



# St Mary's C of E Primary School & Nursery Newsletter - Issue 17 - 29/01/2021



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 Perseverance:**

**'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me' Philippians 4:13**



## Message from Ms Lampert

Another remote learning week has passed and I hope that everyone has settled now into a routine that works for them; after all there are over 100 families with children attending St Mary's School and over 30 staff - each with their own challenges, successes and 'boats in this storm'.

As a team of staff at St Mary's we hope that you have felt supported at this time and have made contact with us should you need our help. We will always do our very best!

After working in many schools both in this country and abroad I do believe that St Mary's is a unique school; this has been reinforced and verified time and time again throughout our collective response to the pandemic. Thank you for all you are doing.

This week we have been impressed with the amount of pupils in live 'Zoom' lessons (some classes have reached that sought after 100%) and the high engagement in home learning but we have also loved to hear about children's enjoyment in the snow with their families and other 'learning' that has been beneficial at home.

Keep going - we are nearly at half term!



## GREAT NEWS re GREAT WOOD

We have been saddened this year that our visit for Years 5 and 6 to Great Wood has been cancelled. BUT we have managed to secure further dates in June - should the COVID situation allow us to safely go.

Due to the proximity of our annual booking - we usually attend our residential in October - we will take only Year 6 to Great Wood in June.

The current Year 5 children and Year 4 children (when they are in Years 5 and 6) will then be able to enjoy their residential, as planned, to Kilve Court in October.

All Year 5 and 6 children should have received an email with further details and I urge Year 6 parents to respond as soon as possible so that we are able to confirm our June booking.

## Lockdown Rules

A reminder to the parents and children in school. If your child is attending school we would expect that you are absolutely following the Lockdown Rules to ensure that the children attending AND the staff are as safe as they possibly can be and to stop the spread of the virus to loved ones at home too.

Should you not be sticking to the rules we will assume that you no longer wish your child to attend.

## Screen Break Day - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2021

Following the activity ideas in last week's newsletter (attached again for your convenience) and feedback from parents we have decided to have a whole day this term where screens are switched off for all - a Screen Break Day.

**This will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.**

All children AND teachers will be encouraged to turn off their phones, close their laptops, leave their devices, turn off the TV and go and learn (and teach) in differing ways. This could include cooking a recipe, drawing a picture, painting a pebble, building a floating boat, creating an obstacle course or den, sending a letter.

Using the activity sheet attached for inspiration you may like to colour (or add to) the activities you have carried out to share with your class teacher and friends who would love to celebrate these with you!

On this day teachers will continue to work with the children in school but not set or respond to any learning/activities carried out at home.



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### Safety measures on the school site

Given the current concerns about the levels of Covid-19, may we please urge you all to do everything in your power to support our safety measures:

- Wear a face covering at all times on the school site, unless you are exempt
  - Meticulously respect the 2 metre social distancing guidelines
- Respond promptly if anyone in the household develops Covid symptoms (see <https://www.wasp-school.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Covid-19-A-quick-guide-forparents-and-carers-04.01.21.pdf> A Quick Guide for Parents and Carers)

### Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of qualifying benefits, your child(ren) may be eligible for Free School Meals. If you believe that this may be the case, please be sure to check the information on Bath & North East Somerset Council's website, where an application form can also be accessed: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> This applies to all eligible pupils, even in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. If your child is eligible for FSM, please complete the form so that vital additional funding is provided to the school to support your child's learning.

### Community Notices

#### **Blue Peter**

Blue Peter have launched Blue Peter on YouTube at CBBC. Blue Peter is the longest running children's TV show in the world and they are uploading videos suitable for 5-11 year olds to include world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how-tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. Completely free to subscribe, please click on the following link to access:

<https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter>

#### **Sustrans (UK Walking & Cycling Charity)**

Sustrans are relaunching Sustrans Outside In, a free resource to help parents who are looking after their children at home providing fun ideas and inspiration for parents to bring education, health and wellbeing activities into their home. You can access resources by registering for the free parent newsletter. Over four weeks, you will receive weekly videos, themed activities, games and challenges designed by experienced school officers. Please click on the link to the subscription page [www.sustrans.org.uk/OutsideIn](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/OutsideIn)

#### **Big Bath Sleep Out - At Home!**

Julian House Charity have asked us to share the following information concerning their Sleep-Out event:

*Help people experiencing homelessness and sign up to join Julian House's Big Bath Sleep-Out: At Home. This is happening on Friday 5th March. This year, Julian House is challenging you to sleep outside in your garden with your family for one night. In order to raise money to help people experiencing homelessness you could ask your friends and family to sponsor you. The money you raise will help provide a safe shelter for people who don't have a home and are forced to sleep outside every night.*

*For more information and to sign up visit: <http://www.bigbathsleepout.co.uk>*



Screen Break - 22<sup>nd</sup> January - 50 Activities

<b>Maker Hour</b> 	Build a boat to float in your bath	Create a large piece of art	Make a sock puppet	Make your own healthy lunch	Paint a pebble	Draw a picture on a cereal box and cut it to make a jigsaw	Create a board game to play with your family	Bake and decorate a cake
<b>Genius Hour</b> 	Learn some words in another language	Learn some sign language	Learn a magic trick	Write a rap song	Draw your family and any pets you have	Learn to juggle	Learn to tie a tie	Practice a musical instrument
<b>Indi Reading Hour</b> 	Read a recipe or instructions to complete an activity	How many book titles can you read in 1 minute? Can you improve?	Turn your favourite story into a comic book	Read a description from a book and create your own illustration	Read to someone else in your family for THEIR enjoyment	Time how many words you can read in 1 minute. Can you improve?	Read someone else's favourite book	Begin to read your favourite book again
<b>Fitness Hour</b> 	Go on a safe walk with a family member	Make up a fitness workout - Joe Wicks style	Touch every wall in your home	Take 200 steps around the house	Walk up and down the stairs 10 times	Do 50 star jumps	Throw and catch a ball as many times as you can without dropping	Sit down on the floor and stand up straight again 20 times
<b>Service Hour</b> 	Make a phone call to a relative	Tidy your room	Match Tupperware lids to bottoms	Fold your clothes	Write a card or letter to someone to say "thank you"	Teach someone else how to do something	Hoover a room in your house (ask a parent first)	Do the washing up