



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



NEWSLETTER

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

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WB 8th March 2021

Return to school – Thank you to everyone for the smooth and effective way that the children have all returned to school. We are so grateful that everyone has followed the staggered starts and finishes and has worn a mask to help protect others. The children and staff have loved being back and we love the sound of the children laughing and having fun. It is so important for them.

School values – As a school, we have been thinking about our return to school and how, as we come out of lockdown, it is our opportunity to flourish and create new habits, routines and to do new things. The children were able to describe how they wanted to flourish.



Parent's evenings – Next week we are holding 'Return to School' Parent's evenings on **Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th March**. This is a meeting to find out a bit more about how lockdown was for your children, what learning was like in lockdown for you as a family and to discuss teaching and learning as your child returns to school. Please book this through School Cloud or phone the school office if you are experiencing difficulties.

Learning during lockdown – There was a fantastic article about our school in the RH magazine that came out to all properties in the village. Do have a look if you have not seen it.



School photographs – We are having class photographs on **Wednesday 17th March**. Please ensure that the children turn up for school in full school uniform.

World Book Day – We are so pleased that we moved this! The majority of the children have loved dressing up and have loved showing off their costumes, talking about the books and learning more about book characters. Thank you to Miss Gorecka for organising World Book Day this year. It was lovely to see the children engaging in reading activities such as 'Masked reader', QR codes and hearing different books.



Easter Play – Sierra Leone and USA class will be participating in the Easter Play this year to give the children the opportunity to look at drama and music. We will be filming this and then sending out the link to parents to enjoy.

Early Birds & Roosters – Our wrap around childcare starts as of Monday 15th March;

Early birds - 8am until start of lessons

Roosters - End of lessons until 4.30pm or 5.30pm

Both bookable via School Gateway or contact the office if you need help.

Forest Schools – Last week the Year 1 children were at Forest Schools and focused on activities around perseverance and resilience. They tried to light their own fires and looked at what was needed to do this. It took a lot of patience and resilience to get the spark that lit the cotton wool.



Road Safety – West Sussex County Council asked Year 5 and Year 6 to put together road safety posters that we can display at the front of our school. Thank you to all those who have sent in an entry. We will wait to see which posters are chosen.



RE - Year 6 made the most of Tuesday afternoon's beautiful weather during our outdoor RE lesson. The children enjoyed working collaboratively in groups to retell sections of Luke 24 - the events that took place three days after the crucifixion of Jesus. Following on from this, they used evidence from the Bible passages and other evidence sources to write reports explaining why Christians believe in the resurrection of Jesus. It was great to see their engagement and interpretations.



Lyle Aichroth challenge – One of our ex pupils is raising money for the Ruth Strauss foundation by running 1240km in March with friends. This foundation raises money for rare forms of lung cancer, which can affect any age. The Ruth Strauss foundation provides grants to fund research into these cancers and provides emotional support to patients and their families. Please click on the link if you would like to donate towards this very worthy cause.

[Gofundme](#)

Fire Safety – This week the Fire Service education department were welcomed in to the classrooms of UK and Austria, Year 2 and Year 5 children. It is great that we can still add these experiences to the children's learning now we are back in school. The fire service talked about fires and how they can be caused, what to do in the event of a fire, how to stay safe around fire and hoax phone calls and how dangerous this can be.

Heading towards Easter – The school are fortunate to have some eggs in an incubator and we are waiting for them to hatch. The children will be watching this via a webcam in their classes and then the children will be allowed to hold the chicks once they are born. This is a St Mary's tradition and it always helps us get ready for the Easter holidays.



Year 5 have Greek Day next week on Friday 19th March – please do not forget!



