



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 8th November 2021



Christian values for this half term – We will be thinking about ‘Hope, Perseverance and Courage’. This links with Remembrance.

Remembrance – Today we had our remembrance service in school and the children wore uniforms if they belonged to any of the uniformed groups such as Rainbows, Beavers, Guides, Cubs, Scouts etc. I hope that you have seen the display of poppies – see the photo at the end of the newsletter.



St Mary's Church would love to invite you and your families to Children's Church, it started on Thursday 4th November from **4-5pm**. Join us for songs, crafts, Bible stories, games and snacks, on the **1st and 3rd Thursday of each month**. Please register for your place by contacting Vicky Smith on stmaryschildrenchurch@gmail.com

Working party – Thank you to Mrs Callender for overseeing the morning and a huge thank you to the parents and families that turned up. Mrs Cargill, Mrs Davies, Mr Eifion Wynne, the Seal family, Ms Ansell and family, the Gascoynes, Mrs Davies, Dudai family and the Penfolds. It makes such a difference!



7-a-side Football League - On Friday, the Year 6 girls travelled to Tanbridge House School to compete in the group stages of the Horsham Primary Schools 7-a-side Football League. After a difficult 2-0 opening defeat to Heron Way, St Mary's went on to win their next two matches and finish second in the group, which means that the girls have qualified for the first division. This is particularly impressive given that five children were making their football debuts. **Brooke G** scored a double hat trick against Southwater C and finished with seven from the afternoon in total.

There were also goals for **Alicia B** and **Captain Amelie E-W**. Super defending from **Bella B, Charlie K** and **Polly B** helped **Ellie J** keep 2 clean sheets whilst the hardworking duo of **Abi H** and **Misty M** were fearless in midfield.



We look forward to competing in Division 1 on 19th November & 3rd December.

Sleep Out – **Amelie (SA)** & family are spending the night sleeping out in the grounds of St Peter's Church Brighton to raise money & awareness of rough sleepers, Scan the QR code to go straight to the Just Giving page and donate directly to the charity Off The Fence – who have tackled homelessness for over 20 years.
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/david-eifion-wynne2>



SLEEP OUT

SEND – Have you looked at the resources that we have for children with SEND? Have a look on our website under Parents then SEND. There are lots of resources that can help parents with their child's educational journey. Please remember you can contact Miss Wilkins if you need help or advice.

Achievements – **Scarlett E (Mex)** won her section in the Kidstri Winter series awards and she came first in the Novice 1 section. We are very proud of her considering before this year she had never done a triathlon. Thank you to Mrs Gowland and Miss T's encouragement and support. **Faith N (SA)** for her talents in football and **Spencer N (NZ)** who scored numerous goals in his match – you should be proud of yourselves. **Archie D (Ind)** for scoring five goals in his match, **Caleb D (Italy)** for being 'Trainer of the week' in his football and **Caleb (Mex)** for gaining his DIY badge at cubs and Megan (Mex) for Stage 6 in swimming. **Daisy (Ire)** for gaining a certificate for good acting at Stage Coach.

Hatchimals/Toys – A reminder that **NO** toys should be coming in to school. The difficulty is that they get misplaced and they cause arguments. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

St Mary's writing competition – Winners of the competition are:

Italy –	Ronnie H
India -	Peter S
NZ -	Sienna E
Ireland –	Daniel P
USA –	Jens C
SL –	Anna E
Mexico -	Megan W
China –	Ruben S
South Africa –	Charlie K
Japan –	Nicholas T



Everyone who entered has been awarded 20 dojos together with a certificate and a gift. The children have commented on how much they enjoyed having a competition.

Vine leaves – **Robyn D (SA)** for your conscientious approach to your learning and showing such thoughtfulness towards others.

Kindness Shield – **Billy B (SA)** we are so proud of the way that you show kindness and humility. Every morning you help another child start the day in a positive way. You don't have to, but you continue to do this. Thank you for being you and being so kind, thoughtful and patient.

Homework grids – These are up on Google Classroom so please have a look and encourage the children to complete some tasks for homework.

Safety online – A few children have been commenting on watching films on Netflix – please see the attached flyer with some helpful parent advice to keep the children safe.

Parent's evenings – Thank you to everyone who attended parents evening. This is the perfect opportunity for parents to ask their class teachers how the children have settled in to their new class and what the children's targets are for the year. If you still have questions then please contact the teachers via the class email – we understand that this is a difficult time for parents with limited visits in to school.

Staffing – Following interviews before half term for a Deputy Headteacher, we are delighted to inform you that we have appointed Mrs Hatcher. Mrs Hatcher will start her post in January. She will be the Deputy Headteacher and will have a teaching responsibility in India class in the afternoons. We hope that you will welcome her warmly in January and take the time to have a chat with her.

Weald Cross Country – Thank you to Mrs Treadwell who took a team of 24 children to compete in the cross country running event at The Weald School, Billingshurst. Well done to all that participated.



Nut free school - Please be aware that we are a nut free school. We have children throughout the school who need an Epi-pen as they can have a severe anaphylactic reaction to contact with nuts and seeds. **THIS IS A LIFE THREATENING CONDITION.**

Please do not send your child into school with anything for their lunch or snack that contains nuts or seeds. This includes Nutella, peanut butter, hummus, sushi with sesame seeds, cereal bars with nuts, etc. Please check ingredient lists carefully. We do not want to put any children at risk.



Odd socks (Wednesday 17th November) and anti-bullying week – Next week is anti-bullying week and the theme is 'One Kind Word' and we will be looking at this as a whole school approach. We take bullying very seriously. Every school has issues with bullying as children learn to socialise with each other and find out about friendships. The definition of bullying is unwanted, aggressive behaviour among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time and the imbalance is retentive over time.

We have worry boxes in our classrooms and the children have worry cards in their drawers where they can tell the adults/other children what is going on. The children also have a pupil-safeguarding booklet, which tells them how they can deal with bullying. We use buddy bands at playtime to ensure that children have friends to play with.

When we know about bullying incidents we take a proactive approach, we will meet with the children separately to start with, and then meet with the children together and then if the incidents are still not resolved we will involve parents on both sides to mediate and find out more.

On Wednesday 17th November, we will be encouraging the children to wear odd socks to support anti-bullying week. It will be great to see how wacky we can be!



Children in Need – Children are welcome to join in on Friday the 19th of November for a big fun BBC Children in Need Day for a whole day of fun, learning and feel good fundraising!

Our Dress-up theme is PJS, Onesie and Spots. Donation of £1.00 per child will be collected at the gate!

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/schools/primary-school/>



Photos of the library visit – On Wednesday both UK and Austria class walked to the library in Pulborough.



They were able to look at the wide range of books and resources that the library has. The children each chose a book and used their new library cards to borrow it. We are so lucky to have a library in the village and hope the visit starts to encourage a lifelong love of books, reading and discovery.

Year 6 Bikeability – Year 6 have Bikeability next week. Please ensure they have a change of clothes and waterproofs as this will continue no matter what the weather. If you need to leave a bicycle on the school site, please let the class teachers know and we will store them away overnight.

Jim Beckett – We are delighted to be welcoming local children's author Jim Beckett to talk to KS2 children on Thursday 18th November. During this 'VIRTUAL EVENT' with St Mary's children he will talk about his hilarious and inventive new book 'The Caravan at the Edge of Doom'. 'The Steyning Bookshop' have organised this virtual visit and offer you the chance to pre-order the book at the special event price of £6 per book (RRP £6.99). In addition, as Jim lives in Steyning, we can arrange for Jim to personally name-dedicate and sign your child's copy!

Thank you to all parents for your ongoing support at this challenging time. We are making a difference to the children and that is what counts.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about NETFLIX

Netflix is a subscription-based streaming service that allows users to watch TV shows and movies on any internet-enabled device that supports the software, such as smart TVs, phones and tablets. The pandemic saw a surge in children consuming on-demand content as many families relaxed their screen-time rules. Netflix's diverse range of programming caters for all age groups – so it's important for parents to recognise the potential risks of children using the service and the measures to help their child enjoy a safe streaming experience.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Netflix produces and curates an extensive catalogue of content that can provide hours of entertainment. If they share the same user account as an adult, this can potentially lead to children accidentally viewing all manner of inappropriate content, including nudity, profanity and extreme violence. This can happen easily on shared accounts, as Netflix cannot establish who's watching.

BINGE-WATCHING

Netflix allows users to view shows and movies quickly and easily without adverts or interruptions, making excessive screen time a concern. Binge-watching has become more common during the pandemic, due to Netflix's regularly updated content and algorithms which recommend content very similar to what's previously been enjoyed. Marathon viewing sessions can lead to children staying up too late, affecting their mood and concentration the next day.

SCREEN ADDICTION

From TVs and phones to consoles and tablets, Netflix is available on almost any device with an internet connection – making it extremely difficult to manage children's screen time. The service is now adding games to its mobile app, tempting users to spend even more time on the platform. Screen addiction can distract children from important activities like schoolwork and socialising, and can impact their health by reducing their exercise and sleep.

HACKING ATTEMPTS

With millions of users worldwide, Netflix is often targeted by hackers who try to steal usernames and passwords to gain access to people's accounts. If successful, they can then steal payment details or try to sell stolen personal data on the dark web, providing other criminals with a profitable opportunity. Netflix also doesn't provide two-factor authentication, making the hackers' task that little bit easier.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Netflix's Teleparty feature became popular during lockdown periods as it allows users from different households (friends and relatives, for example) to synchronise when they watch content. It requires an access link to be sent to the people you wish to invite: the link, however, can also be distributed to people you don't know. A text chat feature enables interaction with the other users in real-time: this represents a risk to children if a stranger gains access to the Teleparty.

Advice for Parents & Carers

KEEP ACCOUNTS SECURE

Netflix doesn't use two-factor authentication, so a strong password is vital. Your child's Netflix password should be unique (not one they've used elsewhere) and a minimum of eight characters with a mix of letters, numbers and symbols. Emphasise not to share their login details with anyone and remind them to always log out after using the app – so their account remains inaccessible, even if their device is lost or stolen.

SET UP PROFILE PINS

Netflix account holders can lock profiles using a four-digit PIN. Doing this can prevent your child from accessing the wrong account and viewing content that isn't appropriate for their age. Try setting a PIN for each account on your Netflix app – ideally avoiding numbers that would be easily guessed, such as dates of birth. Remember not to share these PINs with anyone, including family.

CHECK MATURITY RATING

Netflix warns about content that includes violence, sex, profanity and nudity. These warnings form part of the show or movie's 'maturity rating'. Users can restrict age ratings to avoid children viewing age-inappropriate content. On their profile, open the Profile and Parental Control settings and choose the maturity level for the shows and movies you want to allow.

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CENSORED

SWITCH OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a show or movie concludes, Netflix's algorithms select content with similar themes that it thinks your child will enjoy next. This new content starts automatically after a 10-second countdown. Disabling this auto-play feature reduces the possibility of your child being shown something inappropriate and provides a natural break to help prevent them becoming too immersed in Netflix.

CREATE A KIDS' PROFILE

Setting up a Netflix Kids experience profile means your child can only access content which is suitable for children aged up to 12 years. All other content is automatically blocked. This rating can be further restricted via the child's profile settings. Setting up a Netflix Kids experience profile will help to prevent your child from viewing age-inappropriate content.

HELLO MY NAME IS OSCAR

CHECK VIEWING HABITS

Netflix has tools which enable parents and carers to monitor what their child has been watching. Selecting 'Viewing Activity' in each profile's account settings displays a list of what content has been viewed (and when). This can reassure parents that their child is watching age-appropriate content and can open avenues for discussing your child's favourite shows and movies, and why they like them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: www.help.netflix.com | www.about.netflix.com | www.ofcom.org.uk

St Mary's C of E Primary School – Virtual Author Visit – Jim Beckett

THURSDAY 18th NOVEMBER



Dear Parents & Carers

On **Thursday 18th November**, local children's writer **JIM BECKETT** will have a 'VIRTUAL EVENT' with St Mary's children to talk about his hilarious and inventive new book 'The Caravan at the Edge of Doom'.

'The Steyning Bookshop' have organised this virtual visit and offer you the chance to pre-order the book at the special event price of £6 per book (RRP £6.99). In addition, as Jim lives in Steyning, we can arrange for Jim to personally name-dedicate and sign your child's copy!

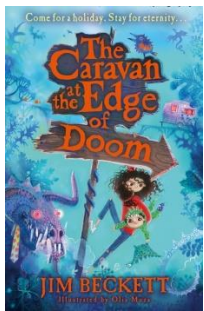
The books will be delivered to the school the week following the visit. In addition, The Steyning Bookshop will give St Mary's School a book-buying credit as a percentage of their sales!

The deadline for ordering is SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21st.



About Jim Beckett

Jim Beckett has been a teacher, comedian, pest control administrative assistant, seasonal elf, and census collector. He prefers reading books, writing books, borrowing books from the library, taking books to the pub, and looking at books on shelves. Jim lives with his family in a conventional arrangement.



About Caravan at the Edge of Doom

When her grandparents explode in their caravan toilet late one night, twelve-year-old Harley discovers a surprising truth: their toilet is a gateway to the Land of the Dead, and they are its Guardians. Well, they were. But there's no time to mourn their passing.....Because Harley's baby brother has accidentally gone with them to the Land of the Dead. And Harley only has 24 hours to rescue him before he's trapped there FOREVER! This hilarious, thrilling debut features exploding grandparents, unexpected heroes and a truly EPIC adventure.

Gudrun from the bookshop says "*Genuinely funny, had me snorting tea all over my duvet, but also contains thrills, spills, plummets from towering cliffs, and many other moments of nail-biting peril!*"

The Irish Times says "*A madcap comedy adventure with unexpected twists and a thrilling time limit ... Hilarious.*"

North Somerset Teacher's Book Awards say "*A thoroughly enjoyable tale - perfect for captivating a class at story time!*"

HOW TO PRE-ORDER YOUR BOOK VIA THE STEYNING BOOKSHOP ONLINE STORE

- 1) Go to <https://www.steyningbookshop.co.uk/product-category/signed-books/school-author-events/>
- 2) Add the book / books to your shopping basket
- 3) Select 'LOCAL PICKUP' (No postage charge)
- 4) Enter Billing Address as normal. In ORDER NOTES add 'ST MARYS PULBOROUGH EVENT, CHILD'S NAME & YEAR GROUP'. Alternatively, you can add these details instead of your shipping address.
- 5) Proceed to payment. (Payments are processed via Paypal but you don't need a Paypal account)
- 6) Orders will be handed out to the children at school W/C 22nd November.
- 7) ORDER DEADLINE SUNDAY 21st November.

*Some newer i-phone users experience problems with the shopping basket,
If you have problems ordering, call the bookshop to order by phone on 01903 812062.*

Wreath Making Workshop



Make your own door wreath!

No experience necessary

Saturday 27th November

At St Mary's Church, Pulborough

Two sessions available: 10am-12.30pm

or 2pm-4.30pm

Cost: £35 per session

(All materials and refreshments included)

Tutor: Barbara Cauldicourt

**Limited spaces: book yours by contacting Ann
Kaiser on 01798 872819 or ann.kaiser@live.co.uk**

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All camps Mon 20th Dec - Thurs 23rd Dec
9-4pm drop off from 8.30am
£19.99 per day, single day bookings available
Use online code WS25 for 25% off

Our Activity Professionals have additional training in order to provide the best care to the children under their supervision, specifically the Transcend Level 2 Award in Infection Prevention, Mitigation and Management.

In the event these courses are canceled, we will issue a full refund within 7 days.

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A packed lunch
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