



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 22nd November 2021

Welcome – We have had three new families arrive at school in the last couple of weeks so a huge welcome to them as part of our St Mary's family.

Curriculum – The children are fully engaged in their topics this term and the skills and knowledge progression grids are helping us to move their learning on quickly and embed vocabulary in their lessons. The grids are available on our school website under the “Curriculum” tab if you would like to have a look. The progression grids help us to see the curriculum journey that the children make through the school.

School Development – This week the staff looked at writing across the school and how we make our judgements. The teachers focussed on some key criteria and looked at what their judgements would be, and then had this ratified. It was brilliant for our professional development to have this reminder, as writing is on our school development plan. The children have completed the PIRA and PUMA checks this week, this is so we can analyse the papers and find the gaps for the children and their year group. These gaps will then be addressed by the teachers on their planning for the last few weeks and going in to the Spring term.

Anti-bullying week – One kind word goes a long way and many of the teachers have commented on hearing the children use their kind words this week.



Lighting the star at church – We are selling raffle tickets on the playground to give a family a chance to light the star at church. If you are new to the village, this is an annual event and the star shines over Pulborough during Advent.

Vine leaves – **Jessica L (SA)** for the exceptional kindness that you show towards others and your determination to give your very best in all that you do. **Tyler C (Chi)** as he was very helpful to me yesterday afternoon when I could not find the register on the computer, and he could see I was in need of help! **Maryanne (Ita)** - for being sincere in her kindness and consideration towards another pupil. **Jordan (Ita)** - for making a great first impression and making a positive start in Italy class. **Olivia, Martha, Anna and Liam (SL)** for showing kindness in class supporting their peers with their work during science.



Achievements – Well done to the boys in Ireland class for winning their football matches.

Children in Need – What a huge array of pyjamas, onesies and spots! Thank you to everyone for joining in, we raised **£289.59** and this goes to Children In Need charity.

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.

Jim Beckett – Reading is at the heart of what we do and author visits are an important part of this ‘reading diet’. This half term our author was Jim Beckett who wrote ‘The Caravan of Doom’. Jim spoke to the children about how he gets his ideas for writing. Some of the children have come in to school with examples of how they have tried this at home.



Christmas Productions – As we only have one confirmed COVID case currently in KS2 we are going to try and continue with the EYFS & KS1 Christmas productions.

- Thursday 9th December EYFS 2.15pm & 5.30pm,
- Monday 13th December KS1 2.15pm,
- Tuesday 14th December KS1 2.15pm & 5.30pm

These dates are now on the school calendar on our website. We will be asking for parents to do lateral flow before arriving and we will be asking to see the negative result on the NHS app. We will also ask that visitors to the school wear masks throughout. Doors and windows will be open for ventilation so please wear layers.

Please note that we may cancel the parents attending at any time if cases rise again then we will go over to Zoom as part of our COVID risk assessment. We are selling tickets on a first come, first served basis, and a letter giving details will be out shortly, as we are a cashless school, payment will be via Paypal. If any performance has to be cancelled, payments will be refunded, less the Paypal transaction cost.

Other Christmas events:

- **Wednesday 15th December** - On-line Pantomime for the children – we are fortunate that The Lions and the PTA have funded the Pantomime this year.
- **Thursday 16th December Chartwells Christmas Lunch** – If your child is in Year's 3,4,5 or 6 and you wish them to have a Christmas hot lunch, please book using the following link <https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk/Account/Logon.aspx> **No later than 5th December.** If your child has free school meals, paid for by school, then their Christmas meal will be ordered automatically.
- **Friday 17th December Christmas Eucharist** – Parents can join via Zoom. Please contact the office for the Zoom link details.
- **Friday 17th December Pupil & Staff Christmas Jumper / Christmas outfit day £1.00 donation to the PTA.**

Tea and Chat for parents – We are running two tea and chat sessions on the run up to the end of term.

- Miss Wilkins is going to run a session on ‘Understanding SEND as well as Individual Learning Plans and working with outside agencies’ and this will be **via Zoom on Monday 6th at 1.30pm.**
- Mrs Callender is going to run one on Early Reading (for parents in EYFS or Y1) and this will be **via Zoom on Tuesday 14th December at 9.15am.** We will send the links closer to the time.

St Mary's Church – We pray for different members of the church each week. These include Fr Paul, Tony Holloway, churchwardens, choir, bell ringers, Youth workers and the congregation.

Year 6 Girls Football - The Year 6 girl's football team were in action in their second round of matches in Division 1 at Tanbridge House School last Friday. Despite losing two members of their squad on the day, the girls battled their way through over an hours' worth of football without any substitutions. They recorded 3 narrow defeats and a 3 - 0 victory in their final game against Kingslea Primary 'A' Team. **Brooke G** continued her excellent form with two goals taking her overall tally to nine and Captain, **Amelie E-W** scored her second in the league. **Player of the day was Polly B** for the huge improvement in her overall game.

The girls will return for the final round of matches on Friday 3rd December at Tanbridge House School.

Badminton – Well done to Y3 that participated in the Badminton at Collyers. On Tuesday, a group of 10 Year 3 children took part in a badminton festival run by Horsham Sports Services at Collyer's College. This was the first time that any of those involved had played the game before. The children learnt a variety of skills such as serving, footwork, racquet grips, backhand and forehand shots as well as being given the opportunity to try these out in competitive games. Well done to all who took part and a special mention to **Imogen W and Sienna M** for their long rallies.



Home-School notebooks – Guided Reading comments are in the reading journals that are coming home. Do look at the targets and see if you can support this at home.

TT Rock Stars – This is the first week that we have looked at the data in TT Rockstars for speed and accuracy and we will look at this each week. These children will win a gold head teacher sticker, 20 dojos and a posh pencil with a rubber!



Class	Speed	Accuracy
Italy	Flora B	Flora B
India	Amelia L	Ella C
Ireland	Daniel P	Indi P
New Zealand	Isla B	Rex W
Sierra Leone	Martha B	Martha B
USA	Anais B	Scarlett H
China	Jessie W	Harriet J
Mexico	Brodie LC	Brodie LC
South Africa	Luke T	Alex B
Japan	Molly B	Robin H

Youth Club – The Youth Club will be held in the Village Hall **from Wednesday 1st December** and the Youth Club are seeking volunteers willing to share their knowledge and supervise a number of activities. These include:

- Cooking
- Wildlife
- Arts and crafts

The Youth Club would arrange for training and DBS checks. There are also paid support positions so if you are interested go to: <https://sussexcp.org.uk/vacancies/>

Recreation Ground – The Parish Council are looking for a group of parents who would be willing to share their thoughts and opinions about the recreation ground and the facilities that the village has. If you think you could help then please email head@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

Reading lists – Parents have enquired about reading lists for year groups in the school. It is so important that you read as much as possible at home. The children can read comics, newspapers, recipe books, fiction books, non-fiction books and anything else that has print on it. Below are reading lists that may help.

[100 best picture books to read before you are 5 years old](#)

[Suggested reading list year 1 / KS1 Age-5-6](#)

[Suggested reading list year 2 / KS1 Age 6-7](#)

[Suggested reading list year 3 / KS2 Age 7-8](#)

[Suggested reading list year 4 / KS2 Age 8-9](#)

[Suggested reading list year 5 / KS2 Age-9-10](#)

[Suggested reading list year 6 / KS 2 Age 10-11](#)

Foodbank – As things get tighter for families, we are keen to signpost families to local resources. **Horsham Matters Office** Closed from 2 pm Christmas Eve until Tuesday 28th December inclusive

Open from 9am Wednesday 29th December to Friday 31st December 4pm

Closed from 4pm Friday 31st December to Monday 3rd January inclusive

Reopen Tuesday 4th January 2022



Clients can call them to request food vouchers during these times

Foodbanks - Open Thursday 23rd December 4.15 to 6 pm – Lavinia House, Dukes Square, Horsham

All foodbanks closed from Friday 24th to Tuesday 28th December inclusive

Open Wednesday 29th December 10.30am to midday – Redkiln Close (rear of our Charity Store)

Open Thursday 30th December 4.15 to 6 pm – Lavinia House, Dukes Square, Horsham

All foodbanks closed from Friday 31st December to Monday 3rd January inclusive

Back to normal schedule from Tuesday 4th January

Learning – Year 6 have looked at Proverbs 6: 16-19 in RE this week. We explored the seven things that God hates, discussed what the opposites to these actions would be and represented our ideas using freeze frames.



Thank you for your ongoing support.