



The St Mary's News

Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

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A note from Mr Cox,

Hello and welcome to St Mary's news.

I start this newsletter with something that has mixed emotions for myself and the school community. Mrs Game has decided that it is the right time for her to retire from the school so that she can spend time with her family. Mrs Game has been at the school for 17 years and in that time helped a huge number of children go on to achieve great things. She will be greatly missed by all and I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mrs Game all the best for the future from everyone involved at St Mary's. Her last day with us will be Friday 30th April.

It has been great to see the school have after school clubs running, and to watch and hear children enjoying spending time doing different activities and spending time with their friends. It is another step towards getting more normality back in school for the children. Something else that we have restarted this term is the school council. Two children from each class have been selected to seek the views of their class and to present these views to senior members of staff. This term the children are going to be discussing suggestions to support mental wellbeing in school.

Whilst we are striving to get back to more normal times for the children, unfortunately certain activities will still not be allowed. These include no swimming at present or any school trips. As soon as we are able to safely carry out these activities we will do so.

We have restarted collective worship in the hall this term which has been great to get parts of the school back together. This has included Friday's 'Celebration Worship'. In this celebration we share in children's successes. These include certificates for achieving a certain number of house points:

Bronze 100, Silver 150, Gold 300, Platinum 500

House points can be earned for a whole variety of positive contributions to school life. There is also the Star of the Week certificate, which is presented to one pupil in each class, each week, for something they have particularly excelled at. These are nominated by class teachers. There are also French awards chosen by Mrs Beck. Finally, we also like to share and celebrate out of school achievements. These can be for all areas, not just sport, so please bring any certificates, photos or trophies to school on Friday mornings, and then we can celebrate the success in the afternoon.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who brought in any spare uniform that they no longer needed. They will come in very handy.

Finally, it just leaves me to wish you all a great Easter break. Hopefully, we will have some good weather where we can enjoy meeting up with other people in line with the new guidance. One of the things I am personally most looking forward to is getting a much-needed haircut!

Take care, stay safe and HAPPY EASTER.



Celebrating Success at St Mary's



This week's Stars are



Oliver Wiltshire and Theo Luttrell - Reception
Dora Willenz and Casper Redman-Richards – Year 1
Benjamin McCollum and Jenson Squire – Year 2
Felix Ball and Milly Nash – Year 3
Amelia Redman-Richards and Chloe Casson – Year 4
Willis Ruddick and Pixie Nash – Year 5
Ianis Ionescu and Emily Reed – Year 6

This week winning house

Samborne

With 743 points

Well done



All at St Mary's were delighted to welcome Reverend Blewett, and puppet Burt, back for Collective Worship last week. Whilst we all enjoyed Reverend Blewett's videos during lockdown, it was very special to be back together in the hall, to think ahead to Easter and Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.



A few reminders

When collecting children from school could I ask please that the taxi bay is kept clear for our children who need to use the taxi service. Thank you.

Could I please also ask parents to reinforce the message with children about appropriate means of communicating using mobile phones.

School development Updates:

Teachers have received training this week on using a system called 'Purple Mash', to support our Computing curriculum, as well as other areas of learning.

Children have been learning our school motto: Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving God's Creation. We say it after lighting the candle in worship.

We are introducing a new library system to support reading across the school.

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.



The flyer features a purple background with a yellow banner at the top containing the text 'COMMUNITY WELLBEING HUB'. Below the banner, there is a phone icon and the number '0300 247 0050'. To the right, it lists 'EMAIL: BATHNES.thehub@virginicare.co.uk' and 'WEBSITE: www.compassioncb.org.uk/wellbeing'. The flyer is divided into several white boxes with purple text, each representing a service: 'Housing', 'Feeling isolated, lonely or anxious', 'Money advice & benefits support', 'Stopping smoking', 'Accessing food, transport or medication', 'Achieving a healthy weight', 'Keeping active', and 'Employment issues & advice'. At the bottom left, there are logos for '3SG NHS', 'virginicare', and 'Bath & North East Somerset Council' with the tagline 'Improving People's Lives'.

TERM DATES 2020-2021

Term	Start	End	INSET
5	Monday 19 th April 2021	Friday 28 th May 2021	None
6	Monday 7 th June 2021	Friday 23 rd July 2021	None

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.

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 Thursday 1st April. 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. This inbox will be checked daily until Monday 5th 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.