



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.

Welcome back everyone. I hope you all had a good break over half term, although I cannot believe that we are on our third week of this term already.

As I am writing this newsletter on a glorious summer day I need to remind everyone to please ensure that all children have a water bottle everyday and that sun cream and hats are also provided on days when they are required. This is particularly important this term as the teachers will take every opportunity they can to do outdoor learning. We have also been taking advantage of the good weather and using the field for lunchtimes. There is limited shelter so hats and water are key to keeping the children safe from the effects of excessive sun.

COVID – 19 Update.

Following on from the announcement made by the Prime Minister last Monday, schools have been informed that we have to continue following the current guidance. This unfortunately directly impacts on some of the events that we hold at the end of the year. It means that parents will not be able to attend Sports Day or the Year 6 performance. The school will be looking to record the Y6 performance and information about this will come out nearer the time.

TikTok

It has come to my notice that we are getting some incidents of negative behaviour, particularly related to inappropriate language. This seems to be arising from videos that are being viewed on TikTok. TikTok requires that users be at least 13 years old to use the full TikTok experience, although there is a way for younger children to access the app. If your child wants to use the app, there's a section of the app for children under 13 that includes additional safety and privacy features. Children can only see curated, clean videos, and aren't allowed to comment, search, or post their own videos. I would ask please that you check the settings if your child is using TikTok. Thank you.

School Houses

This term's learning Log piece of work from Mrs Brewer is focusing on the renaming of the houses. We felt that it was a good time to refresh the house system. Due to the last two years of lockdowns we have been unable to use the house system and the younger children have not really understood or have a sense of belonging with their house, so this September is a great time to re-launch the houses. The school council will meet to discuss the ideas and come up with the final choices.



This week and Last week's



Teddy Reed and Dawson Crouch - Reception
John Bailey and James Brown – Year 1
Edith Holbrook and Jackson Keirl – Year 2
Ben Carey and Milly Nash – Year 3
Shay Brice and Florence Hebden-Dando – Year 4
Matilda Lines and Jacob Perry – Year 5
Summer Martin and Alex Carey – Year 6

Last week's winning house was

Samborne

With 529 points

This week with

472 points it is

Campbell

Well done!



Time to celebrate in the amazing learning that has been going on.

Reception - This week our Ducklings have been working extremely hard on their handwriting and having been down and had a look I can safely say that they have done amazing well.

Year 1 - In Rabbits class this week they have been learning about Scotland in geography and are really good at naming some of the famous landmarks that Scotland has.

Year 2 - Our Badgers this week have set up a science experiment to see what makes cress seeds grow. They had great fun sowing their cress seeds.

Year 3 - Bees have also been planting seeds this week in readiness for them to design and make their own greenhouses. They are looking at the different facts that affect the growing of seeds.

Year 4 - When I was teaching Otters this week we were looking at air pollution and they have created some amazing posters telling people that we need to stop polluting the air.

Year 5 - Lions have really impressed this week with the way in which they tackled some really tough assessments. I was very proud of their approach and resilience.

Year 6 - Eagles have done amazingly well and really thrown themselves into play rehearsals. I can say it is sounding amazing.

A few reminders

- In the hot weather it is cooler and more comfortable for all long hair to be tied back out of the way or held back with a hair band.
- Please make sure your child has a water bottle every day.

School Development Updates

- This term we have been focusing on making sure that all staff are able to accurately moderate writing across the school. This has involved CPD and then paired working to support the moderation process. To be able to moderate accurately is key to ensuring our children make progress and are confident strong writers.
- Staff have also been looking at teaching approaches and working together to see how each other teaches so that they can further develop their own practise.

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>

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
6	Monday 7 th June 2021	Friday 23 rd July 2021	

TERM DATES 2021 - 2022

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

