



# St Mary's CofE Primary School

*Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving God's Creation*

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

Newsletter 20

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

## Headteacher's Message

As we prepare to close for the Summer at the end of another school year we reflect on some of the wonderful events we have held. We have opened our doors to welcome parents and carers to class assemblies, parent workshops, performances, Sports Day & Reading Events. We've had several special guests and an excellent Science Fair. The Career Day was such an inspiring day for the children who demonstrated their thirst for learning and asked plenty of interesting questions.

From Ducklings right through to Eagles the children respond so positively to being able to show off what they have learned to you. I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to you all for taking the time to come in and share your knowledge and creativity with your children. Your support on these occasions, and also with their home learning has a huge impact on their development throughout their school career. My thanks also go to the PTA for their continued hard work and dedication towards fantastic fundraising events - they organise so many events to raise money to provide treats and events for the children.

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Bramley and Miss Jacobs. We thank them for all they have done for the children at St. Mary's and wish them all the very best for the future.

As you know we are welcoming Mrs Gillard, Miss Tolfree and Miss Heath to the teaching team from September.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that Mrs Stelling will be joining us as a Teaching Assistant. Mrs Hawkins will be leaving the school office and will be running our afterschool club. We would like to welcome Mrs Woodland who will be joining from the 1st of September and will be working with Mrs Blackmore in the office.

Also moving on from St. Mary's will be our Year 6 pupils who will begin their secondary school journey in September - we wish you all well for continued success and hope you will look back with fondness on your time at St. Mary's whether you have been with us since Reception or joined us more recently.

Thank you as well to our Governing Body who give their time behind the scenes to help ensure the success and development of our school. The governors have been led for another year by Jen Hird and we are all grateful for her commitment and experience.

It has been a pleasure to lead St. Mary's through another year and see the hard work and dedication of your children pay off, particularly with the SATs results for Year 2 and Year 6. Well done everybody.

On behalf of the whole St. Mary's team, I wish you a safe and happy summer holiday and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 5th September.

Mrs Parsons

## Attendance Winners

Congratulations to **Lion** Class & **Badger** Class for having excellent attendance for the last weeks of term.

## House Points Winners

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



## Congratulations

Congratulations to **Mr Daniels**, who has been teaching at St. Mary's for 25 years!

He has served the school with distinction and I'm sure you'll all agree that we are lucky to have him.

We are hoping he will stay for the next 25 years!

# Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to the children who received a Headteacher Award.

<b>Ducklings:</b>	Harrison, Noah
<b>Rabbits</b>	Max, Leo
<b>Badgers:</b>	Theo, Rafe
<b>Foxes:</b>	Cooper
<b>Lions:</b>	Lola G, Charlie B
<b>Eagles:</b>	Shay



## Hedgehogs



### Class News:

Wow, we can't believe it is the end of the term already! Despite the ever changing British weather we have managed to have so much fun this term, visiting forest school, playing in the big playground, hosting sports day, going on welly walks and bug hunts, enjoying lots (and lots) of messy and creative play, sharing stories and singing many many songs.

We have welcomed lots of new children who have settled in so nicely but we are very sad to be saying goodbye to lots of our bigger children who will be heading to reception in September. Thank you to all the families that came to our **Leavers Ceremony** to help us wish the children good luck in big school. We hope you all have a wonderful summer break, hopefully the sun will shine for us all. We wish the children heading to school lots of luck and those returning to us we can not wait to see you in September for even more fun!

EYFS Team



## CofE Inspection

As you may already know, as a church school, we are inspected by the National Society on behalf of the Church of England every few years in line with Section 48 of the Education Act 2005. This SIAMS inspection makes judgements on religious education, collective worship, and pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. This coming September, the SIAMS Framework is changing and the inspections will look a little different.

### These key changes are:

- grades will be replaced by one of two statements
- schools will need a theologically rooted Christian vision
- inspection questions will focus on impact instead of lists of criteria
- the school's context will play a greater role
- there will be a greater emphasis on the MATs accountability

If you wish to know anymore, please contact the school or you can visit the Church of England website and look at the accompanying information about SIAMS 2023.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies/siams-inspections>

# Ducklings



## Class News:

The first year of primary school is nearly upon us. What a year the Ducklings have had. I watch and see how much progress the children have made. How they've matured into really kind and confident young people. Showing me, quite clearly, that they are ready for Rabbit Class.

A highlight this week was watching every child create their own moon rocks. Everybody watched as I demonstrated how to make them and then they did the rest. They did an amazing job. I hope you got to see them before they ate them all!

We've enjoyed our outdoor PE sessions where we've practised lots of different skills of balance, bouncing, throwing and catching.

We've enjoyed our visits from Miss Tolfree. She has played games with us and read lots of stories. It has been a real treat to get to spend so much time with a new teacher to help with the transition

into Year 1.

We learnt a great deal from the RNLI water safety assembly and went back to the classroom to make beaches and create a water safety flag.

We enjoyed listening to Yuliia in assembly and it saying sad goodbye to her. She has spent a lot of the year helping in our class and playing her role as 'Mummy Duck'.

It has been a real pleasure to teach your children and watch them flourish. They have come a long way, both academically and socially. It's always so nice to see them taking care of each other or compromising to allow something to happen. I am very proud of them all.

Thank you.

Mrs Munro



# Rabbits



## Class News:

I can't quite believe it is the end of the school year, where has the time gone? Every single member of Rabbit Class should be extremely proud of themselves for an amazing year. I have witnessed an astonishing amount of progress in all areas and have seen each and every one of them blossom into kind, thoughtful and independent people.

In the last two weeks, we have finished writing an alternative ending to 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Once again their humour shone through in some very creative and imaginative stories. We also wrote fantastic recounts about our trip to **Longleat**. In Maths we have been looking at fractions and have split objects and amounts into halves and quarters.

In Science, we continued to look at the different animal groups and have been comparing animals within the same group to look at similarities and differences.

In Geography, we took a trip around the UK and looked in detail at each one of its countries. We learned about each country's flag, its national flower, the capital city and some key landmarks. We even got to do some Irish dancing which was great fun!

Finally, in Art we have looked closely at animal prints and recreated their patterns using different art mediums. We also carefully sketched different animals, thinking about how we control the pencil to create varied lines.

As I look back on the year we have had together it has been full of hard work, fun, laughter and lots of dancing! We have been on some wonderful trips and have had such a great year together. Thank you to all of the adults for your support this year. I wish you all a relaxing summer and look forward to seeing you in September!

Mrs Roberts

# Badgers

## Class News:



Where has that final term gone? This has been such a fantastic year, full of fun and great learning with this amazing group of children. Every single one has worked so hard and should be so proud of everything they have achieved.

In the last two weeks of term, we have finished our writing, innovating the story '*The Day the Crayons Quit*'. Once again the children have impressed us with their vocabulary choices, bringing detail and flair to their writing.

In Science we enjoyed a great workshop where we were pleased to have family members join us for a morning of activities related to plants.

In History, we have continued our learning about Significant Victorians and concluded the topic with a debate about who was the most significant victorian. Was it Brunel, Florence Nightingale or Mary Seacole? You'll have to ask the Badgers who they voted for.

Finally, in DT we have been thinking about what makes a healthy diet. We have investigated the sugar content in many popular drinks, designed a healthy wrap for children to have as their lunch which involved trying many combinations of different food groups to find out what worked best, and then making the wrap. The best bit though was having a picnic in the sunshine!

Wishing you all a wonderful, relaxing summer holiday!

Mrs. Brown



# Foxes

## Class News:



Wow! What a fantastic last few weeks of this year we have had. Foxes have worked hard right up to the last minute and we have had lots of fun too.

We celebrated **Ukraine Day** on Tuesday 18th July by wearing yellow and blue to school. David's mum, Yulia, came in to tell us about her home in Ukraine and how life has changed for her family since the outbreak of war. It was very moving and informative.

We have had our final swimming lessons of the year and have made exceptional progress. The children have represented the school brilliantly and have shown what polite and respectful children they are.

In English, we have finished our final story of the year based on '*Leon and the Place Between*'. The children worked hard at including fronted

adverbials (followed by a comma) and correctly punctuated direct speech. Their determination and stamina for writing has increased dramatically this year - well done Foxes.

As summer nears, we say goodbye to two wonderful members of our class. David and James are both moving in the summer and so will join schools closer to their houses. We will miss them both lots and lots but know that they will settle quickly and make friends with ease as they are both lovely boys! Your new schools are lucky to have you!

Finally, thank you to all of the families of Fox Class for your help and support this year. I wish you all a relaxing and sunny summer and look forward to seeing you in September!

Best wishes as always,

Miss Guest



# Lions



## Class News:

What a wonderful year with the Lion Class!

I am impressed with how much they have grown as individuals.

The last few weeks of this academic year have been packed with lots of learning. We really enjoyed our trip to discover where our food comes from. We were surprised that some of the oranges were imported from Egypt. Also in Geography, we have been learning about Fairtrade (and other similar schemes) and they help farmers get a fair price for their products. We are now banana experts!

In English, the children have written and edited their own version of an adventure story. Their imagination is superb.

In Maths, we have been converting

measurements, including adding millilitres in litres. The children have made links between numbers and some of the prefixes such as 'milli' and 'kilo' both meaning one thousandth.

In Art and DT, we finished our truss bridges made out of spaghetti and enjoyed creating observational sketches of our church.

In PE, we had a fun lesson led by a cricket coach. We also used many of the skills which we learnt this year to play cricket and rounders on the field.

In Computing, we have been using Scratch to create our own games - this was great fun.

Have a wonderful summer holiday!

Mrs Hayward



# Eagles



## Class News:

The last couple of weeks of the school year have been very busy.

Firstly, our Year 6 Eagles performed very impressively as 'The Island' The Rock's entertained our three live audiences. It was a great team effort and everybody really enjoyed the experience. There are definitely some Eagles who should explore taking their acting careers further in the future.

You will have also seen us recently attempting to raise finances to enable us to self-fund our last day of term activities. Thank you to everybody who has supported us in this venture. We really appreciate it. It has been great fun learning all about how to set up and run a business successfully.

Finally, we were very proud to support our school's event which raised awareness and celebrated the wonderful Ukrainian members of our community. We wore blue and yellow to show our solidarity.

What a fantastic year it has been! Well done to all of our wonderful Year 6 pupils and thank you to the parent community for your support this year which has definitely helped your children to flourish in their final year at St Mary's. It's now time to leave the familiar environment of the Eyrie but I know that this wonderful set of pupils will continue to soar in their brand new exciting habitats. Fly high, Eagles!

Mr Daniels



## Would you like to support reading in school?

Do you have a free hour or so a week to listen to readers?

We are always on the lookout for volunteers who can spare some time each week to listen to our wonderful children read. They love sharing their books with people in the community and would love to impress you with their enthusiasm and excellent reading!

Are you unable to volunteer but would still like to help?

We have an Amazon wish list of books which we need to support the children with their learning across the curriculum and inspire and motivate them. If you are able to purchase a book, we would be very grateful and ensure that your donation is labelled from your family. This is a great alternative to class birthday presents, end of year gifts or to leave as a legacy!

Thank you for your support!

<https://amzn.eu/9IXEron>

## Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who has donated via ParentPay to all the wonderful charities we have supported. Whether you wore a red nose or had a yellow ribbon in your hair it has been fabulous to see you all come dressed in non uniform and support these good causes.

Here is a summary of the money we have raised:

Jeans for Genes	£131.00
Hello Yellow	£98.00
Children in Need	£132.00
Save the Children	£68.00
Dress to Express	£47.00
World Book Day (school library)	£45.50
Red Nose Donations	£82.00
Wear Blue for Autism	£70.00
NSPCC	£37.10

## Water safety

Recently, we were lucky enough to have a visit from Sally Benwell from RNLI to lead us in a Water Safety assembly. As you can see from the pictures- it was a very engaging assembly! The assembly was full of vital and potentially life-saving information about water safety and beach safety. Ask your child if they can remember what the different coloured flags mean... they could be a life saver!



## Careers Day

On Friday 7th July, we hosted a range of volunteers for our Careers Day. The children in the school were split into their house groups for the morning and they rotated around the school to learn about different careers. We were lucky enough to have parent volunteers run workshops on: looking after animals, project management in a bank, working in the care sector, as well as a visit from our PCSOs! In the afternoon, year 3 had a visit from a scientist and year 6 were able to work with a coding lecturer from Bath Spa University. It was a brilliant day at St.Mary's. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and inspired the children.



## Ukraine Day

Yuliia and her daughter Dana came into school on Tuesday to share their story about moving from war torn Ukraine to Timsbury. She showed us a moving picture of the Ukraine she knew and told us important phrases that mean so much to the heart of every Ukrainian citizen. The presentation was very heartfelt, but through all the changes she was adamant to inform you of her deepest heartfelt thanks to the people of Timsbury. To thank you for the kind words, the support, the love and support everyone has shown her and importantly her family.

Thank You for supporting her by wearing in her flag colours, it truly meant a great deal to her. We raised £40 to support a local charity supporting Ukrainian children. Thank you to the Year 6 team who made cakes and bracelets to support the sales.

She has supported the school throughout this year with her friendship and time and we wish her all the best as she and her family make new roots in Frome.



## Message from Chair of Governors

Given the weather seems to be channelling late March vibes at the moment it's difficult to believe that we've come to the end of another school year; let's hope that the holidays will see some sunshine! We wish the whole school community a lovely summer break.

The Governing Body continues to support Mrs Parsons and the staff team to ensure the best experience and outcomes for our children. It's important that the Governing Body represents the whole school community, we will be recruiting a new Governor in the next academic year; it doesn't need to be a parent or carer at the school, we welcome grandparents and members of the community who would like to be involved in school governance - if you or anyone you know is interested, please feel free to contact me on [jen.hird@msnpartnership.com](mailto:jen.hird@msnpartnership.com).

Jen Hird  
Chair of Governors

## Swimming next year

Swimming will start again in Term 1, first week back, to give you advance notice it will be a continuation of this term so the current Foxes soon to be Yr 4 Lions will be swimming.

This will start again on Wednesday the 6th of September.

We will be setting up a voluntary contribution item on ParentPay for those parents who would like to contribute towards the cost of the coach travel to and from Midsomer Norton Leisure Centre.

## Christian Values Awards

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

Compassion	Daisy V
Courage	James B
Service	Jedd T



## Outside Achievements



Congratulations **Archie** on earning your Level 3 Swimming Certificate! That's quite an accomplishment and you should be very proud. And **Ben**, congrats on receiving your Level 2 Guitar Award - that's amazing. And **Alissa**, well done on your commitment to Brownies and enjoy Guides.



## Wraparound Clubs

We are excited to be able to open the calendar for September 2023.

From the 1st of August, you will finally be able to pre book Breakfast Club and After School Club!

If you wish to book on a by week-basis this will also be available and spaces will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

Breakfast will be provided

After School Club we ask that you please provide a snack for your child to enjoy whilst at the club.

If you have any questions please SeeSaw or email the office.

## Dates for your Calendar 2023/24 - Term 1

Date	Event	Notes
05/09/2023	Start of term 1	
11/09/2023	Year 2 parent expectation meeting	
12/09/2023	Year 5/6 parent expectation meeting	
13/09/2023	Year 3 and year 1 parent expectation meetings	
14/09/2023	Year 4 parent expectation meeting	
15/09/2023	Open day and excellence exhibition	
02/10/2023	Jeans for Genes day	
04/10/2023	KS1- Football match vs Trinity KS2- Football match vs Trinity Year 5/6- Football match vs Trinity	@St.Mary's
06/10/2023	Hello Yellow Day (mental health)	
11/10/2023	Year 5/6 class worship	
13/10/2023	Wear Red for Racism Day	
20/10/2023	End of term 1	

# **PTA NEWS**

**WHAT A FANTASTIC YEAR OF FUNDRAISING!  
THE PTA WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE FAMILIES  
AT ST MARY'S FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT THIS YEAR.**

**THIS TERM WE'RE VERY SAD TO BE SAYING GOODBYE  
TO JILL CLARKE WHO HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE AND  
LONGSTANDING MEMBER OF THE PTA. YOU WILL BE  
SORELY MISSED JILL!**

**THE SUMMER FAYRE MAY HAVE BEEN A LITTLE SOGGY  
THIS YEAR, BUT IT WAS VERY WELL ATTENDED AND  
WAS ENJOYED BY EVERYONE!**

**WE RAISED OVER £800 WHICH IS MARVELLOUS AND  
WILL GO TOWARDS SOME EXCITING EXTRA-  
CURRICULAR FUN FOR THE CHILDREN IN 23/24.**

**WE'RE ALREADY LOOKING FORWARD TO LOTS OF  
GREAT THINGS WE'VE GOT PLANNED FOR THE NEXT  
SCHOOL YEAR.**

**OF COURSE WE COULDN'T DO WHAT WE DO WITHOUT  
THE FABULOUS VOLUNTEERS WHO HELP WITH IDEAS  
AND EVENTS.**

**WE DO NEED MORE HELP SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE  
TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL AND MORE IMPORTANTLY  
HELP THE CHILDREN MAKE SOME SPECIAL MEMORIES.  
IF YOU CAN SPARE A COUPLE OF HOURS A MONTH TO  
COME TO OUR PLANNING MEETINGS (AT THE PUB!),  
ORGANIC LEND A HAND AT THE VARIOUS EVENTS,  
PLEASE DO GET IN TOUCH!**

**(07790778453 - STEFMILLS@AOL.COM)**

# SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2023

## 17TH JULY - 1ST SEPTEMBER

### ACTIVITIES THEY'LL LOVE!

ORDER OF WEEKS MAY VARY, PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE



**WEEK 1**  
**ROBOTICS, VR + TECH FUN**  
Program: robots, design games, model 3D creations, experience Virtual Reality, learn to mix like a Pro DJ ... plus MEGA LASERTAG! A week of inspiration and creation with MAXIMUM excitement. Children will experiment and challenge themselves, with a variety of activities to develop their world skills.



**WEEK 2**  
**MINECRAFT + LEGO ENGINEERING**  
Designed for ULTIMATE fun and education! Students can dive into Minecraft Education and design game elements, build Redstone circuits and learn coding fundamentals. Then take a deeper look into engineering using LEGO bricks combined with sensors and motors to create cool inventions powered by code.



**WEEK 3**  
**PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEOGRAPHY + CRAFTS**  
Is your child obsessed with YouTube and Tik Tok? Join us for a complete masterclass in capturing and editing like a pro, whilst instilling safety and proper practice. Plus, a BONUS Arts and Crafts session each day that will become their content focus.

### WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP



Packed Lunch and Snacks (NOT-FREE)



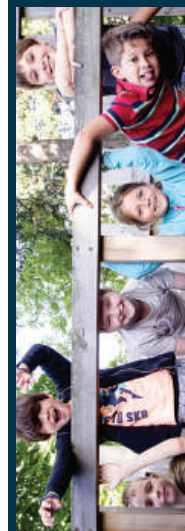
Water Bottle



Medication if Required



Weather Appropriate Clothing



★★★★★

"Both my son and daughter had lots of fun, made new friends, learnt new skills and will not stop talking about the Robots!"

Lucy Hart - St Ebbe's Primary School

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HERE THIS SUMMER HOLIDAY!

# TECH

## SUMMER CAMP

### DIFFERENT COURSE EACH WEEK!



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3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

We have now received the term dates from all 4 Local Authorities we work closely with (Somerset, BANES, North Somerset and Wiltshire) for the academic year 2023-24. Unfortunately, all 4 Local Authorities have slightly different term dates for 2023-24 and therefore I have done my best to try and ensure that we have a sensible set of dates across all the Trust schools which will hopefully work well for all concerned.

The term dates agreed for 2023-24 are as follows:

**Term 1**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Term 2**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Term 3**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Term 4**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Term 5**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Term 6**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Staff INSET days are as follows:

**Inset day 1**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

**Inset day 2**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Inset day 3**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Inset day 4**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

**Inset day 5**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

**National Bank Holidays:**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Best regards

Alun Williams  
CEO



# **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

**We would love donations of school-age-related resources**

## ***Ideas***

**Fidget toys eg squeeze toys, spinners, etc**

**Puzzle toys eg Rubix Cube, Snake, etc**

**Role play items**

**Construction wooden bricks, Lego, Stickle Bricks, Kinex**

**Dressing up clothes**

**Board games**

**Small World Toys**

**Crafts bits and bobs**

**Pom Pom Maker**

**Table tennis set**

**Karaoke machine**

**Colouring in books**

**Large floor cushions, and bean bags for a chill-out area**

**Please bring to the Office, any donations gratefully received.**

