



The St Mary's News

E-mail: schooloffice@st-marystimsbury.bathnes.sch.uk www.stmarystimsbury.co.uk

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A note from Mr Cox and Mrs Brewer

Hello and welcome to St Mary's news.

We are entering a very busy time for the school with lots of developments happening. Mrs Brewer and myself would like to take this opportunity to highlight a few of the exciting projects.

As you are hopefully aware, in September, we changed the way phonics was being taught in school and we began to use a programme called SoundsWrite. This is having a very positive impact on the learning in school and the staff are being supported by a specialist from the English Hub, Mrs Saint-Carreyett. Miss Wylie, who is our phonics lead, is also providing support and ensuring the positive development of phonics teaching and learning.

In our Early Years class, we are receiving support from the MNSP specialist team. Their focus is to look at the provision and to support Miss Leach and Mrs Barnes in any changes or updating required. As a place of learning not only do we expect the children to learn and develop but also the school as a whole. Therefore we are constantly evaluating our own practise and always striving for it to be the best possible.

We would like to thank you for your continued support on this exciting journey that we are on and we look forward to sharing further future developments with you.

Last two week's Learning Stars:



WELL DONE EVERYONE!

Noah Broad Isaac Corston Magnus Dale Lily Button
George Edney Summer Martin Reggie Redpath-Smith
Poppy Booth Earth Jeffery Sophia Maddison-Plazas Noah Whitty
Lily Hilton Jake Squire Thomas Hilton Isabella Hunter-Wandzel
Oscar- Beau Redman-Richards Spike Burton Jackson Keirl
Amelia-Lily Carter Phoebe Cracknell Tilly-Faith Crouch
Scarlett Hill Dora Willenz Jack Tibbs Mylo Stott

Last two Week's winning team:-

Williams Austen

New Look
Newsletter



PTA

The next PTA event will be a school disco booked for the 28th February. So dust off your dancing shoes and get the sparkle ready to support the PTA by attending this event.

Class news:-

These are just some of the highlights of the amazing learning experiences going on at St Mary's.

Ducklings – The ducklings have been looking at ice and exploring its properties.

Year 1 – In science they have been testing different materials and their properties. They have been looking at the language 'opaque', 'transparent', 'absorbent', 'non absorbent', 'waterproof' and 'non waterproof'.

Year 2- This week they have been undertaking work on multiplication in maths.

Year 3- This week the class have been looking at different forces and testing them using tins down ramps. It was a very engaging and interactive learning opportunity.

Year 4 – Year 4 have been writing some amazing pieces of work and are getting ready to complete a scary, piece of suspense writing.

Year 5- They have been working extremely hard in English, understanding and interpreting their class text, 'There's a boy in the girls bathroom', by Louis Sachar.

Year 6 – Eagles had a very successful trip to the Life Skills Centre and took part in a lot of interactive learning.

OFSTED Action Plan Update.

In every newsletter from now on, I will be putting in an update on key action points from the OFSTED action plan to keep you informed of the improvements in school.

Key Area 1 – Leadership and Management

1.4 Develop and strengthen the role and effectiveness of subject leads in leading their area of responsibility. **Two members of staff are on middle leadership training and all staff get 1 to 1 meeting with the senior leaders. A number of staff meetings are dedicated to developing leadership and the curriculum. Subject leader meetings have been established. A sharing and understanding of development plan with staff has been completed with a sharing of actions.**

Key Area 2 – Teaching and Learning

2.4 Improve teachers understanding, interpretation and use of assessment information to plan and deliver the curriculum. **There has been three staff meeting on the use of Assessment for Learning in the classroom, led by Mr Finlay. Staff has also been trained in using the online progress tracker and regular update that. We have six weekly pupil progress meeting to track progress and implement any support. Senior leaders monitor and report and assessment standards and put in support where needed.**

Key Area 4 – Improve the approach to teaching phonics and early reading. **Sounds Write phonics programme has been implemented. All Key stage one teachers and teaching assistants have been trained on Sounds Write. Started to train KS 2 staff. New reading books linking to Sounds Write are in use. Working with phonics expert from English Hub. New phonics lead, Miss Wylie, supporting and evaluating impact. Further and regular support and training for staff. Monitoring of the quality of teaching going on regularly alongside one to one meetings.**

Reminders:-

Just a quick reminder to say that if another adult is picking up your child can you please let the school office know.

FA Small Schools County Finals

Last Friday Mr Finlay took the school football team to the FA Small Schools County Finals tournament at Weston-Super-Mare College. They did amazingly well and got through to the finals where they lost a tight, hard fought match 2-1. They represented themselves and the school very well. Well done team!

Careers Day

On behalf of the staff, children and myself I must say a big thank you to everyone who helped make our careers day a real success. The range of different careers that we had was great. Days and enrichment activities such as careers day all hinge on the effort and commitment that the school community show and that was evident in last week's day.

Due to the great success and enjoyment the children got from the day, we will be looking to run another day sometime in the summer term. I will be looking for a range of different professions.

Collective Worship

Our value this term is 'Service'. This week we have been learning about 'Courageous Service'. In Worship we heard the story of the 'Hero of Haarlem' about a little boy in Holland, who saved his whole village from being flooded when he managed to plug a leak in a dyke with his finger! We reflected upon which small actions we could do which could have great consequences for other people in our lives.

Next week, we will launch our 'Worship Champions'. One child from each class will be the Worship Champion for the week. They will have a special badge, and sit on chairs for Worship. It will be their responsibility to update the class book after each worship.

Intervention Groups.

As from the start of Term 4 we will be linking our pupil progress meetings and intervention together. This will then enable us to send letters to any parent whose child is going to be doing an intervention group. All intervention groups will be run on a six-week programme as they are designed to support children with very specific learning needs. If a child requires longer this of course will be looked at but monitored closely to ensure the correct intervention is happening.

General notices.

Last week, we had a music service called Rock Steady in school to do an assembly for the whole school.

Rock Steady are coming back next week to do Key Stage 1 and 2 workshops and then the children will be sent home with an information leaflet about the offer of music tuition. As a school, we provide opportunities and pass on information about other opportunities. Rock Steady offers a different kind of service and the school is passing that opportunity on to our pupils.

A note about safeguarding...

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our pupils please contact the school to speak to Mr Finlay, Mrs Brewer, Mrs Purnell or Mr Cox. The safety of our young people is the responsibility of us all.

TERM DATES 2019-2020			
	INSET DAYS (School Closed to Pupils)	Start for pupils	Finish for pupils
Term 1	Monday 2 September	Tuesday 3 September 2019	Thursday 24 October 2019
Term 2	Friday 25 October Friday 22 November	Monday 4 November 2019	Friday 20 December 2019
Term 3		Monday 6 January 2020	Friday 14 February 2020
Term 4		Monday 24 February 2020	Friday 3 April 2020
Term 5		Monday 20 April 2020	Friday 22 May 2020
Term 6	Friday 26 June 2020 Monday 20 July 2020	Monday 1 June 2020	Friday 17 July 2020

Tuesday 4 th February	Year 1 Class Collective Worship – Year 1 parents invited to join in the school hall - 9am
Thursday 6 th February	Year 2 trip to 'We are the Curious'
Friday 7 th February	Parent forum reviewing homework 9:00 – 10:00
Tuesday 11 th February	Parent Consultation Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13 th February	Term 3 AWARDS – 9am School Hall Parent Consultation Evening 3:40pm-7:00pm
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day – Dress up as your favourite book character