



St Mary's C of E (Aided) Primary School



NEWSLETTER

“A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum through wisdom and love”

Telephone: 01798 872007

WB 15th November 2021

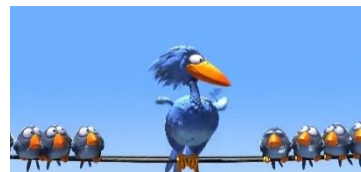
Parents evening – Thank you to all the parents that attended parents evenings. It is so important to discuss the children at the beginning of the year, check that they are settled and ready to learn and the teacher can discuss the baseline data for where your child is currently. If this information was not given, then please contact the teacher directly through the class email. Our testing for reading and maths gives standardised data that can be helpful for parents to track progress. When you are looking at your child's data, we would be concerned with any score in the 70's or below. The average range would be between 80 -105 and anything over 105 would mean that they are doing better than expected. If you need any help with this, or it raises concerns, then please speak to the class teacher or Miss Wilkins in her role as SENDCo or Miss Gorecka as Deputy Head.

Curriculum – As we are off and running with our curriculum this year we wanted to share some highlights. These include the use of: Half termly topics; spiral approach to the curriculum to embed in long term memory; hooks to help recall and extend learning; tiered vocabulary that is progressive; progression of skills and knowledge to know starting points and move forward from there. You can find more information under “Curriculum” on our website if you would like to know more.

Anti-bullying week – Bullying is something that we take very seriously at St Mary's. We have lots in place to support the children in telling someone if it is happening to them. Some unkindness from children is to be expected, as they learn to work alongside each other and develop relationships, but bullying is prolonged unkindness from one person to another with a control imbalance and we deal with this swiftly once made aware.

The Birds – Pixel – This launched our anti-bullying week this week. Please look at the YouTube link below with your child and discuss how we should always be kind.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjoDEQgyTig>



Odd socks day – What a brilliant turn out of socks – so many colours, shapes and sizes. Thank you to all who took part.



Vine leaves – Matthew G (Thai) - For being kind and caring to all his peers at Forest School, and helping them learn. **Beatrice** for Humility (Ind) as she is always putting others first – this is a lovely quality. **Caleb (Jap)** for creativity and wisdom – you are so creative and have the best attitude for learning. **Deborah (NZ)** for perseverance and for always trying her best and not letting a challenge defeat her! **Noah and Teddy (NZ)** for friendship for looking out for each other and showing great compassion when their friends are in need.

Vision for the school – We were praised this week in an external report – we talked to the visitors about the community/school swimming together as a shoal and that everyone swims in the same direction. Every fish/child is unique and special and is colourful in so many ways. We keep fish in our shoal and we are on a journey/swim through the ocean/ world we live in.



Remembrance – Thank you to **William, Keeley and Isla** who represented the school at the church events.



Fireworks – A huge thank you to the PTA for the Fireworks last weekend. We were very blessed with the weather and a huge turnout of people. The feedback has been positive and we were so pleased that so many families were able to have a night out together and it really did bring back the community spirit. **We raised £2,259.00 in profit, which is just phenomenal.**



Achievements – **Toby (Ire)** has been accepted to the 'development centre' for football – well done to him. **Esme (Ind)** has achieved Level 3 in swimming, **Freddie (re)** won 'Man of the match', **Noah, Nicholas and Ivan (Jap)** walked ten miles for scouts, **David (Jap)** earned his sewing/knotting badge for scouts, **Danielle (Jap)** gained her 175m badge in swimming. **Rex (NZ)** gained his green belt in Taekwondo, **Holly (Mex)** came second in the cross country and **Jayden (Ind)** achieved 'Man of the match' in football.

Children in Need – Tomorrow (Friday 19th November) is Children in Need day, we are looking forward to welcoming the **children in their pyjamas, onesies and spotty outfits for a £1 donation**, buckets will be on the gate for all donations.

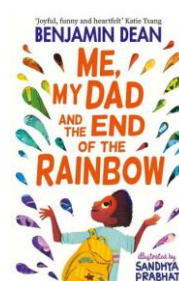
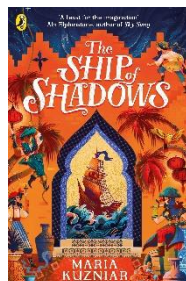


PTA Christmas Hampers – Plans are underway for a Christmas Hamper Raffle. If any local businesses can help with donations then please let myself or a member of the PTA know. Many thanks in anticipation.

Year 6 Bikeability – This week is Road Safety week and was well timed with our Bikeability for Year 6 children. The children were put through their paces to achieve their Level 1 and Level 2. We know that this has made a difference to the safety of our Year 6 children when being out on the road.



Learning – Year 6 are participating in The Weald book award to extend our readers. The children are looking at: **The Last Bear by Hannah Gold; Darwin's Dragons by Lindsay Galvin; City of Rust by Gemma Fowler; The Ship of Shadows by Maria Kuzniar; By Ash, Oak and Thorn by Melissa Harrison and Me, my Dad and the end of the Rainbow by Benjamin Dean.** The children will be working with children from the other locality schools. The texts look at climate change, diversity and inclusion, geographical location, fantasy and some are sci-fi.



St Mary's Church – St Mary's Church is available to members of our community for weddings, baptisms and funerals and there is a family service on the first Sunday of every month, which all are welcome to attend. If you want more information about the church then you can click on this link

<https://www.stmaryspulborough.org.uk/>

Splash – We welcomed SPLASH this week and they shared a message about giving is so important and to give with love.



Jim Beckett – We love welcoming an author as it has such an impact on the children and their reading and consequently writing. This week Jim Beckett zoomed with us and talked to the children about his book ‘Caravan of Doom’ and he shared his creative flair by talking about portals. There was also some ukulele playing to support the children’s imaginations!! If your child would like a copy of this book you can order this through Steyning book shop <https://www.steyningbookshop.co.uk/>

Link to Hope – Jessica L & Jessie W (Chi) are putting together shoeboxes for the ‘Link to Hope’ Charity in conjunction with St Mary’s Church. The girls have managed to fill and wrap approximately 12 shoeboxes so far but would like to get this up to 20. If you would like to donate to this amazing appeal, the girls are looking for:



- 5 x pairs of gloves/ winter hat or scarf ,
- Socks men’s/ladies or children’s
- 5 x face flannels ,
- 4 packs of pencil crayons
- 2 x mugs,
- Disposable razors
- Erasers,
- 8 x Tea Light holders
- Dominoes, Draughts or playing cards - (these can be new or as good as)
- We also need little toys i.e. Barbie’s, balls, fidget toys, little cars (these can be new or as good as)

Please note we do **NOT** need shoe boxes, soap or toothpaste. Thank you in anticipation.
<https://linktohope.co.uk/>



Sleep Out - This is a photo of Amelie at the ‘Big Sleep out’. She braved the elements and survived a night in the cold. **We raised £170 (although it’s not too late to donate).** Please see link below.



It was ‘really’ noisy all night in central Brighton. An ex homeless person told us that this really characterised their time sleeping rough, only being able to sleep for 30 minutes at a time and being in a perpetual state of hyper awareness. Amelie wrote about her experiences and says, ‘On Friday 12th November, after school, My Dad, brother and I all drove to Brighton to take part in a sleepover to raise money for the homeless charity ‘Off the fence’. When we got there, we built a cardboard box and brought three sleeping bags. It was hard to get to sleep though because there were constant car horns and sirens. It devastates me that homeless people have to deal with that every night. Thank you so much if you have already donated to our Just Giving page.



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/david-eifion-wynne2>).

Having trouble sleeping? – Families often don’t know where to seek help and yet issues can often be nipped in the bud with basic and accessible interventions. The National Sleep Helpline helps anyone with sleep issues including adults, parents and young people.



The Helpline is available from 7pm – 9pm Sunday to Thursday on 03303530541

Online safety – **Squid Games** is a 15+ and is completely inappropriate for primary aged children. Please ensure that your child is not watching it as it leads to a high level of violence on the playground. **See poster attached**

A Royal Tea Party



What Parents Need to Know about SQUID GAME

AGE RESTRICTION

15+

Suitable only for 15 years and over.

With themes of horror and violence, it's important for parents and carers to understand the potential risks posed to young audiences by the nine-episode Netflix-exclusive TV show, Squid Game. The series, rated 15+, is about a world where contestants who are deeply in debt play children's games in order to win cash prizes. The losers, however, are violently killed. The show's popularity has meant it has spread in various guises across online platforms, with a heightened risk of children and young people potentially viewing unsuitable content. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers understand exactly what Squid Game is all about.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some might argue that Squid Game contains content that might not even be suitable for older teens, let alone young children. Characters are brutally tortured and killed through stabbings or getting shot as a result of rules developed and enforced by a masked game master. The show also features sexual content and threats of sexual violence, as well as a strong theme of gambling that runs throughout the whole show.

APPEAL TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Whilst the content is very much adult-themed, some features of the show seem to appeal to young children at face-value. The name "Squid Game" may be interpreted as a programme aimed at children rather than adults. The content itself, such as the bright and childish aesthetics, may also appeal to young children, particularly as there's a focus on playground games to go with it.

SIMILAR CONTENT SUGGESTIONS

When using social media and streaming sites, content is recommended based on what is the user has consumed i.e. what they have watched or searched for. Therefore, there is a greater chance of your child being exposed to similar violent or horror-themed content on social media after watching a show like Squid Game.

VIRAL SPIN-OFFS

As well as Netflix, Squid Game has grown in notoriety and prevalence on other platforms, like TikTok and YouTube, with clips of the show going viral. On YouTube Kids, a number of successful channels have taken advantage of the Squid Game trend, creating content such as "How to Draw Squid Game Characters" videos. Its popularity has also led to the creation of app games that put the player in the role of a contestant who is killed if they lose a game.

SCENE RE-ENACTMENTS

Squid Game's pervasive presence on social media has encouraged many content creators to re-enact scenes from the show, which has led to reports of children wanting to also imitate those scenes displayed on social media at home and in school. Much of this content stems from the "Red Light, Green Light" game from the first episode, where contestants attempt to make it past a giant animatronic girl before she shoots them.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Netflix has easily accessible built-in parental controls that allow you to set up a profile for your child with a specific age rating, block them from watching certain shows and even lock their account so it can't be accessed by anyone else. Netflix also allows you to access your child's viewing history to make sure they're not watching anything inappropriate for their age.

CHECK AGE RATINGS

Age ratings on TV shows and films are a way to gauge what is suitable for audiences of different ages. If you are unsure about the content your child is watching, check the age rating to see if the TV show or film is deemed suitable for their age group. If not, try watching the show yourself or talking to other parents who have seen it before to get a better understanding of why it's been rated a certain way.

MONITOR ONLINE ACTIVITY

Squid Game has become a social media craze and it's possible your child will see some content related to the show on various platforms. Therefore, it's important to be aware of which websites your child has visited on their smartphone, tablet or laptop, and to also keep an eye out for which accounts they are following on social media platforms, such as Instagram and TikTok.

HAVE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Making sure your child is comfortable telling you about what they see online can go a long way to ensuring you are kept in the loop about their online use. Showing an interest in what your child is doing online gives you the opportunity to discuss what is and is not appropriate for their age group, and how they might recognise their own feelings towards content they see.

MONITOR BEHAVIOUR

Due to the viral nature of the show, even if your child has not seen Squid Game, it's important to keep an eye on their behaviour. There have been reports from schools of children "playing Squid Game" in the playground and acting aggressively towards the losers as a way to replicate the consequences of losing in the TV show. Viewing content that makes your child feel uncomfortable could also cause them to feel distressed or distracted, so it's important you can easily spot the signs.

WATCH THE SHOW

If you're trying to figure out whether you should let your child watch Squid Game, it might be a good idea to watch the show yourself first. Doing so will allow you to get a better understanding of the show's content and themes, as well as help you decide if this is something you'd feel comfortable with your child being exposed to.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced and highly respected freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The INQUIRER, Carly now works as the news editor for Computer Shopper and IT Pro and writes for a number of publications including Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The Metro, uSwitch and WIRED.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-and-ireland/2021/oct/15/engle-er-council-urges-parents-not-to-allow-children-to-watch-squid-game>
<https://help.netflix.com/en/node/264> | <https://www.mbc.com/1061009400/parental-guidelines-violence>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 27.10.2021



Friends of St Mary's C of E (Aided) Primary School



November 2021
Dear Sir/Madam,

Friends of St Mary's PTA Christmas Hamper Raffle 2021

Friends of St Mary's PTA are planning a Christmas Hamper Raffle to raise much needed funds for the school and are looking for prizes to go into the hampers.

From our last event the funds raised for the school enabled us to purchase a new energy efficient outdoor classroom.

The PTA annually provides funds to buy book bags for the new reception starters, pay for the water and chemicals for the school pool, pay for all the children to see a pantomime at Christmas and crackers for their festive lunch.

This year we have been asked to raise funds to pay for outside sails to provide shade and shelter so the children can continue with outside learning and new reading scheme books.

The school would also like to introduce a Sensory Room on site to provide a breakout space for any children in need.

If you would like to make a donation, help in any other way or if you require any further information then please contact me at school.

Thank you in anticipation,
Amy Hayes
Friends of St Mary's School
07882 418003
pta@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

Did you know...

**72% of cardiac
arrests happen
in the home?**



**Do YOU know how to
be a CPR superhero?**

Simply email info@littlifesavers.org
to start saving lives

Little LifeSavers. Creating a Nation of LifeSavers

littlifesavers.org



Dear Parents

I would like to take this opportunity to explain the work of national charity Little LifeSavers. The charity offers free teaching sessions to schoolchildren in Year 5 and 6 of Primary school, and Year 7 and 8 of Secondary school.

The skills taught in the session are as follows:

- Management of choking in a child
- Child Hands-only CPR
- Adult hands-only CPR
- The recovery position.

The sessions take approximately one hour to teach and require three instructors to deliver. Adequate floor space such as a school hall, and direct teacher supervision are also needed. Children receive a demonstration of the four skills at the start of the session and are then split into three groups to practice the skills with an instructor, rotating every 15 minutes to the next skill. Finally – there is an all-group recap at the end.

One class of 30 children per session are taught.



Our charity vision is to reach every child in Years 5 to 8 throughout the UK with these simple skills, so that they can take appropriate action should they ever need to, and not have to stand by unable to assist because they did not know what to do. It is our hope that a child in Year 5 would receive this training annually through to year 8. Repeat exposure to the skills helps embed them and increase confidence to use them if needed.

It is an enormous task as there are approximately 3.7 million children in 28,000 schools within our targeted range, so we need a lot of volunteers. If each school had a small pool of volunteers that were willing to teach every two months or so between them, we would achieve our vision and create a nation of Little LifeSavers.



Our volunteering opportunity is open to every adult in the UK. We train and support all our volunteers, as well as provide both the equipment to teach the skills and administer the booking of sessions. All our volunteers need do is learn the four simple skills of our teaching model and tell us when they can be available to teach. Teaching is term time and only in schools.

Finally, I would like to add that one of the children we taught recently, went on to save his father from a cardiac arrest. The man returned to work six weeks later. I had the pleasure of interviewing the boy-Henry- and his parents and we will be publishing the story in our upcoming newsletter. So you see – these simple skills can really make a difference.

If you would like to know about becoming a Little LifeSavers Volunteer Instructor, then please email info@littlifesavers.org and we will be delighted to share some information with you. Help us to equip and empower tomorrow's men and women by learning these life- saving skills for yourself, and then practicing them through teaching our children.

Best Wishes

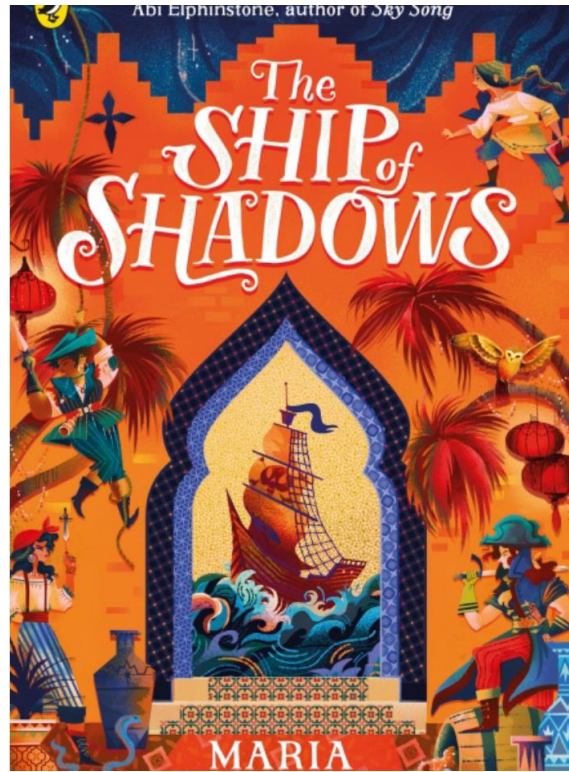
Barbara

Barbara Stanley
Chairperson and Founder



Poem

The Ship of Shadows



Aleja is longing for a timeless adventure,
As a mysterious ship whisks into the harbour.

Devious shadows with curious minds,
There is a secret the crew are trying to hide,
Until the captain speaks what they are risking to find.

Lost City Zerzura, glistening gold,
A telescope tells what's meant to be told.
The sun's ray's shoot down on the sand,
Beasts lurk under the scorching land.
Clouds dance cautiously in the swift whistling wind,
With monstrous creatures known as Jinn.

Everyone's weary, they believe the legend is not true,
Yet an alluring palace proceeds into view.
Washed up as if on a beach,
Only few take the Pearl of what's underneath.

Submerging their feet in as gentle as a fluorescent flower,
The glistening sapphire water giggles euphorically.
In search for a map piece, small and thin,
There is only one way in...

As if by magic statues were speaking,
Riddles exchanged, everyone thinking.
Answers were given,
All tied in a ribbon.
Everyone froze, time had paused,
The gates opened, they all clapped with applause.

A cave too dingy to withstand,
Yet the only chance to retrieve what's theirs,
Collapsing promptly on the rigid floor.
A smile waddling up one another's face,
As timer startled them in their place.
Jems covered the cave like a mosaic.

After racing round in circles as if a devious hound
Aleja eventually knew where to search
Reaching conservatively into a skeleton's skull,
There it was, tattered and tossed.

A sigh of relief flowed through her body,
It didn't last long,
As jinn were planning on righting their wrong.

All raced out at a thunderous pace,
Fresh air whipped around their face.

Family made on just one ship,
Her adventure will last forever.
All was well, for now...

By Charlie Kantsler