



St. Mary's C of E Primary School

'Live life, love learning guided by God'

Newsletter 8th March 2019

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Head's Lines: Many children at the school present their work with great pride when they are at school and in their Home Learning workbooks and you will be able to see for yourself when they show you their work at one of our **Parents Evenings next week**. All staff at school are focussing on **improving presentation** in work books. The children are taught to develop positive attitudes towards and stamina for writing from Year 1 and by the time they enter KS2 children will have been taught to join their handwriting. Once they have achieved their **Pen License**, which we would expect for the majority in Year 3, the children will be writing in pen with a joined style to form letters securely, with the correct letter formation. They are taught to increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting with sufficient spacing between letters frequently and we use the Nelson Handwriting Programme at St Mary's. We will be encouraging children to take even more pride in their work moving forwards and would like you to reinforce this message at home.



World Book Day was a huge success and the children enjoyed coming to school dressed as a variety of characters ranging from Billionaire Boy to Mary Poppins — thank you for your support.

Year 5 have earned the reward of christening our new activity trail today for their hard work and great attitudes towards their learning.

Rev. Scott came to take our **Ash Wednesday** Collective Worship at the beginning of Lent this week; many classes in the school have asked children to commit towards doing a helpful task during Lent—well done children.

School will be earning money for **Comic Relief** next Friday by asking your child to bring in any loose change you have at home. Children will be creating a 'giant' piece of art in the playground with the loose change—copper money is perfect! Pyjama Day, £1 entry at the gate, organised by FAF will go ahead on the same day. Mrs Hodgson

Class news this week

Caterpillar Class: This week in Caterpillar Class we had a visit from the Little Angel Theatre Company who performed the story 'Wow! It's Night Time' for us. The children listened and watched the performance beautifully and have enjoyed talking about & re-reading the story back in class. We have found out a bit more about owls and read some other owl stories. On Thursday we dressed up for World Book Day and I'm sure you will agree that we looked fantastic!



Butterfly Class: This week in Butterfly Class we loved having the 'Little Angel Theatre Company' come in and perform 'Wow! It's Night Time' by Tim Hopgood. We loved all the singing and the puppet owls. We have even been drawing our own Owls and writing stories about them. We also loved dressing up for World Book Day!



Squirrel Class: As well as preparing for our class assembly on World Book Day, we also enjoyed learning about Lent. We made some delicious pancakes and thought about what special things we might do or what we might give up for Lent.



Hedgehog Class: 3, 2, 1 blast off! Bob has gone to the moon because it needs cleaning. This week, we have rewritten the story 'The Man on the Moon' while focusing on our punctuation and handwriting. As part of world book day, in Guided Reading we have been looking at a picture book 'The boy and the airplane'. We have been making inferences about the images. In Math, we have continued to learn about fractions and have started learning how to find a fraction of a number.



Fox Class: This week Fox class have enjoyed exploring comic books! We have read and compared different comic books, and identified different features such as speech bubbles, sound effects, captions and brightly coloured pictures. We then worked on creating our own comic books which we wrote and illustrated ourselves. Well done to everyone for dressing up for World Book Day, you looked brilliant.



Offer Class: In Science we have constructed an experiment using egg shells. We put them into 5 different liquids (milk, orange juice, black coffee, water and cola) and observed the effects of each. So far the egg shells in the black coffee and cola are looking particularly unpleasant. In literacy we have been reading 'The Adventures of the Dish and the Spoon' a twist on the nursery rhyme 'Hey Diddle, Diddle' The children have been making wanted posters and writing letters from Spoon who ends up in jail to Dish who ends up in a broken crockery shop!

Owl Class: This week in maths, we have been learning about line graphs and how to interpret data from them. We had a fun day on world book day, our costumes looked amazing and we worked collaboratively to create a large scale portrait of Harry Potter and Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz. As a result of our excellent learning behaviour this term, we were allowed to be the first class to use the new trim trail.

Falcon and Hawk Classes: Year 6 have delved into our book 'The Storm Whale' to explore the power of pictures. We have used a range of inference skills to really read behind each picture and make suitable suggestions. World Book Day welcomed some very exciting and admirable character costumes! At the end of the week we went to the Magistrates' Court to learn about the rule of law and the trial system.



Stars of the Week



Squirrel Class: All of the class for fantastic teamwork during their class assembly.

Hedgehog Class: Naledi for always making a big effort to present her work neatly. Kashif for independently getting his own resources when he needs them.

Fox Class: Matei for working very hard to get his fantastic comic book finished. Emma for persevering in maths and showing an excellent attitude to learning.

Offer Class: Vinnie for doing maths at home for fun! and showing wonderful enthusiasm for his learning. Frankie for trying really hard to improve his handwriting.

Owl Class: Logan for showing great enthusiasm for all his learning this week. Lily-Sky for working hard to develop her writing to include the correct punctuation.

Falcon Class: Imogen for focusing well on her narrative writing and sentence choices. Matei for challenging himself with his writing and the impressive wealth of vocabulary.

Hawk Class: Joe for working hard in maths and explaining pie chart problems clearly. Leah for great use of personification in her descriptive writing.

Congratulations everyone, we are really proud of you for being great learners at school.

Office News

School Lettings. Did you know that the **School Hall** and **Field** are available for lettings either for one off events like parties or regular long or short term lettings? There is information on the school website or please call the office for more information.

Apologies for the absence of Protegem Dance club on a Monday this term. We are looking at getting something organised for the Summer term. If Protegem are unable to provide a teacher, we will look for another Dance club or maybe something different. Details will be sent out as soon as we confirm them.

Y5 were the first to try our new trim trail which has been part funded by a grant from the Healthy Pupils Capital Fund whose revenue is raised by the 'Sugar Tax'



Family and Friends

Please come and join us in the turquoise room during parents evening on Tuesday and Thursday for a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit whilst you wait.

Ground Force Day 24th March

We will be working on the Environmental Garden which all children have access to with their teacher. If you would like to join us we will be at school on Sunday 24th March from 10am. Any donation of plants as well as time would be greatly appreciated.

Easter Bonnet

We will provide prizes for the children for the Easter Bonnet Parade. Alternatively, if the children prefer, they can decorate an Easter Egg.

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Children and Anxiety

As part of Wellbeing Week (25th-29th March) we will be holding an information evening about children and anxiety, we will look at how children experience anxiety and how we can support them with this.

The evening will be held on Monday 25th March at 7.30pm.

Miss Johnson

ICT Information Evening

On Tuesday 12th March from 6-7pm in St. Paul's Hook School Hall is the next South of the Borough Cluster ICT information evening.

This one is to develop a 'Healthy Online Culture in KS1'.

Parents from all of our local primary schools are invited and welcome.

Attendance & Punctuality

Whole school attendance this week is **97.3%**. **Falcon class** had best attendance for the week with **98.9%**

The class we need to encourage to get to school on time, this week is **Hawk Class**.

Thankyou everyone for ensuring the children are at school every day; every moment is a learning moment and every day counts!

Diary Dates: * = new date **Don't forget!** You can also see a full list of school events on the school calendar which is on our website.

Key Dates 2018- 2019

March

Tuesday 12 th	Parents Evening 4.30 - 7pm
Wednesday 13 th	Squirrel Class cake sale
Thursday 14 th	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Friday 15 th	Pyjama Day
Monday 18 th – Wed 20 th	Year 5 visit to Hooke Court
Monday 25 th	Children with Anxiety information evening 7.30pm
Monday 25 th	Class Photographs

April

Monday 1 st	Easter Egg Hunt
*Monday 1 st	Easter Bonnet assembly, parents welcome
*Tuesday 2 nd	Easter Pause Day
*Tuesday 2 nd	Easter Service in hall, parents welcome
Friday 5 th	Last Day of Term end at 1.15pm
Tuesday 23 rd	INSET
Wed 24 th	First Day of Term
*Friday 26 th	Walkathon—Details to come

May

Thursday 2 nd	Owl Class assembly 9-9.30
Friday 3 rd	Mufti Day (bottles)
Thursday 9 th	Squirrel Class Assembly
Monday 13 th	SATS Week KS2
Wednesday 15 th	Butterfly Class Cake Sale
W/c Mon 20 th	Bikeability for Year 5
Monday 27 th	May – Friday 31 May Half Term