



St Mary's C of E Primary School & Nursery Newsletter – Issue 5 – 22/10/2021



Please note that should you wish to receive this newsletter in a different format please ask at the school office.

This term's Christian Value is Friendship:

"Encourage one another and build each other up."

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Calendar events:



November

- 1st Start of Term 2
- 11th Remembrance Worship – for children + teachers in school
- 15th Odd Sock Day – Challenging bullying and celebrating diversity

December

- 3rd Mufti-Day (bring a donation for the Christmas Market)
- 7th PTA Christmas Wreath Making (more details to follow – save the date)
- 8th 3.15 to 5.00 - PTA Christmas Market
- 14th Little Acorns, Little Oaks, Year 1+Year 2 Nativity

St Mary's Stars

Little Acorns: Grace for being polite and independent

Little Oaks: Ezra for coming into school with a smile and perseverance with his work. **Ayden** for settling in so well and being a great friend. **Luca** for noticing when things are untidy and then tidying them up. **Layla** for being a kind and considerate friend

Class 1: Aeryn for always being sooo enthusiastic with everything you do and always trying your best. **Millie** for always working hard at school and at home. **Anna** for such a nice, kind caring member of the class: Always trying her best and always smiling.

Class 2: Maddie for trying her best in all her work. **Connor** for being a caring friend this week. **Zachary** for always doing the right thing and having a positive attitude.

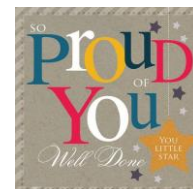
Class 3: Lily and Ava-Rose for always trying their hardest AND producing AMAZING homework. **Tommy** for always having a positive attitude and trying hard in all he does. **Faith** for always having appositve attitude to learning and coming in with a smile everyday.

Class 4: Isaac for an amazing setting description using a simile and a metaphor. **Leo** for having a positive attitude towards his learning this week.

Class 5: Riley, Elsa and Alfie F for inspirational homework. **Jack** for fantastic punctuation and grammar in his Beowulf story. **Noah** for a phenomenal attitude at camp, attempting all the activities and games.

Class 6: Jasper for always giving 100%. **Alice** for being a fantastic role model and giving her learning 100%. **Caitlin** for overcoming her fears and giving camp her all.

Other: Beth G for swimming. **Leah, Bradley, Leo, Tori, Isabella and Niamh.**



PTA – Cake Sale + Film Night

Wow – our first Cake sale for a number of years raised a whopping £180. Huge thanks to the children, parents and teachers from Classes 5 and 6 for a stupendous effort, raising funds for children at St Mary's. Equally, the film night was a huge success, last Wednesday! The children enjoyed being with their friends, enjoying a film after school. Thank you to those who made it possible!

The next PTA meeting is in the school hall on Friday 5th November at 9.00am.



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Wellies and Coats

Please remember that to prolong the amount of time children can play on the field, when it is wet and muddy, we suggest that children have wellies in school. All children should bring coats to school now, as the weather is getting more unpredictable. We often play outside even if the weather is a little variable.

Young Voices Concert in O2 in London

On 17th January 2022

Numbers have now been finalised for the Young Voices Concert in January.

- Please remember t-shirt orders need to be placed today
- Should parents wish to attend, tickets can be ordered from school – via parent Pay
- The final payments to be made before the end of term 2 (Christmas).

Thanks to parents for prompt payments and signing up in a timely way. This supports the office in completing all the administration involved in arranging this educational trip.

All of the children in school have been learning the music (and dances) for some of the Young Voices songs. In fact, we love one of the songs so much, we may adopt it as one of our school songs. If you have not heard it, please have a look at Power in Me. You can see this via the Young Voices website (Password YV2021)

Harvest Festival

Thank you for your donations for the Harvest Festival; the display looked wonderful. We were pleased to donate the offerings to our local foodbank.



Clubs

A reminder that clubs are continuing after half term (and some clubs are new). Please see below for the clubs on offer.

Day	Lunchtime	After School Club	Leader	Open to	Notes
Monday		Dance	Mrs Roberts	Years 1 and 2	Club will start in Term 2
Tuesday		Scintillating Science	Miss Beere	Years 3,4,5 and 6	
Tuesday		Dance	Miss Hamblin	Years 3,4,5 and 6	Club will start in Term 2
Tuesday		Outside Sports Club	Mr Pile (School's sports Coach)	Years 1 and 2	Term 1 only
Thursday		Football	Amy and Ms Lampert	Years 3,4,5 and 6	Club finishes at 4:15
Thursday	Times Table Rock Stars Champions		Mrs Dobson	Years 3 and 4	Club will start in Term 2
Thursday		Sew Fabulous	Miss Golden	Years 3,4,5 and 6	
Thursday		Wonderful Well-being	Mrs Adamson	Years 1 and 2	Club will start in Term 2



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What a term

WOW, what a term we have had at St Mary's! It has been fantastic to be back to a more normal way of working and the children, who have a number of disrupted years, have adapted so well. We are very proud of them! Teachers and Teaching Assistants have worked relentlessly to support children to make as much progress as they can (and make up for lost time) and with the continuing support from parents the children are doing just that – making progress in their learning. FANTASTIC!

Just some of the highlights of the term:

Camp for Years 5 and 6

Harvest Festivals

Parents Evenings

Clubs

Film Night

Relaunch of PTA

P.E. + Physical Activity: Cross-Country, Cricket Coaches, Inclusive Rugby (at Bath Rugby), Football coaches, inter school competition

New phonics scheme launched in Little Acorns/little Oaks, Class 1 and Class 2 – Little Wandle

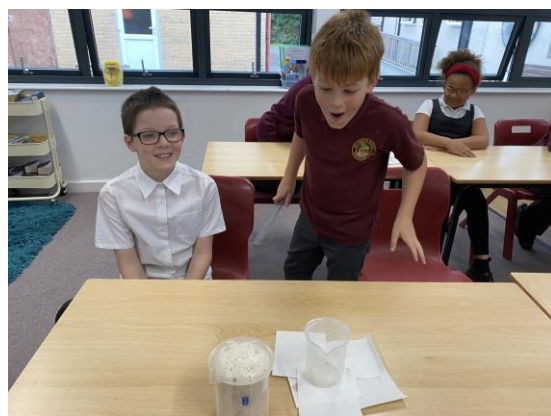
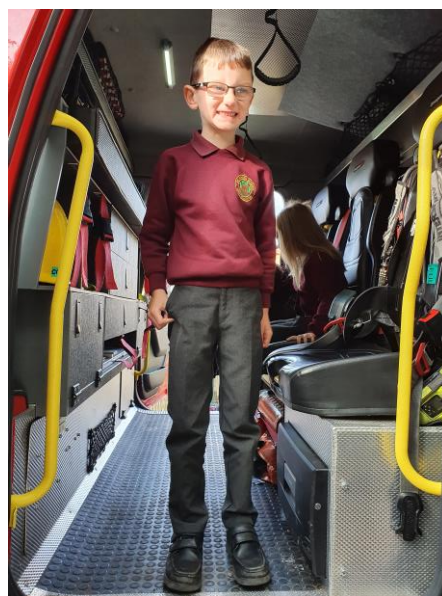
New (super) Office Administrator – Mrs Fenton

New Thrive Practitioner working in school (1 day per week) – Ms Harvey

New Reading Recovery Teacher – Mrs Hallowes

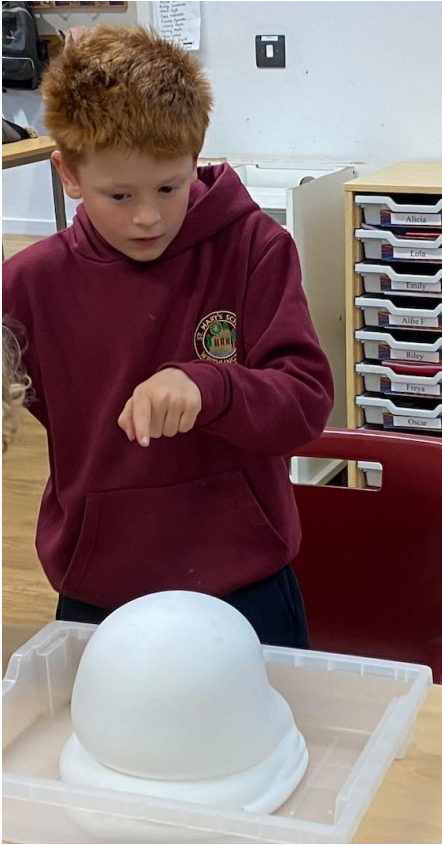
Forest school provision

And so many new pupils joining our St Mary's family – welcome!!!!





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Online safety advice regarding Squid Game

A reminder that this is not suitable viewing for pupils and below are reminders about what to look out for as parents and carers.

Please see below information from National Online Safety website:

What is Squid Game?

Netflix's Squid Game is set to become the streaming service's most successful show of all time, with huge numbers of viewers taking to social media to discuss each new episode. The South Korean thriller features some scenes of fairly brutal violence and **is rated 15 by the BBFC**.

What are the hazards for children?

Squid Game's 15 rating has not prevented clips and images from the show being uploaded onto social media sites such as TikTok, with the #SquidGame hashtag being viewed more than 22.8 billion times. There have been reports of children who have accounts on these platforms inadvertently viewing gory, explicit scenes from the programme, and parents and carers should be mindful of the prevalence of these uploads.

The popularity of the programme has also led to online challenges based on various scenes, which see people taking part in seemingly innocent children's games. On the show, however, characters are executed if they fail in the game – and videos of people pretending to kill each other after competing in Squid Game-style contests are going viral on social media, where they are easily accessible to children.

What is the Squid Game Challenge app?

Squid Game Challenge (also known as K-Game Challenge) is an app for smartphones and tablets that has been released for Android and iOS, and the two systems differ significantly on their age ratings for the game. The iTunes Store rates the app as 12+ (advising of "mild/infrequent horror/fear themes"), while the PEGI rating for Android is just 3+, which means that very young children might be able to download and play the game even with parental controls activated on their device or through Google Play.

The gameplay is frequently interrupted by pop-ups and ads (sometimes appearing while the user is rapidly tapping their screen while attempting to complete the challenge). This could easily lead to unwanted purchases or accidental visits to inappropriate sites beyond the app.

What can trusted adults do?

As a parent or carer, keep a watchful eye on the content that your children are viewing. Speak to them openly and chat about how they have been spending time on their devices; let them ask questions, too. Ensure that the parental controls are activated on your child's device and that age-restricted child profiles are properly set up any on-demand services available through the family TV (such as Netflix, in this case) to prevent inappropriate content being streamed.





Community Notices:

Avon Fire & Rescue Service would like to share with you their latest Halloween and Fireworks safety leaflet.




Keeping you and your family safe from Halloween to Bonfire night.


Halloween

- Buying a costume? Make sure it's flame-resistant and has the CE mark. 
- Making a costume? Avoid long parts and don't use flammable materials like bin liners.
- Opt for LED tea light and candles. 
- Naked flames are dangerous, keep your children away from them.

Sparklers

- Supervise children using sparklers and follow instructions on the packaging. 
- Light sparklers one at a time.
- Wear gloves and keep sparklers at arm's length.
- You can put the end of a sparkler in a carrot, making it safer to hold.
- Put used sparklers in a bucket of water.

Fireworks

- Only buy fireworks marked with the British Safety Standard: 7114 or CE safety mark. 
- Store safely in a closed box out of children's reach.
- Light fireworks at arm's length and stand well back.
- Never return to a lit firework: if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode.



Stop, Drop and Roll

If your clothing catches fire, remember:

STOP where you are.



DROP to the floor.



ROLL over and over until the flames are out.



Don't forget to practise before celebrations begin.

Stay safe, stay spooky.

Follow Avon Fire & Rescue Service's Children & Young People's Team for more safety advice for you and your family:



@AFRSCYP



AF&RS Children and Young People

