



Hi everyone!

Welcome to the eighth edition of The Chit Chat. I'm delighted to be guest editing this week, it has been lots of fun!

I got to interview my teacher, Mrs Gautrey, for 'In The Spotlight' - *check out her school report!* Plus, I asked my class 5G to tell me all about the exciting things they have been learning (outside of school) during lockdown.

We have been very busy, from training a puppy to taking an exam to baking sweet treats, playing badminton and creating amazing artwork! It has also been an exciting week for 5G as we had our first playdate at school. **Happy reading!!**

We will be going fortnightly after this week, giving you extra time to prepare and share what you are up to during this last term of the academic year. We'd love to hear about your hobbies, new inventions, recipes, artwork, sporting achievements, musical masterpieces or generally anything you'd like to tell the St Mary's school community about. Of course, it's even better if you've got photos too, (with your parent or carer's permission of course!)

Send your submissions to: Newsletter@stmarysprimary.org



Guess Who?

It's a good one!

Find out who's hiding on p6



What 5G are doing in Lockdown

Sophie asked her class what they have learnt over lockdown. Classmate Isla Murray has been getting sporty.



As we are now allowed to play outdoor sports again, I have restarted my badminton lessons, which has been great fun. Where we play, there is table tennis next to the outdoor badminton court. So whilst my sister is having her lesson, I have started playing table tennis. I have really enjoyed this, and may even have some lessons once lockdown is over.



Top tips for a day out: One of Sophie's favourite places is Knole in Sevenoaks



As the National Trust has opened its gates again, I thought it would be nice to have a walk through one of my favourite places, Knole in Sevenoaks! It was a lovely hot, sunny day and I took a few pictures of the deer and some flowers. It was great seeing the beautiful deer again and they came pretty close to us! My favourite flower was the foxglove because of its lovely vibrant colour and it has a little bell-shaped head. We had a wonderful walk but we were very, very tired at the end! I am so pleased we can go here again, I can't wait to go back soon!





JACOB ABRAMS CELEBRATES EXAM SUCCESS

"I have spent five weeks practicing for my second exam with Perform, an arts and drama school, and then, on the 13th of June, I was ready! In the exam, I sang the song "Walking In The Air" from The Snowman, then I performed a duology about kindness, and a monologue which was a Greta Thunberg speech about climate change. Plus, I choreographed a dance. I achieved a distinction - the highest grade you can get!"



ALEXIS CLAY HAS BEEN GETTING ARTISTIC

"During lockdown, I have been spending some time practising and perfecting my drawings. This is one of my favourite pictures I have drawn."



"In lockdown, Amelie Wanstall has been really busy planting tomatoes and cucumbers in the garden, as well as taking to the kitchen to bake cookies and cakes. They look yum, Amelie! "

Sophie reports, "This week saw the start of the school playdates and the first class was 5G! It was really fun and exciting! It felt so good to finally see our friends again in person. We had two groups, group A and group B, so we had a staggered time to arrive and leave. When we got there, we had a few minutes to catch up with our friends which was really nice. Then we played a class game of Splat - I really enjoyed that game. We then played on some of the new games marked out on the playground floor, including a fun trim trail, and chatted away for ages. It was very exciting but we were sad to leave our friends. I can't wait for the next one! Check out these photos from our playdate, taken by Mrs Gautrey!"



Check out Eva Turner's puppy training on p71

News from our Correspondents

Luca Smith (4L) writes: “During lockdown I have really missed my friends and Mrs Legister but I have enjoyed having some extra time at home doing things I usually don’t have time for.



I have enjoyed cooking and baking with my Mum and growing vegetables (I was very impressed with my radishes!)

My best thing during lockdown has been riding my bike for hours and hours. I have been lucky to go on a social distance bike ride with my friends Tom M, Harvey E and Archie. I bought myself a new helmet with my birthday money.



I am really looking forward to seeing all my friends on Round off Day.”

Monty Helm AKA “Monty Berry” (5C) has also been busy in the kitchen... and his scones have gone nationwide!! As part of one of my English lessons, there was an option to bake some scones. Well, they were delicious!!! We took some to my Nanna and Grandpa and also to our

neighbours and the feedback was good! I made some more and this time tried adding currants, that was a good choice...yummy! We FaceTimed my Granny and Grandad in Whitby to show them and they asked me to send them the recipe. Granny made them and was so impressed, she sent the recipe to my Great Auntie in Guisborough so the scones are now famous and have gone viral!!!



....MOVING ON...



Former St Mary's pupils Edwin Field and Annabelle Morris made the leap to Secondary school last year. Here, they share their experience of making the transition to Year 7.

"I was really nervous to start Oxted School as I knew it would be such a big change from St Mary's.

As Oxted School is so big I was scared that I would get lost but all the teachers are really friendly and helped me get around school.

I am enjoying making lots of new friends, and I am also enjoying having a different class and teacher for different subjects.

Food tech is my favourite lesson as I get to cook many things I haven't cooked before."



"When I started I thought I would make no friends at all and just stick with the ones that I already had, but I soon realised that Oxted School is such an inviting community that I made new friends straight away.

One thing to look forward to, are the extra-curricular activities.

There is a massive variety of clubs to go to from Rugby to debating so there will be something for you.

I am looking forward to seeing some of you guys in Year 7."



Boredom BUSTERS



Don't let boredom take over at home! Here's some inspiring ideas from St Mary's children....whether it's high-tec, or getting out the mixing bowl for some baking...there's always something to do!

Looking for a new fitness challenge at home?

Every day after lunch at Skeleton School, we have been enjoying taking part in something called The Daily Mile to help us keep physically and mentally active in a positive way.



You might want to consider doing your own version at home. So what exactly is this and how can you get involved at home?

Well, it's super easy! All you need to do is walk or run for 1 mile each day. At school we walk or run 4 laps around the field as 4 laps is the same distance as 1 mile. But you don't need a field to do this activity, it can be done anywhere! In your garden, even inside your house or somewhere around your local area. You don't even need to do the whole distance in one go. Perhaps you could break it up and fit it in throughout the day as learning breaks?

To work out how far a mile is, you might need to do a bit of clever Maths first to work out the size of the space you are working in and how many laps this means you will have to do - perhaps the grown ups you live with can help with that part!

And if they want to, the grown ups can even take part too! The teachers at Skeleton School have been joining in with Mrs



Lewis leading the way every day. But we must stress this is not compulsory grown ups!

So why not give it a try yourself and see what you think? We'd love to hear and see the inventive ways you are doing this at home. Maybe like the children and staff at Skeleton School, you'll find that you enjoy it so much that you want to improve on your time, walk or run that little bit faster or maybe even do one more lap. Give it a go and let us know what you think!



ICE POPS WITHOUT A MOULD!!

Fill some small cups up with your favourite juice or yogurt, then place a sheet of cling wrap over the top and gently poke a hole through the wrap with a lolly stick. Place in the freezer for a few hours, then wiggle the treat out of the cup and enjoy. (Paper cups will work, too.) Using the same method you can create bitesize versions by replacing the cups with ice cube trays!

JOKE CORNER



What kind of tree fits in your hand?

A palm tree!

How do you know the sea is friendly?

It waves!



Answer: Mrs Stevenson

Yay!

...EVEN MORE

Boredom
BUSTERS

DON'T BE BORED AT HOME.....TEACH YOUR PET A NEW TRICK

Whether it's Labradors leaping through hoops or bearded dragons learning how to high-five, you can liven up any dull day by trying out new tricks on your pets. Mrs Stevenson and pet pooch Milo (right) have triumphed at this spectacular stunt (thanks to a piece of cheese). Mrs Davies has also mastered her awesome party piece with little Frankie...Send us your pics to: Newsletter@stmarysprimary.org



High Five!!

Wow!



Eva Turner from 5G introduces us to her adorable new puppy Cooper!

"On the 16th of May, my dreams came true because I got a puppy. His name is Cooper and he has made me so happy! There is not time to be bored as my new skill has been puppy training. The first thing I taught him was "sit". He is really good at it now. It took lots of treats and even more patience. As you can see in the photo, you need to hold a treat in your hand and give it to your dog after s/he sits still. It is important to say "sit" lots of times, really clearly. The next thing we taught Cooper was "paw". Like the sit command, it takes treats and lots of patience. I think paw was one of the hardest things to train our dog. You need to hold a treat in your hand in a fist, then encourage your dog to tap your hand with its paw. Next is "come". Guess what you need? More treats and more patience! Your dog will come quickly once they know their name. It is like how you need time to know your name when you are a baby. And for dogs your words are just sounds they have not heard before. Finally it's "Stay!", then it's time to relax!!!"





Would you like to review a book, film or game?

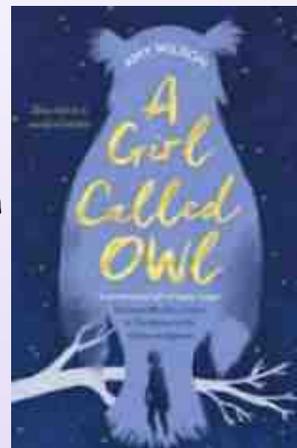
Send us your write-up and a pic to
Newsletter@stmarysprimary.org

Don't forget to include your name and your class!

By Savannah Lyall in Year 6.

A Girl called Owl by Amy Wilson

This is an amazing book about a young girl who finds out that her father is Jack Frost, meaning that she has frost powers. One night, she finally meets him, but he refuses to believe that she is his child. Hiding from her mother and with her best friend Mallory right by her side, she sets out on a journey to prove to the Fay Court that it should be ok for Fay creatures to have children. The author, Amy Wilson, uses an intriguing play on words that makes you want to read on and on. I finished this book the same day I got it, I simply couldn't put it down! I would recommend this book to children aged 9-13, because at some points it can get quite complicated, but still simple enough to enjoy. There are also beautiful illustrations on some of the pages and the front cover really pulls you in.



THE ADVENTURES OF HALLE POTTER!

(AKA HALLE SULLIVAN, WHALES CLASS)

"I am such a Harry Potter superfan because I like the wizarding world JK Rowling created. My favourite characters are Harry Potter, Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger. I like how JK thought deeply about the characters and the story to make magical and wonderful adventures. I like to pretend I'm Harry when I'm reading, and sometimes even call myself Halle Potter!"

Get ready for the....

Tandridge Talent Tornado!

On Friday 26th June 2020 we will be sharing the joy of your talents!

If you haven't already, send your teachers pictures, videos or writing showing what amazing talents you have shared with others.

Look out for next edition of 'The Chit Chat' to see all the details of what went on!



Mrs Gautrey....

In the Spotlight

What is the most dangerous thing you have ever done?

This is a tricky one to answer as I am not very adventurous; I've never been skydiving or swimming with sharks. So I think it has to be stepping out of my front door. "That's not dangerous!" I hear you cry, but I managed to break my left foot and right ankle at the same time doing just that when my shoe got caught in the door and I fell. So yes, it can be pretty dangerous...



If you could swap places with anyone for a day, who would it be?

Professor McGonagall from Harry Potter because then I would be able to change into anything I wanted to be.



You love photography - what is the favourite photograph you have taken?

I particularly love taking photos of birds.

Unfortunately, they often fly away before I manage to get a shot, so I was really pleased when I got this photo of a robin with its feathers all fluffed up.





If you could play any character in a musical who would you choose?

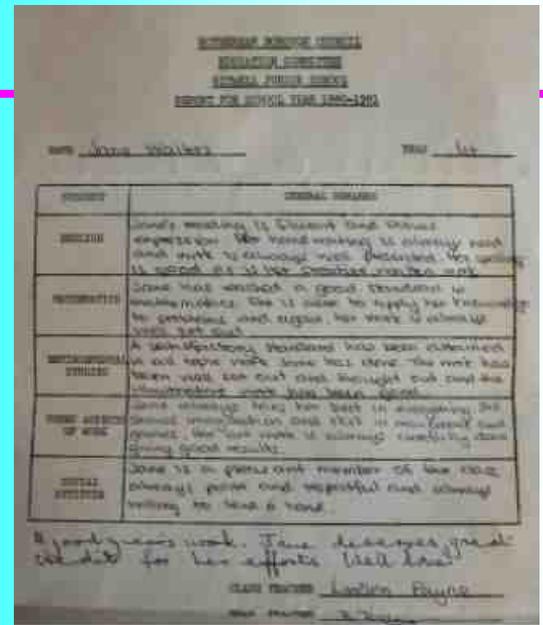
Well, I was lucky enough a few years ago to play the character I had always wanted to play in a musical, which was Maria from 'The Sound of Music'. It was at the Barn Theatre in Oxted. In the story, Maria becomes a nanny and looks after seven children and here they were played by lots of children I had taught at St Mary's.

What did your school report say?

I was a very good girl at school!
This is a photo of my report from when I was in Year 3 (a long time ago!). I didn't have to wear a school uniform at Infant and Junior School but I did when I went to Secondary School.



Mrs Gautrey was a model pupil



Next time Mrs Cope from Infants will be taking her turn in the spotlight. So here's your chance to ask her anything you like!!! Send your questions to Newsletter@stmarysprimary.org