

NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 2 2019-2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

As this busy half-term draws to a close it is a good opportunity to draw breath and give thanks for all the amazing experiences we have shared in the recent weeks. I want to thank the staff in all areas of the school for their hard work, imagination, determination and support. They truly are outstanding role-models for our children.

It has been wonderful to see the children racing around the site at playtimes – making good use of all our new pathways and ramps. The Studio has been put to good use as an additional rehearsal space by year 3 and year 4 - as well as for the PTA discos. We have had a wealth of wonderful performances by children from EYFS to Year 4 to help our preparations for Christmas – and the choir have been busy, leading singing at our Oxted Adventure and at the Woodhouse Centre Christmas party.

It has been very exciting to have the report on our project on Maths, Movement and Mastery published, and to feature in the South East School arts paper. This is all part of our work towards our next ArtsMark and our vision to bring Arts and Culture into the core of the curriculum. As part of this work the old 'music room' is in the process of being turned into an Art and DT room, complete with cooking area – which years 4 and 6 have been putting to good use with cup-cake and bread bake-off challenges. We have plans for the 'villa' as well. If we can secure the planning permission to keep it permanently, one room will become our infant library and learning space, and the other will be a dedicated rehearsal and recording space for the performing arts.

Year 5 have been our first year group to undertake an extended arts project – learning how to make video documentaries under the expert tuition of Kate York. This work was supported by some of our parents who agreed to share their expertise – and made me realise that that our parent body has a lot of untapped potential as a learning resource! I have lots of ideas of how we might work together to offer even wider experiences for our children and will be reaching out to fellow Arts and Culture enthusiasts in the New Year. The PTA are subsidising this work for each year group. More exciting opportunities are coming soon for all year groups! Thank you for your generosity.

This generosity has also been reflected in the support you have given for a range of charities and for our Christmas Fair – at which many of you gave donations for our local foodbank. I was shocked earlier this year when I asked a member of staff what had surprised them most this term and the answer was "The level of poverty in my class." We know that some of our children are coming to school hungry and that their families are reliant on these sorts of donations. We are mindful of the extra pressures that school fundraising and mufti-days places on them, particularly in the run up to Christmas. This is why, having supported the Evelina Trust and Children in Need already this term, I decided it was not appropriate for us to include 'Christmas Jumper Day' in our school fundraising this year.

My hope for you all this Christmas is that you can rejoice when reunited with loved ones, and find solace in each other when remembering those absent. That you can experience the joy of giving, and express thankfulness for what you receive. And above all that you can treasure the time you have together, and hold in your hearts the hope for the future that the birth of Jesus brings to the world.

Happy Christmas

Sarah Lewis

CHRISTMAS FAYRE



The Christmas Fayre was once again a great success. It was lovely to see so many of you there. The final figure raised will be given at a later date. Thank you so much to The Friends, families, staff and volunteers for all their hard work and donations. Thank you to pupils who performed with the choir, helped on stalls and with recycling. The class hampers looked fantastic and prior to the Fayre the Junior House bottle competition took place. A great big thank you to Santa and the elves who were very busy in the grotto!

A huge

THANK YOU!

to everyone who got

colourful

to raise money for the Evelina Hospital.

We raised a magnificent

£672.99



We raised a massive £626.40 for Children In Need by having a mufti Day on Friday 15th November

WELL DONE!

Year 1 visit to Church

In November, Year 1 went to St Mary's Church to explore the different features of a Christian place of worship. Thank you to Mark Anderson for showing us around and teaching us about the history of the building!



Year 2's visit from the Cat's Protection League.

Year 2 have been writing instructions and a visit from the Cat's Protection League helped us to think about how to look after animals properly. We learnt all about the work that the charity do to look after cats in need of help and had fun listening to their stories and finding out what cats need to be happy and healthy.



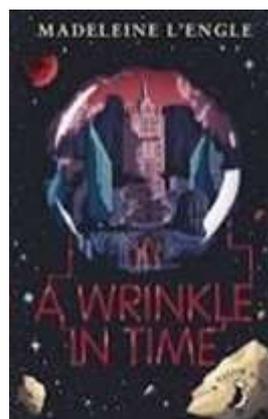
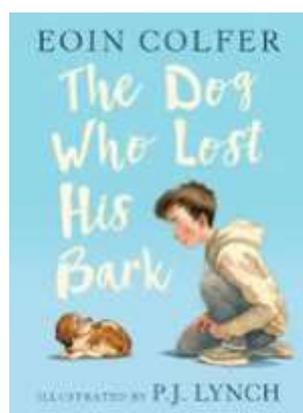
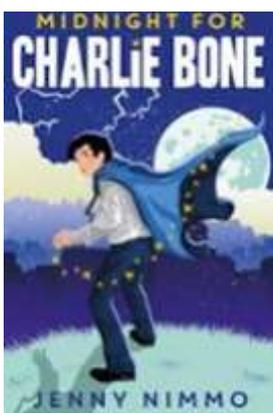
During November, Year 5 worked with Kate York to complete documentaries. We spent time with Kate learning how to plan and execute our documentaries and created wish scripts, which showed what we thought our documentary would be like. Each group of children were given a member of the local community to interview and a pack of information on each person. After planning their documentary, including what questions they would ask during an interview, the children met their contributor. In each group there were 2 camera people getting shots from 2 different angles, an interviewer asking questions, a director instructing the camera people, a liaison who interacted with the contributor and a producer who was in charge of the overall filming session.

After filming all of their footage, including both interviews and film of the contributor 'doing their thing', the children split up into pairs to edit their video. We used Movie Maker to merge all the videos that they had recorded. We were then also able to split audio and video so that we could have the contributor answering questions whilst the video shows them doing something. For example Ginny was painting in the video but answering questions about her inspirations in the audio track. Our videos were very successful and this was a fantastic learning opportunity.

Book Club

The members of Year 5 and 6 have been busy reading and each group has managed to read another two books!

Year 5 read *Midnight For Charlie Bone* and *The Dog Who Lost His Bark*. Both books received mixed reviews but we all agreed they are a good read for someone who is interested in the story subject.



Wriggly Nativity performed by Years 1 and 2.

The children in Seahorses, Turtles, Dolphins and Whales deserve huge congratulations for their wonderful and very Wriggly Nativity performance this year. Their hard work really paid off and the singing, dancing and acting received riotous applause and lots of praise from the teachers and audience. Thank you to Mrs Francis who played the piano so beautifully and the other adults who were involved. We all had such fun and it was a brilliant learning experience for the children who showed resilience tackling nerves and performing with such gusto.



Year 3 – Christmas Show

On Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th December, year 3 performed their show 'Christmas 1914' to family and friends. This was the culmination of 6 weeks hard work from everyone in the year 3 team. T.As and teachers worked tirelessly to prepare outfits and props, practise songs, help the children to learn their lines and deliver the best performance possible. Huge credit must then go to all of the children in year 3 for pulling off three fantastic performances that displayed their singing and acting talents, demonstrating how mature they are for 7 and 8 year olds.



Year 4 Carol Service

For the first time, Year 4s held a carol service at St Mary's church. This comprised of traditional carols, readings, acting and prayers read by our faith team members. The children worked extremely hard to learn the carols over the past few weeks and sounded absolutely fantastic when singing in the church. Well done to all the children who took part, with special mentions to our soloists – the three kings Faye, Ruby-May and Jason. Thank you to all the parents who came to this service.

Mr Heyburn
Year 4 Leader

Year 4 Bake Off

This term year 4 have held their own bake off competition, researching and designing their own Christmas cupcakes. The brief was to design 6 identical cupcakes, which must have a Christmas theme – all done collaboratively in groups of three. After making the cakes, the children then set about decorating them to their specifications, using a range of icing types and decorations. Some of the designs were stunning and all four teachers were amazed at some of the designs – our judges of Mrs Lewis and Mrs Woodward were equally amazed!

Well done year 4!



Writer's Workshop

Pupils in Year 4, 5 and 6 have been meeting weekly all through the autumn term. So far we have produced explanations for inventions of the future, portal stories and Christmas poetry. Writer's workshop is on Mondays and is always open to new members. Our Christmas poetry:



Year 6 Bread Baking

Year 6 have started "The Big Bread Bake Off". Our first round of bread looked, smelled and tasted wonderful! After Christmas we look forward to extending our learning and developing our own bread recipes for the Bake Off final.



Barn Theatre – Programme Advertising

If anyone wishes to place a business advert in the programme for our up-coming show "Musical Mayhem" here are the details:

Prices and sizes available:-

Full A5 page size 195mm deep x 130mm wide @ £120 for back cover only

Full A5 page size 195mm deep x 130mm wide @ £100 inside page

Half A5 page size 95mm deep x 130mm wide @ £60 inside page

Quarter A5 page size 95mm deep x 61mm wide @ £35 inside page

They need a JPEG image or PDF of high resolution and good quality without any bleed and copy needs to be sent to arrive no later than Wednesday 15th January please.

Artwork and enquiries should be sent to bruce.reed@btinternet.com

Please be mindful when dropping off and collecting your children

We have had lots of complaints from parents/carers, staff and residents about the dangerous and inconsiderate parking and driving of some individuals. Some of the number plates below have been reported on more than one occasion. Please also find a communication from a Parent that highlights the severity that this problem has become.

LC02 GWU

GX16 LNG

AD09 FLX

LJ06 UKD

YR58 MYN

SPORT at ST MARYS

Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby Tournament

On Monday 11th November the Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby Club took part in the South Tandridge Schools tournament. We were all really excited to play, and for some of the team this was the first inter school tournament they had participated in.

Both teams put in excellent performances during the event, where they played Godstone, St Stephens, Lingfield, Dormansland and Holland. The red team came 1st overall in their tournament, with the blue team a respectable 4th. There was outstanding rugby played across both teams, and certainly it seemed one of the toughest matches was our red team vs our blue team!

My thanks go to the parent spectators who cheered on the children, and also Mr Boorman and Mrs Holland who helped accompany the teams.

We look forward to playing in more competitive events in the new year.

The Blue team- Sebastian Radulescu (Captain), George Hutton, Finn Reilly, Aaron Cowland, Raff Luck, Lily Courtman, Jess Olanya, Callum Reilly, Narcis Preda, Sebastian Agozzino

The Red team – Finn Auchincloss (Captain), Tom Davies, Archie Brown, Theo Taylor, George Kelly, Stasiu Martin, William Blackborough, Dylan York, Elise Tagg, Emily Cholerton, Ruby Fisher

Mrs Wallace

Friday 22nd November 2019 – Year 2 Multi-Skills Challenge.

On Friday 22nd November, a team of Year 2 champions spent the afternoon at Limpsfield Infants School taking part in a Year 2 Multi-Skills Challenge competing against other local schools. Our St Mary's team did us proud! The children's behaviour was fantastic, they really stood out with their calm, sensible approach and teamwork. We had a great afternoon and to top it all, won the event. Well done to

Logan Arthur, William Mariner, James Hubbard, Sophia Smith, Riya Bhola, Sonny Cockerill, George Leighton, Sophia Barrow, Erica Bartlett, Ava Williams



SPORT at ST MARYS

Sports Crew

Earlier in the term the year 6 blue shirt sports crew took part in their sports leader training with Active Surrey. They explored what makes a good leader, as well as ideas they could apply in their own leadership back in school. As well as training for our blue shirt sports crew, five of the sports crew also took part in a further training, look at how to increase the profile of sport within school – these five are identified as the white shirts.

After their training sessions, the sports crew started to lead the Year 3 PhysiFun club at lunchtimes. All four of the year 3 classes have had a taster session and the club is now open to all year 3s, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:20 on the MUGA.

Year 3 and 4 Handball Festival

Two teams were taken to the year 3 and 4 handball festival at the start of December. This gave the children taken the opportunity to learn a new sport before having a go at playing some friendly games. Our teams were actually coached by two former St Mary's pupils – both former sports crew members too – so there was extra enthusiasm from both the players and the coaches! Throughout the festival our players improved greatly as they learnt new skills they could apply.



PE Kit Reminder

Please ensure all PE kits are in school, every day. PE days do sometimes change and it is essential that children do not miss lessons. The requirements for school PE kit are listed below:

- St Mary's polo shirt with logo
- St Mary's sweatshirt with logo
- Navy tailored shorts (not football shorts, leggings or lycra. Shorts with logo are optional)
- Navy Jogging trousers
- Plain navy skirt (or one with school logo)
- Trainers (for outdoor use) from Year 3
- Velcro or elastic Plimsolls – Reception to Yr 2

Children cannot take part in PE lessons if they are wearing any form of jewellery. This includes earrings, watches and fitness trackers, which must all be removed for these lessons, therefore ear piercing must only take place at the very beginning of the summer holidays.

ATTENDANCE

We believe that regular attendance at school is very important if children are to take full advantage of the educational opportunities we provide. We do all we can to encourage full attendance and identify and act promptly on any factors which affect this as outlined in our Attendance Policy.

We ask that Parents/Carers:

- Encourage regular school attendance and be aware of their legal responsibilities.
- Ensure that children arrive at school punctually, prepared for the day.
- Contact the school office on the first day of their child's absence either by phone or email.
- Aim to ensure that, where possible, medical & dental appointments are booked for times outside of school hours.
- Inform the school office in advance of any medical or dental appointments which will necessitate a late arrival or collection during the school day. (Please show the office staff hospital letters, appointment cards, etc.)
- Work with the school to address any problems that may keep their child away from school.
- Provide evidence of GP visits, medication prescription, hospital visits, etc, where a pupil is frequently missing school for more than 2 consecutive days for medical reasons (Letters will be sent out to individual families highlighting low attendance / cause for concern.)
- Arrange family events and holidays during school holiday time.
- Submit a Special Request for Absence Form in advance of an event requiring absence from school.

LATENESS

Responding to late arrival

- The school day begins at 8.55am.
- Any pupil arriving after 8.55am is marked as Late.

A pupil who arrives after 9.20am will be marked as an Unauthorised Absence unless it is a medical matter or exceptional circumstance (that has been discussed with staff).

Term time absences – including holidays

- Any absence during term time, other than for illness, needs to be agreed with the school in advance – this is done by filling in an Absence Request Form available in the school offices and on the school website.
- School holiday dates are published a year in advance and the Governors strongly advise parents to book family outings, events and holidays during these times.
- **Please be aware that St Mary's CofE Primary School does not approve term-time holiday absence.**



The Friends of St. Mary's



End of term achievements September-December 2019.

As ever this term, the friends of St. Mary's have given it their all – entering in to the world of fundraising with tremendous spirit and willingness. There are many challenges nowadays as parents and carers are being stretched to the limits for their time, but it always amazes how support for the school is always there – be it half an hour to more, the school community generously gives and keeps on giving. Thank you.

We settled into the new school year in September, making plans for the year ahead, which kicked off with Bingo night in October, boogied into November with not one but three discos in one day!!

We have served tea & coffee to the many tours given to new infant parents, collected more rag bags than a large white van could possibly squeeze in, stood in the freezing but thoroughly enjoyable Christmas shopping evening on the high street with our guess the teddy's name & lucky dip.

We then put on our jingle bells to organise the fabulous Christmas fayre – this year trying out some new games, layout and hired a photo booth – all of which and more made the day festively special.

The hampers were spectacular, the Grotto extraordinary, the raffle & auction as ever, a tremendous success and the hall looked wonderfully festive making the atmosphere as glittery as a bauble. All achieved with increased mindfulness of the environment using less plastic, using recyclable materials and encouraging people to bring their own cups. Everyone worked incredibly hard and we thank all the reps for their time & dedication.

The food bank collection was so warmly received in Caterham – this in particular should make us all feel proud. Thank you for your generous donations.

Figures are yet to be finalised but we can all be confident that we did everything we could to raise valuable funds for our school for all the children to benefit from.

Talking of money, a plan for spending it all is in place now that the build is finally over. We are delighted to be able to award each year group a lump sum to spend where they wish, invest money in the playground area, the ball court, the music room / kitchen, infant library and so much more.

We now turn our heads to the new year – more opportunities to have fun raising money for our children – thankfully we can return to cake sales or similar which I'm sure you're all ecstatic about!

Have a wonderful, peaceful and restful Christmas & thank you everyone in St Mary's for supporting The Friends PTA.

Stars of the Week

Every week one or two pupils from each class will be nominated as a 'St. Mary's Star of the Week'. Stars will be given for either upholding one of our Christian or British values, demonstrating good use of Building Learning Power, exceptional learning or outstanding behaviour. The pupils will receive a certificate to take home and a star with their name on it will be put on display.

Ellie Baker For using her PFC to make good choices during class discussions	Georgia Quinton For her dedication and confidence in her solo performance	Joshua Crowhurst For resilience in Maths	6H For creating a brilliant assembly
Eva Turner For enthusiastic contributions in all lessons	Eva Murray For having a positive attitude	Lily Richardson For positive attitude towards her learning and managing distractions	Sam Church For contributions to class discussions
Luca Smith For a fabulous 'Sutton Hoo' diary	Matilda Wadham For showing excellent learning behaviour	Oliver Sprules For completing his written tasks	Elfinia Edwards For writing an awfully good 'Famous Five' story
Imogen Holland For perseverance and resilience in Maths	Alice Flynn For an exciting and emotive diary	Edie Carter For fantastic collaboration	Maisie Pratt For her enthusiasm when singing
Emily Cholerton For always giving 100% effort in everything she does	Ryan Lach For fantastic listening and active participation in all class discussions	Ollie Schroeder For his excellent Science knowledge	Oscar Hutton For his outstanding learning behaviour
Aoife Witham For using great focus and performance mode to improve in Maths	Evan York Presented for working really hard on his non-chronological report	Lina Kenawy For persevering with her Times Tables and climbing up the ladder	Henry Abbott For using his noticing muscle to explain a Maths problem
Charlie Tickner For excellent progress with handwriting and presentation	Ellie Street For her positive attitude to learning	Grace Aldridge For challenging herself to improve understanding	Erin Frost For perseverance with Times Tables
Emily Smart For a great Famous 5 story	Annabelle Van Wyk For 100% effort	Erin McAlister For her kind and sharing attitude	Robert Smart For showing great improvement in handwriting
Damien Clements For his descriptive writing	Freya Mullin For perfect presentation	Louis Cook 100% effort in every lesson	Scarlett Jones For fantastic focus and trying her best

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Robert Watkins-Gage For his great attention and listening and his Maths challenging work	Luke Allen For his determination in his learning, achieving huge amounts	Charlotte Hobdell For always extending her learning and making a map for Goldilocks	Olivia Webb For fantastic learning behaviour on our trip to the Church
Scott Selwood For always smiling and trying hard	Kai Dain For making great choices and trying hard	Erin Adcock For her independent writing	Finley Ritchie For persevering in Maths
Harper Sullivan For being incredibly enthusiastic and happy	Sam Khosravi For working extremely hard on his joined up writing	Marcus Watkins-Gage For his participation in class	Myah-Belle Pamphlett For working with determination
Jack Sheriff For fantastic reading	Ava Kelly For mindful learning	Lottie Moffat For focusing in Maths all week	Safir Chand For great writing
Ethan Baldock For his confidence whilst speaking	Rosie Barker For great use of sounds in writing	Phillip Petrov For commitment to learning	Alfie Bamford For working hard to improve his handwriting
Oliver Hubbard For always doing the right thing and trying his hardest	Tommy Cannings For making great progress in Phonics and Maths	Rose Parfremment-Hopkins For working hard on her cursive handwriting	Lucy Bunn For fantastic Phonics
Freddie Pratt For so much expression in his Nativity part	Alesha-Marie Moffatt For being resilient and positive in her learning	Ben Dryland For asking questions and his active learning	Miles Oliver For wonderful class contributions
Charlie Ritchie For learning to write his name	Brodie Moffat For amazing progress in Phonics	Amelia Battye For always doing the right thing	Leo Campbell For always working hard and pushing himself
Luke Allen For his independent, determined work.	Kenny Aldridge For focusing on his learning	Roberta Ion For managing her distractions	Annabelle Stables For her excellent piece of descriptive writing

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Amelie Cook 100% absorption in her work	Marc Francis For persevering with his Times Tables	Sophie Lavabre For perseverance and progress in Maths	Maisy Shadrach For being kind and helpful
Max Cronin For amazing Times Tables work	Ruby Fisher For brilliant progress in Maths	Alex Percy For improving his resilience by managing his distractions	Josephine Blackburn For descriptive writing
4L For their fabulous behaviour at Ufton Court	Dylan York For his resilience and tenacity with Maths and handwriting	Lily Sampson For working really hard on her long multiplications	Ben Branchflower For improved concentration and presentation
Tiffany Skinner For her perseverance with fractions	Lucie Lewis For excellent work in Maths	Maeve Whenham For great answers to questions	Maisie Felstead For resilience in Maths
Stanley Graham For great descriptive language	Austin Robson For his positive attitude to learning	Charlie Shorey For always sharing a smile	Daniel Yazdabadi For contributing more in lessons
Hugo Pidgeon For contributing and taking class learning to next level	Erin Griffiths For developing greater confidence speaking in front of others	Jimmy Thomas For an improved focus on his work and for being very helpful	Erin Griffiths For developing greater confidence speaking in front of others
Ellie Street For her positive attitude to learning	Erin McAlister For being kind and sharing attitude	Rosie Edson For her amazing contribution in Maths	Jessica Percival For her perseverance with Times Tables
Alfie Catterall For always challenging himself to be the best he can be	Esme Wright For determination and perseverance when learning her Times Tables	Oscar Lowe For excellent teamwork and collaboration	Tessa Wilkinson For working with perseverance and determination to achieve all her targets
Amber Shorey For always working hard	Lilly Barrow For her Winter Poetry	George Dixon For always giving 100%	Serali Patel For a fantastic letter

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All of Year 3 For a great Christmas Show	Lewis White For his fabulous helpful attitude	Lottie Jones For her resilience when injured	Ruby Baines For her high standard of work
Sam Lally For resilience and working with more independence	Emily Wallace For thinking creatively with her writing	Sasha Collins For her undiluted enthusiasm towards everything in school	Olly Luckhurst For being a valued member of 5S
Lucy Thompson For her positive attitude towards learning	Rosie Wills For improving her handwriting	Gabriel Whenman For giving 100% to all of his learning	Hugo Claringbull For his great sense of humour
Ayla Young For always being focused with expert listening	Lara Davies For always trying her best	Jack Bamford For persevering in all areas of the curriculum	
Otto Sleeman For persevering with learning his lines and improved focus in lessons	Jack Bennett For using his learning powers effectively to make the most of each learning opportunity	Lara Dobson For including so many focus words of the day in her writing	

SCHOOL DINNERS

Dinner money for next half term 7th January 2020 to 14th February 2020 is £68.15.

Just a reminder, the cost of a school lunch for year 3 to year 6 is £2.35 per day. Meals are booked in advance by parents, using our SCOPAY online ordering and payment system.

Dinner money accounts must be in credit for meals to be booked.

If your child has any allergies then please fill in a special diet form available on our website or from the school office.