



# The St Mary's News

Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

## A note from Mr Cox,

Hello and welcome to St Mary's news.

It has been a very busy start to Term 5.

With the improvement in the weather we have been able to start to use the field more and it is great to see this amazing facility getting used. The children will get opportunities to use the field with their class on a rota, weather permitting.

When I walk around the school I am seeing some amazing work going on. I was in Year 4 the other day and saw some incredible writing and then in other classes some really challenging maths work. Although there is some lost progress and learning after a very disrupted year, what I am pleased to see is the effort and quality of work going on in school currently. I see classes of children working hard to catch up and putting in a lot of effort. Right at the end of last term we had a visit from the senior team at the Trust and they observed all of the classes. There were a number of positives, one of which was the care that the children put into their work. I would like to say thank you to everyone for all the effort that happened over the lockdown. We are now seeing some of those benefits in school.



This week in school the classes have spent some time raising the awareness of mental health in children. The lessons come from the Mental Health Foundation and are all age appropriate. I have also asked the classes, through their school councillors, to discuss what we can do as a school to help make sure that we are looking after each other and our own mental health.

## **Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) Meeting**

Due to current restrictions limiting the number of people allowed in school, we cannot hold the normal parent meeting to show the resources that will be used. To overcome this and to make sure that you have an opportunity to find out what will be taught we are holding a Google meeting at 1:30 on the 20<sup>th</sup> May. The session will be taken by Mrs Clements, a senior teacher from Trinity School and Miss Humphries from St Mary's. The meeting ID and password are below.

Thursday 20th May – Relationship and Sex Education Parents meeting - 1.30pm – 2:30pm.

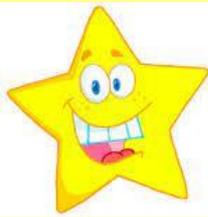
Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/kqi-mhte-fum>

Or dial: (US) +1 541-797-0423 PIN: 430 447 392#



This week's Stars are



**OF THE  
WEEK**

Freddie Wilcox-Jarvis, Olivia Pope, Robin Carey- Reception  
Ronnie Ford, Molly Cafferky, Ruby Tranter – Year 1  
Charlie Bean, Jude Marsland, Spike Burton – Year 2  
Lola Golding, Kaito Marsden, Alissa Sharp – Year 3  
Alex May, Freddie Pottinger, Jake Squire – Year 4  
Poppy Luton, Frankie Bartlett, Laura Wyatt – Year 5  
Ellie-May Dix, Darcey Pike, Max Casson – Year 6

This week winning house

**Campbell**

With 310 points

*Well done*



**THANK YOU**

A big thank you to everyone who helped paint the fence over the Easter holidays. It looks much smarter and will now last longer.

**COMIC RELIEF RED NOSE DAY**

This year we raised £139.90.



Well done and thank you everyone.

### **A few reminders**

It has been brought to my attention that we have not had a reminder about healthy packed lunches since joining the Trust. I am sure that with such a high priority placed on staying healthy and keeping fit we are all aware of what makes for a healthy packed lunch but just to help support this I have copied the relevant section from the Trust policy which is available on the Trust website.

## **PACKED LUNCH**

### **Aim**

To ensure that all packed lunches brought from home and consumed in school have food which is just as healthy and nutritious as food now served in school and regulated by the National Standards for School Food 2015 .

### **Why do we need a policy?**

The government has placed a duty on schools to ensure that every child is healthy. Eating healthily is important because it will help children to:

- ✓ Be fitter and healthier now and later in life.
- ✓ Support concentration
- ✓ Improved behaviour

Government guidelines recommend that packed lunches **should** include:

- At least one portion of fruit and one portion of vegetables every day e.g. apple or carrot sticks
- One portion of meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein (e.g. lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, hummus, and falafel) every day
- Oily fish such as tuna or salmon at least once every three weeks
- A starchy food such as whole meal bread/wraps/roll, pasta, rice, couscous, noodles, every day
- Dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt or fromage frais everyday
- Only water, sugar free squash, semi-skimmed milk, or smoothies

Government guidelines recommend that packed lunches **should not** include:

- Snacks such as crisps on a regular basis
- Confectionery such as chocolate bars, chocolate-coated biscuits, sweets and fizzy drinks.
- 'Processed' fruit i.e. fruit 'Winders' or sugar/yoghurt coated fruit
- Processed cheese products i.e. cheese strings/Dairylea snack corners
- Meat products such as sausage rolls, individual pies, corned meat and sausages / chipolatas should be included only occasionally.

### **Guidelines**

- Parents of pupils wishing to have packed lunches are expected to provide their children with packed lunches which conform to the packed lunch policy.
- The school will provide facilities for pupils bringing in packed lunches and ensure that fresh drinking water is readily available at all times.
- As fridge space is not available in school, pupils are advised to bring packed lunches in insulated bags with freezer blocks where possible.
- The school will ensure that packed lunch pupils and school dinner pupils will be able to sit and eat together.
  - Children must only eat their own food and not other children's.
  - The recommendations will apply to packed lunches taken on school trips.
- Reference can be made to <http://www.schoolfoodplan.com/standards> .

## School Development Updates

This week the teachers had training on using the Accelerated Library Scheme and are now going to start to introduce the children to this with the aim of having everyone confident in its use by half term. We still have a number of books to catalogue. Once we are able to, we will hold a parent's information evening to explain how it works and the impact it has on reading.

### Useful information



Below is a link that will take you to the Government website with information for families to order Lateral Flow Test Kits should you wish to

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

### IMPORTANT COVID UPDATES FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAY:

#### Contact Tracing

All parents need to be aware that, as a school, we are required to 'track and trace' all cases within the student/staff community for 48 hours after Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May. This means that we may have to get in touch with families in the first few days of the holidays if we have confirmation of any positive cases which will require others to go into self-isolation.

- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) within 48 hours of last being in school, school needs to be contacted.
- If a pupil shows symptoms or has a positive test result after 48 hours of being in school, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Follow up arrangements for positive COVID test results will obviously be actioned by staff from home. Therefore, any communications from parents/carers about this MUST be to the school email address: [office@stmarystimsbury.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarystimsbury.co.uk). This inbox will be checked daily until Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

#### When e-mailing, please:

- Put 'COVID-19 POSITIVE RESULT' in the email subject.
- Include your child's full name in the email.
- Inform us of the day your child first displayed symptoms, and the date they took the COVID-19 test.

We may get in touch with you to ask some further questions. The school will take advice from the DfE Coronavirus helpline in the event of a positive test result or symptomatic individual. Children or adults who have had contact with a positive or symptomatic case will be informed by the school VIA EMAIL that they need to self-isolate for 10 days.

## Parentmail - emails not being received issue

It looks like there has been a change to the Parentmail email delivery system for those users who also use the Parentmail App.

Possibly you have not been receiving emails from the school but only see them when you log in to your account. If this is the case - and you would like to receive emails - please log in to Parentmail, select 'settings', then 'email preferences' and then turn on 'always receive an email'.

## 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 2020-2021			
Term	Start	End	INSET
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	

TERM DATES 2021 - 2022			
Term	Start	End	INSET
1	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2021	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2021 and Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021 and Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021
2	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	
3	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 and Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
4	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	
5	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	
6	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2022	

# SERVICE

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value SERVICE.

We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

## TALK TOGETHER about Service

Jesus was called the 'servant king'; his mission was to **serve** God and to **serve** all those people he met, through his teaching, his example and the way he led his life.

Who are the unsung heroes who **serve** us?

- at school
- at home
- in our clubs

How do you **serve** others?

- at school
- at home
- in your clubs



## READ TOGETHER...

### Queen Esther serves her people

When King Xerxes, the ruler of the mighty land of Persia, was looking for a wife, Mordecai immediately thought of his cousin, the wise and beautiful Esther. Mordecai's family was Jewish, but he warned Esther not to tell anyone about this as he knew that there were powerful people in the land who hated Jews. Mordecai took Esther to the palace gates to be presented to the king, and, sure enough, as soon as King Xerxes saw Esther he fell in love with her, and the humble Jewish girl became a queen.

Mordecai often sat by the palace gates hoping to hear snippets of news about his cousin. For some time, all seemed well. But Haman, a wicked and powerful man in the court of King Xerxes, became angry with Mordecai because he would not bow down and honour him. Haman hatched a cunning plan. He began to tell the King bad things about the Jews living in his land and eventually he persuaded Xerxes that all the Jews should be killed. Queen Esther was beside herself with grief. She loved her people very much but felt powerless to help them.

King Xerxes noticed how terribly sad his queen had become, and begged her to tell him why she was so upset. Esther said she would explain if he and Haman would come to a feast that she prepared the following evening. When the grand banquet was over King Xerxes asked once again. "My dear Esther, you promised to tell me the reason for your sorrow." Esther summoned all her courage in what might be her last act of **service**. She told the King about Haman's plan to kill all of the Jews, which would include herself. King Xerxes was furious at the prospect of losing his beloved and beautiful Esther and ordered Haman to be arrested.

And so it was that Esther's name will forever be remembered for her willingness to risk everything in the **service** of her people.

Bible story based on Book of Esther

## THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"There is more happiness  
in giving than receiving"

*The words of Jesus recorded in  
Acts 20.35 - The Good News Bible*



## QUIZ

### Word Fit

- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| ESTHER   | FEAST   |
| XERXES   | GATES   |
| HAMAN    | KING    |
| MORDECAI | QUEEN   |
| JEWS     | SERVICE |
| PERSIA   | SORROW  |
| CUNNING  | WISE    |





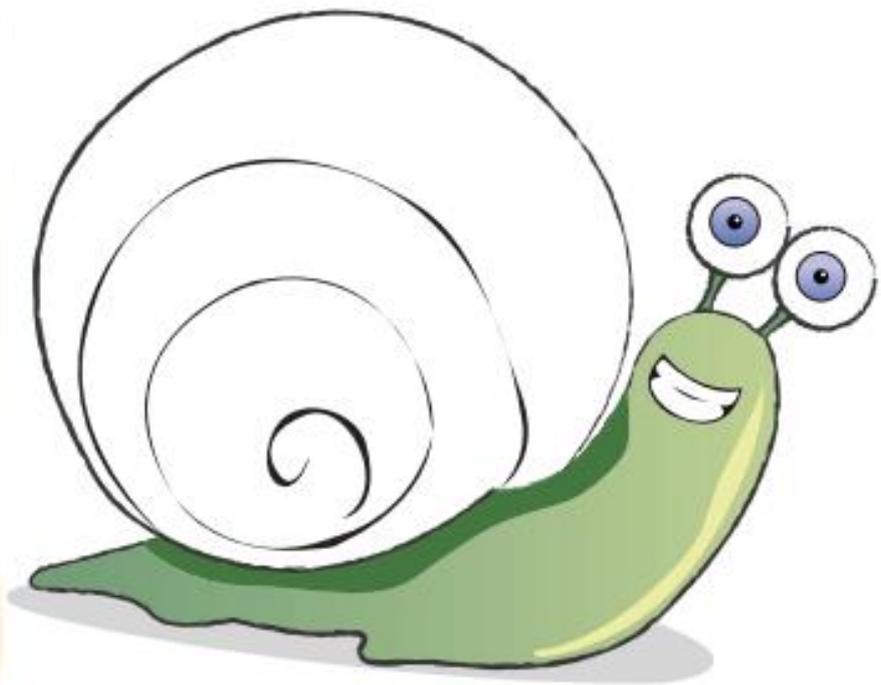
## FAMILY FOCUS

### Service with a smile

Complete a 'service snail'.

Living a life of **service** is about keeping your eyes open and looking out for ways to make others smile.

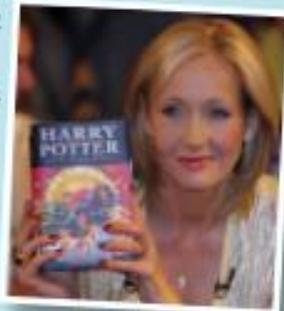
Draw a large smiley snail. Can you fill in the spirals on the snail's shell with ways in which as a family you serve each other in one week? When the snail shell is full take it to school to display in the Challenge Gallery.



## HALL OF FAME

### JK Rowling OBE

Joanne K Rowling is best known for writing the series of fictional novels about Harry Potter, stories which captured the imagination of children across the world. She was awarded the OBE for



her "**services** to children's literature".

JK Rowling wanted to use some of the money she had earned from her books to help orphaned children in Eastern Europe, she founded The Lumos Foundation and funded work to transform the lives of disadvantaged children living in huge, poorly funded orphanages. With her help beautiful, well equipped homes have been established, run by foster parents who love and care for young children.



## FASCINATING FACTS



### OBE Award

The OBE, Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, is an honour and medal awarded to people who have **served** their country or local community, often as volunteers.

- the first honours were awarded by George V in 1917 to people who had **served** their country in World War 1 but were not soldiers
- over 800 OBEs are now given each year
- OBEs are awarded for **service** such as:
  - o helping disabled children and their families
  - o working on nature conservation projects
  - o bringing relief to carers of very sick relatives
  - o protecting and caring for our country's important buildings
  - o providing animal welfare

