

# The St Mary's News



Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

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## A note from Mr Cox, Mrs Brewer and Mr Finlay,

Hello and welcome to St Mary's news.



### Remote Learning

We will be putting a parent / carer guide on the website next Wednesday under the Parent tab explaining how to access Google Classroom should we need to close a bubble, Key Stage or the School.

### Christmas Events:

With the very different times we live in, Christmas in school this year is going to be different. However, we are going to be recording some events and putting Christmas online so please watch this space for more information.

### A BIG Thank you

I would like to take this chance to say thank you to a few people in our school community.

Firstly, a big thank you to Mr Thorne for all his hard work and time in putting together a virtual tour of the school so that prospective parents can view the school safely.

Another big thank you to Mr Squire who very kindly removed a damaged tree from our forest school area.

Also, I'd like to say a big thank you to Mrs Campbell who came in at the beginning of term and carried out some mindfulness training with the children and teachers.



As we further develop our use of Seesaw could I just remind everyone that any images that are put on Seesaw are not to be copied and added to social media websites. This is to ensure the safety of our children and we thank you for your co-operation with this.

### Christmas Cards

Due to current guidance we are going to have to do Christmas cards differently this year. From the 1<sup>st</sup> of December children will be able to bring cards in and place them in a box in their classroom. This will carry on until the 11<sup>th</sup> of December when the teachers will sort the cards, quarantine them and then distribute to hand out on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

## Leaving the school site

At the end of the day could I please ask that once you have your child/ren, could you please leave promptly and not stand near the school gates. We need to ensure space and keep movement once the children have been safely handed over.

## What we have done well

**Reception:** Have had an amazing time learning how to peel and chop onions, garlic and carrots to make carrot soup.

**Year 1:** In year 1 they have produced some amazing story writing based on the story 'One Snowy Night'.

**Year 2:** Our year 2 class have been working very hard on subtraction in maths with some amazing results.

**Year 3:** This week we have been carrying out some assessments and Mr Daniels has been very impressed with his classes' attitude and positive mindset to the tests.

**Year 4:** As with Year 3 Mr Finlay has been blown away by the growth mindset that you have demonstrated this week during testing. Well done.

**Year 5:** Miss Seyers and Year 5 have done some great work on the Amazon rainforest this week.

**Year 6:** This week Year 6 have done some amazing writing using dialogue to convey character. Well done Year 6.

As a whole school I have been really pleased with the effort that everyone is putting in to making sure our school is a calm and focused place of learning. This includes moving around the school quietly, settling to morning tasks quickly and being focused in lessons.

**Fund raising update:** Thank you everyone for supporting the school in raising money for both The British Legion Poppy Appeal and Children in Need. We raised a fantastic total of £216.15 for the Poppy Appeal and £116.70 for Children in Need.

## Celebrations



### Stars of the week

Ducklings – Bear, Theo H

Rabbits – T'gan, Tilly

Badgers – Charlie, Finley

Bees – Annabel, Charlie

Otters – Jack, Leah-Mai

Lions – Elliot, Jordan

Eagles – Oscar, Evelyn

Community Wellbeing Hub (formerly called the Compassionate Community Hub).

I have attached a copy of a flyer, reminding everyone of the free support that there is available to all, especially in these challenging times.



**COMMUNITY WELLBEING HUB**

**0300 247 0050** **EMAIL:** BATHNES.thehub@virginicare.co.uk  
**WEBSITE:** www.compassioncb.org.uk/wellbeing

Housing

Feeling isolated, lonely or anxious

Money advice & benefits support

Stopping smoking

Accessing food, transport or medication

Achieving a healthy weight

 **virginicare** Bath & North East Somerset Council  
Improving People's Lives

Keeping active

Employment issues & advice



**Save the Children**  
**CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Staff and pupils will be supporting Christmas Jumper Day.

Wear your amazing, wacky, bright and most outrageous Christmas jumper and donate a £1 to Save the Children.

Our core value this term is Community (Koinonia) Here are some activities that you can do with your child/ren to explore this value together.

# COMMUNITY

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value COMMUNITY. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

## TALK TOGETHER ABOUT COMMUNITY...

There are many different kinds of community and most of us are part of several. We may belong to a school, a church, a club or a village or town. Belonging to a community means that we are not just an individual, separate from everyone else, but we are in relationship with others.

- Which **communities** do you belong to?
- Why is it important to you that you belong to them?
- How would life be different if you did not belong?



## READ TOGETHER...

### Jesus feeds 5000 people

Everyone loved to see and listen to Jesus. So everywhere Jesus went, many people followed.

One day a very big crowd gathered to see Jesus – more than five thousand people! There were men, women and children everywhere: sitting on the grass, standing under the trees, all trying to catch a glimpse of Jesus and hear what he had to say. Later when he had finished teaching, Jesus went around meeting people. Everyone was having a great day and nobody wanted to go home.

But the disciples began to worry. "Jesus, you need to send these people away now," they said, "they are a long way from home and will soon be getting hungry and we don't have any food to give them."

"It's alright," Jesus said, "You can give them something to eat."

"How can we do that!" exclaimed his friends, "It would cost loads of money to feed all these people! One young boy has donated his lunch but 5 barley loaves of bread and 2 fish won't be nearly enough."

"Tell everyone to sit down ready for a picnic," said Jesus. Then he prayed to God "Thank you for this food," he said, before he gave the bread and fish to his friends to share among the crowd. They looked at each other mystified, knowing that the bread and fish would soon run out. But they began to hand out the food...and more food...and more food, until at last they realised that everyone was happily eating. "Where did all that bread and fish come from?" they wondered. "How did so little food manage to feed so many people?"

Later, when the crowd had gone home, Jesus' friends went round with baskets to pick up the leftovers. What an amazing day it had been. They had seen Jesus teach people, help people, and somehow turn 5 loaves and 2 fish into enough food for a feast that no one could ever forget!



## QUIZ

### The bread we eat

The 5 loaves that the boy in the Bible story gave to Jesus were made from barley. Most of the bread we eat is made from wheat, but bread can be made from a number of different grains and have all kinds of shapes.

Match the loaf shapes with their names:

**tin, farmhouse, cob, bagel, baguette, bloomer, cottage**



## THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

'I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; Together we can do great things.'

*Mother Teresa*

Can you think of a task that can be done with others but not alone?



## FAMILY FOCUS

Think about Mother Teresa's words of wisdom (overleaf). What are the special gifts and talents of each member of your family?

How do each of you use your gifts and talents for the benefit of everyone in the family?

I'm good at woodwork. I make things for our house.

I love gardening. I grow fruit and vegetables for everyone.

I enjoy painting. I make pictures and cards for presents

I like singing and making up plays. I put on shows for the family.



## HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

### Become a Baker

Bake some loaves of bread or bread rolls together as a family. Eat some at home and take others to school. You can find a recipe by entering 'easy bread recipes' into a search engine.



## FASCINATING FACTS About bread

Bread is perhaps the food most associated with community. For thousands of years it has been an essential part of the family diet. Bread is also part of many religious and cultural ceremonies.

Jewish families celebrate the start of Shabbat (the sabbath) by eating a special loaf called challah.



In Russia, when an important or respected guest arrives at someone's home, as a symbol of welcome they are presented with a loaf of bread with a salt shaker placed on top.

In Christian worship bread has a particular significance:

- As part of the service of holy communion, a loaf of bread is broken, shared and eaten to remember Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.
- Spiced and fruited hot cross buns (so called because of the cross across the top) are eaten in Lent, the period leading up to Easter.
- At Harvest Festival a loaf in the shape of a sheaf of corn is often a focal part of the decoration of the church.



## HALL OF FAME

### Malala Yousafzai

Malala is now so famous that her name is known right around

the world, but the life of this amazing young person began in an ordinary and unremarkable village in Pakistan. Malala Yousafzai's father was a teacher in the local community and wanted all his children to have a good education in order that they could have fulfilling and successful lives. But, Malala writes:

"Everything changed when the Taliban took control of our town in the Swat Valley. The extremists banned many things like owning a television and playing music - and enforced harsh punishments for those who defied their orders. And they said girls could no longer go to school. I spoke out publicly on behalf of girls and our right to learn. And this made me a target. In October 2012 on my way home from school, a masked gunman boarded my school bus and asked "Who is Malala?" He shot me on the left side of my head.

I woke up 10 days later in a hospital in Birmingham, England. The doctors and nurses told me about the attack and that I had been flown to the UK for medical treatment. They said that people around the world were praying for my recovery.

After months of surgeries and rehabilitation I knew I had a choice. I could live a quiet life or make the most of this new life. I determined to continue my fight until every girl could go to school."

Malala has been true to her word and in December 2014 she became the youngest ever Nobel Prize winner in recognition of her work as a fearless and sacrificial campaigner for girls' education, not just in her own community but across the world.

Malala says "There is still a lot to do. Even today, 130 million girls across the globe do not have the opportunity to go to school."



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.

<b>TERM DATES 2020-2021</b>			
<b>Term</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>INSET</b>
1	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2020	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2020	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2020 Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2020
2	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020
3	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
4	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	
5	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	
6	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2021	