

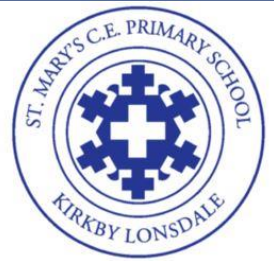
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01/10/2021



St. Mary's

Church of England Primary School



Newsletter # 4 - Autumn Term

Dear Parents,

Whilst the somewhat wet weather might have caused a few issues with our building and the wider community, it certainly hasn't dampened any enthusiasm inside school and our work and projects continue at a great pace.

Nursery have been making the most of this time of year by using apples for shops, balancing and, my favourite, turning in to apple pies. Reception have stuck with a food theme making pattern kebabs and then made the most of messy play with oats and pipettes, whilst year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring their superhero theme even further. There are special zap videos and an amazing set of superhero headquarters on display, not to mention fabulous writing. And the super writing continues in to year 2 where they've been working incredibly hard on creating their own fairy tale stories. They also met Toby the Tortoise, who visited both EYFS classes and Year 1.

Year 5 and 6 have been preparing for their residential (more information on that later) whilst keeping on with biography writing and space investigations in science. Year 4's science saw them testing for conductors and insulators and there was some fantastic artwork based on the work of Hokusai. Year 3 have been working incredibly hard to learn how to tell the time – an incredibly important skill for everyone in school and something you can enjoy exploring at home too. They have also learned an awful lot about volcanoes, with the eruption in Palma giving a real time update on the affects they can have.

Outside of the classroom, football club and fitness club continue to be very popular and it has been lovely to hear music lessons and singing sessions starting again. We have heard a lot more singing recently, especially as we were practising for our Harvest Service (again, more on this later!) and we will be looking to share these lovely sounds with you later on in the term.

We often put updates of our daily and weekly activities on our social media pages so do have a look if you would like to see what everyone is up to.



Stmaryskl



@stmaryskl



St Mary's CE School

IMPORANT REMINDER FOR NEXT WEEK

It is individual photos day on **Tuesday 5th October**. If your child has PE on this day, they should come in school uniform and bring their PE kit ready to get changed after they've had their photo taken.

Honesty

Trust

Responsibility

Perseverance

Respect



Harvest Service

As ever, the generosity of the St Mary's community has been overwhelming and the community cupboard were delighted to receive the kind donation. We are preparing the sweet treats for Brant Howe and will be delivering them soon.

It was also fantastic to have our first service all together in the church since Christmas 2019. The children were, as ever, fantastic on our walk up and down and the atmosphere was perfect for celebrating this time of year and giving thanks for all that we have. Reverend Snow was particularly impressed to hear there is a song that manages to fit 'brassicas' in to the tune of The Final Countdown by Europe...



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Year 5 and 6 Overnight Stay

Having missed out on residential over the last 18 months, it has been truly fantastic to see the children enjoying their time together on Thursday and Friday, despite the sometimes appalling weather conditions! A residential trip is so much more than just an educational tool; it gives everyone such an amazing sense of achievement, the children and staff get to know each other so much better and it really helps everyone become a strong, effective team. This has been so evident this week and the children couldn't have performed any better. Their independence is really showing through and it is wonderful to see children excel in different areas that we wouldn't get to see in day-to-day classwork. There may be a few tired faces over the weekend, including the staff, but the experience more than makes up for it. It may take a few weary days for everyone to appreciate it all fully, but it really does!

Well done everyone for showing what fantastic individuals you are and what an amazing team you make altogether - we've got a great year ahead of us! And a special thank you to the many staff who gave up their own time to make this experience possible, from helping to supervise the cooking, to staying overnight to ensure all was safe and well.



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Bonnie

We like to celebrate everyone in our school community and Bonnie is no exception. We already know how wonderful she is, but she has just received her Good Citizen Bronze Award from The Kennel Club after completing her exam on Thursday evening. She even returned to school to stay overnight and make sure everyone was OK. What a star!



Continued works and parking

Even with the poor weather, our work continues. However, the wet weather has created further challenges and we now need to replace some very aged (and very expensive!) equipment in our storm drain. You might have noticed we had to block off some of the already limited access to school whilst we drained the tank (against the backdrop of heavy rain...) to allow engineers access to assess what was needed. I'm pleased to say we are now well underway to having the situation resolved, and any further work will, weather permitting, avoid drop off and collection times.

Whilst we are all very aware of the parking challenges around both our school and Q.E.S., we still need to ask everyone to be considerate of each other and think about emergency service access and child safety when parking. We did have a situation where both sides of the road were blocked, crossing points were covered and even people driving on pavements whilst parents were walking along with push chairs. Whilst not pleasant, I'm sure a short walk under an umbrella is preferable to some of the serious outcomes that inconsiderate parking and driving could cause. It's always worth considering alternative places to park and 'enjoying' a short walk to drop off or collect your children if at all possible.

As ever, thank you for your support with this ever-challenging situation.

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P.T.A.

Your PTA need you! We are getting ready for our Christmas fundraiser and as part of the festivities will be holding our annual Christmas raffle. We are asking if you or someone you know has a business that is willing to donate a prize for our raffle.

If so please email lauragkeeler@gmail.com or catch her at school.

Bags to school

Our popular bags to school event is back. Reduce your clutter, create some space and send your bags of clothes in so they can be reused. Bags to school accept

- * Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- * Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- * Handbags
- * Hats
- * Bags
- * Scarves and ties
- * Jewellery
- * Lingerie
- * Socks
- * Belts
- * Soft toys
- * Household linen
- * Household curtains
- * Household towels
- * Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

But NOT school uniform

Bags will be collected outside school on **Wednesday 3rd of November**. We will let you know where closer to the time so you have plenty of time to gather your bags together.



Open Day for Nursery and Reception – Tues Nov 9th

We are pleased to announce we are hosting

Nursery and Reception Open Day for prospective parents

On Tuesday Nov 9th from 9:30 – 11:30am

Please book your place at the school office Tel: **015242 71334**

