown head lice are about the size of a small ant, but newly hatched eggs can be as small as a pinhead. If you inspect on dry hair make sure you do so in good light - by a window or under a desk lamp is ideal.

Also look for eggs glued to the roots of the hair very close to the scalp. If you find any eggs or nits attached to the hair, then check all family members



(including grandparents if they visit regularly) and use the Nitty Gritty Comb to treat everyone who has lice, nits or eggs in their hair.

DO I NEED TO TREAT EVERYONE IN THE HOUSE?

We always recommend that you check everyone in the household, as well as other close family members who are regular visitors - because not everyone itches when head lice are present. Then use the Nitty Gritty NitFree Comb with either hair conditioner or Nitty Gritty Solution to remove head lice, nits and 'live' eggs from anyone who shows signs of being infested.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EGGS AND NITS?

'Live' head louse eggs are each glued to an individual hair strand as soon as they are laid.

Nits are the empty egg cases, which remain glued in place on the hair as it grows out after the nymph lice have hatched. Nits are often the first visible sign of a head lice infestation.

WHERE ARE EGGS FOUND?

Female head lice attach each egg to the root of an individual hair strand, very close to the scalp, so that when they hatch out, they are very close to their food source. Any eggs found more than about 1/2" from the scalp will be the nits, which remain glued to the hairshaft and grow out as our hair grows.

WHAT DO THE EGGS LOOK LIKE?

They are small (about the size of a pin head), white to cream in colour and they look like a tiny, tiny teardrop securely fastened to the hair shaft.

DO HEAD LICE PREFER CLEAN OR DIRTY HAIR?

No. They are tough, resourceful little creatures. You can't wash them out, and there is no scientific evidence to indicate that either washing or not washing the hair will do anything to prevent an infestation.

DO THEY PREFER GIRLS OR BOYS?

As mums, we feel that girls often spend more time than boys in head-to-head contact. Also they often have longer hair than boys, which can make it easier for head lice to move from one head to another.

HOW MANY EGGS DOES A FEMALE HEAD LOUSE LAY?

A female head louse produces about four to six eggs per day.

HOW LONG DO HEAD LICE LIVE?

Head lice typically live for about 25 -35 days. They can't survive for very long once removed from a human head, though, even if they do survive being removed by your NitFree Comb.

HOW MANY HEAD LICE ARE USUALLY FOUND ON AN INFESTED PERSON?

Head lice go on laying eggs when any infestation is left untreated. Not everyone itches, and there is sometimes no visible sign of infestation until the nits (empty egg cases) grow out in the hair, so there can be hundreds of head lice on one person's head during a prolonged infestation. However, the average number of lice found on an infested person is 30.

CAN HEAD LICE FLY?

No. They don't fly, jump, hop or skip. But they do move very swiftly from one human head to another during everyday head-to-head contact.

DO HEAD LICE SPREAD DISEASES?

No. Their presence can aggravate some existing conditions, but they don't communicate or carry any diseases.

CAN HEAD LICE SURVIVE ON PETS?

No. Head lice only live on humans, moving directly from one person to another during head-to-head contact.

WHO IS MOST LIKELY TO GET HEAD LICE?

Anyone who has hair on their head and doesn't live entirely alone on a desert island is likely to become infested at some point. School-age children spend time in large groups, with lots of head-to-head contact, so they are very likely to become infested.

DO HEAD LICE BITE?

Technically speaking head lice don't actually bite. They attach to the scalp and use needle-like feeding tubes to suck blood. This is painless, but their saliva and faeces can sometimes cause an itching allergic reaction. Scratching can lead to broken and inflamed skin.

Do remember... Head lice are annoying, but they are not dangerous. Don't ever let them make you or your children unhappy.