



St Mary's C of E Primary School & Nursery

Newsletter - Issue 20 - 11/03/2021



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 Respect:

'Do to others as you would have them do to you.' Mathew 7.12

What a wonderful week back and lovely to see all of the children so happy in their classes with their friends. The school rings out with the sound of children's voices, as it was meant to.

This term we have a clear focus in school: settling the children back into routines, using our new PHSE scheme to support the pupils' well-being, identifying specific areas of the curriculum to focus on, promoting resilience and improving stamina in learning.

These core areas will support children back into school to enable them to access their learning and make continued progress.

Children achieve when they are engaged. Teachers love planning inspiring and stimulating activities and journeys of learning to facilitate this.

Miss Lampert

Easter Egg Hunt - April 1st

We are organising an Easter Egg Hunt for all children on the last day of term. Children will search for Easter egg pictures dotted around the school grounds in return for a chocolatey treat.

Easter Bonnet Parade and Competition - April 3rd

As part of our Easter Assembly (staff and children only) children in Little Acorns (Nursery), Little Oaks, Class 1 and Class 2 are invited to make an Easter Bonnet for a school parade. This will be outside weather permitting or in the school hall in class bubbles. Bonnets should be created at home and brought into class on the morning of Thursday 1st April.

Children in Classes 3-6 are encouraged to draw, paint or create a Spring or Easter themed piece of art for display in the school hall. There will be prizes for involvement and effort.

Great Wood - So exciting!

Staff at Great Wood **and at school** are still very much hoping that the Great Wood camp can go ahead. The government is due to make further announcements in the coming week and hopefully should the 'roadmap' continue to progress Year 6 will be able to attend our June Educational Visit. Should anything change a full refund would be given.

Covid

Please find attached to this newsletter a briefing paper that you may find helpful. It provides a brief summary of Covid-19 tests available for those who are asymptomatic, explaining who can have a tests and where these can be accessed. It specifically covers: -

- Collection of home self-test kits in B&NES
- If you or your child test positive using a rapid home self-test kit
- If you or your child test positive after having a rapid lateral flow test at a test site
- Other ways of getting a rapid COVID 19 test including; Local authority community test sites and workplace testing
- Home ordering service
- Support to self-isolate

This briefing paper can also be accessed via the Public Health pages of the BANES Hub.

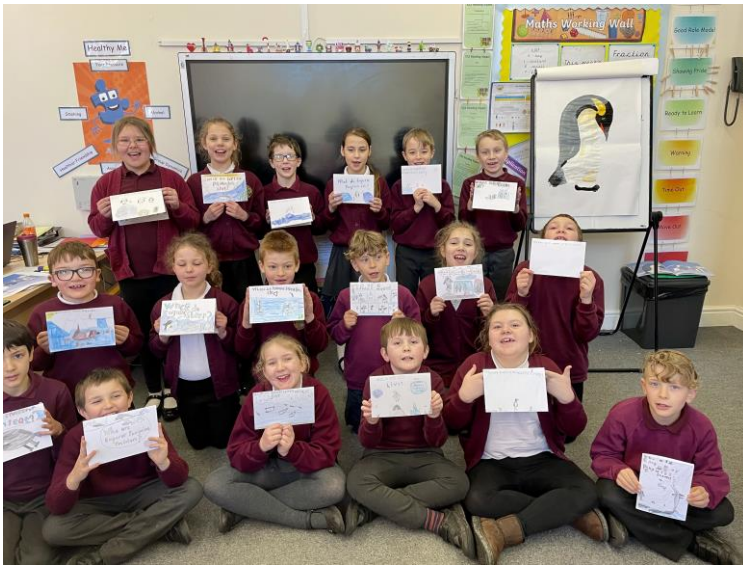


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World Book Day at St Mary's - 11th March



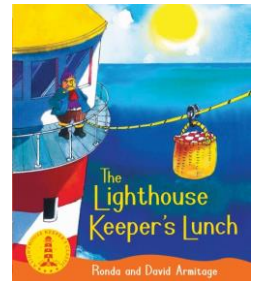
Class 4 have been using non-fiction books and the internet to research answers to their questions on penguins. The children, Mrs Clapperton and Mrs Dobson has become penguin experts!



Class 6 have been REALLY enjoying the book 'Clockwork'. So much so in fact they can't put it down. Illustrating the storyline was a favourite activity on World Book Day!



Class 1 have had so much fun recreating the story 'Lighthouse Keepers Lunch'. They made Mr Grinling's lunch and then sent the lunch box down the wire, trying hard to stop the seagulls from stealing the picnic.



In reception the children have been enjoying our box of special books. The children know these stories really well. This means they can re-tell them in their own words. We share these books each day.



Parents Evenings

Please ensure you sign up, via email or Class Dojo, for a slot to meet 'virtually' with your child's class teacher.



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Red Nose Day

Comic relief is back in 2021, raising money to make a difference to the lives of millions of people across the UK and around the world and we are getting involved.

On Friday 19th March we invite all children to attend school in their own clothes (mufti) and wear red or something red. If children have comic relief red noses or other 'merch' they are welcome to wear them on this day too! We ask that children/parents donate what they can either in school or online to help this worthy cause and help raise money.

Children in Key Stage Two will be taking part in a Red Nose Day Quiz during the afternoon too.

There are many ways you can get involved at home too. You may wish to attempt the family challenge:

[The Family Challenge | Comic Relief](#)

or create a Share a Smile Poster in your window (PDF attached).

PTA NEWS

We are delighted that there have been more parents recently offering to help out with the PTA, so thank you!

As always, the PTA's mission is;

1. To enhance the education and wellbeing of the pupils of the school by providing or supporting the provision of resources and facilities
2. To promote positive close co-operation and communication between parents and school staff
3. To support activities & events to aid and enhance school provision
4. To consider suggestions from staff, parents and children around the allocation of funds and authorise expenditure

Currently, we know that there are a lot of pressures on everyone; the staff, parents, carers and the children. We are therefore, extremely mindful of this when agreeing with the School Leadership Team what we can do to raise funds and support activities for the children, whilst not adding to the overwhelming pressure that everyone is feeling right now.

For the rest of this school year, we will be supporting where we can and where it's appropriate, whilst ensuring we follow any government guidance. This may mean that we can't do all of the wonderful things we have planned in the past, but we can be there to support St Mary's and the children in smaller ways as we all navigate through these unpredictable times.

Coming soon:

Easter egg hunt

The annual Easter Egg hunt will be held in school. The children will all receive a chocolate egg donated by the PTA. (special dietary requirements included)

Autism Support from Fosseway - SASS

Bath and North East Somerset local authority have commissioned an extended and enhanced Specialist Autism Support Service (formerly known as the ASD Support Service) from September 2020. As part of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Education Strategy 2020 – 2023, the needs of children and young people with autism spectrum disorder and their families are a key priority so that '*Children and young people with ASD will be able to sustain their school placements and are supported to achieve and thrive.*'

Some of the services they can provide are outlined below:



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TELEPHONE HELPLINE

Wednesday mornings
9am- 12 noon throughout the year
01761 412198
Extension Number 2

- ✓ Member of the team always available
- ✓ Advice and support
- ✓ For Professionals
- ✓ For Families
- ✓ Child or Young Person must be living in B&NES, with a confirmed diagnosis of ASD and are between the ages of 0-18, or 0-25 for those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

for more info

WWW.FOSSEWAYSCHOOL.CO.UK



SASS offers training opportunities for parents and families, including:

- Managing Anxiety and Anger
 - Anxiety in the Home
- Understanding Girls with ASD
- Strategies in the home for younger children with ASD
- Strategies in the home for teenagers with ASD
 - Social Scripts

They also deliver the following training programmes for parents, which are delivered over a number of weeks (face to face and online):

- Barnados Cygnet programme (Core) – For parents of children aged 4 – 18
 - Barnados Cygnet programme – Siblings
 - Barnados Cygnet programme – Sex, Relationships and Puberty
- SPACE programme – For parents of very young children. All of our training for families is detailed on the Rainbow Resource autism pages (www.rainbowresource.org.uk)



School Uniform

So lovely to see the vast majority of pupils back in their school uniform. Here are Class 2 looking smart on their first morning back!

