



HEAD'S LINES

Dear Parents and Families,

Thank you so much to all the families who contributed to our Harvest appeal for food donations and to everyone who came to share our Harvest celebrations in school - we had over 70 family members in total taking part! Special thanks to Rev'd Scott, Mr Angus and Otter class who led our service. Please have a look at our Special news section on the next page for more details.

It has been such a busy and hard-working half term; it really doesn't seem seven weeks since we came back from the summer holidays. We have been delighted to see the work that children have produced - and to hear from them about the journey of learning that has allowed them to make progress in so many areas.

Look out for a Parentmail later today with details of our Christmas performances, productions and events. We know lots of parents have been asking about these and we've tried to arrange times so that most parents can attend a performance.

We hope you have a restful and relaxing half term break and we look forward to seeing you again on Monday 4th November.

Best wishes, Mrs Playle and Mrs Lawlor

Class news this week

Caterpillar Class: This week in Caterpillar Class we have enjoyed celebrating the Harvest Festival with our families, who came along to watch us perform some beautiful singing. We have also enjoyed spending lots of time outside playing in the autumn leaves and creating some wonderful hand paintings.

Butterfly Class: Well Done Butterfly Class for your wonderful singing and poems at our Harvest Celebration. We enjoyed performing to our parents and grandparents with Caterpillar Class. This week we have also enjoyed exploring the seeds inside the pumpkin. We used a tens frame to see if we could use the tweezers to pick up 10 seeds and fill our frame. We also planted some seeds to see if we can grow our very own pumpkins.



Squirrel Class: This week, Squirrel class have been learning to write simple sentences using colourful semantics. We have used pictures to show "who" is doing something, a "what doing" card to show what is happening and a "what" card to show what they are doing it with. For example, the mermaid (who) is reading (what doing) a book (what). We had great fun arranging our sentences and practising our capital letters, finger spaces and full stops!

Hedgehog Class: This week in Hedgehog Class we have been writing our own shape poems following the theme of trees. We have thought carefully about our choice of words to create rhyme. In Maths, we have continued to learn different methods of addition and subtraction. We have also enjoyed learning all about harvest and what harvest means to Christians. We made some harvest cupcakes.



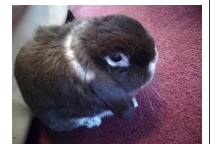
Fox Class: What a lovely half term we have spent together! We have worked so hard on reading, writing, maths, science, RE and more, and have learned an incredible amount about the Stone Age. Well done for your hard work this week, writing instructions for how to carry out a simple task. I've been proud of how you have tackled challenging maths and your reflectiveness in RE this week.

Otter Class: Since we have finished reading our class book, *Escape from Pompeii*, the Otters have been retelling the story, using a wide range of punctuation, higher order vocabulary, expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials. In addition, we have drawn Mt. Vesuvius, showing mood in our art work.



Owl Class: In Owl Class this week, we have been completing and publishing our non-chronological reports about Vikings. The children have worked incredibly hard to include lots of information in an interesting way and the final pieces were amazing! In maths we have been thinking about how we use the inverse operation and how it helps us check our calculations.

Falcon Class: This week in art, Falcon class have been finishing off some portraits of Henry's wives using mixed media. The children have been writing some exciting newspaper reports about the discovery of King Duncan murdered- please do come and have a read. The children have been thinking carefully about their writing skills & are showing more clarity of their intended audience & purpose. In Maths, Falcon class have met Miss Haurdhan's rabbit- Truffles (via a photo) who has been helping us with our learning on multiples and factors.





Stars of Week!

Squirrel Class: Barnaby for showing increased focus & a positive attitude to your learning. **George** for excellent listening & developing confidence in answering questions.

Hedgehog Class: Karis for working very hard in your maths learning & in particular explaining your methods; well done! **Sonny** for effort & enthusiasm in all your learning this week.

Fox Class: Scarlett for phenomenal effort & perseverance in maths. **Elliott** for improved effort & enthusiasm in maths.

Otter Class: All of Otter Class for an excellent Harvest Assembly on Wednesday.

Owl Class: Liam for working incredibly hard in English & creating an amazing non-chronological report. **Macie** for exceptional effort & enthusiasm towards all areas of school life.

Falcon Class: Jamie for showing an improvement in his writing skills; well done! **Phoebie** for showing excellent focus during learning of long division.

A huge St Mary's congratulations to all of our stars this week!

Family and Friends PTA

Christmas Fair; sign up genius is live for all stall coverage; we really need your help so please have a look & see what you can do; <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805054AA5AC2CA4F94-stmarys>

Pamper Evening; again we have sign up genius live so you can select & book in the treatments that you would like.

Sweet Amnesty; if you have any leftover wrapped sweets from Halloween we would love to have them to put towards prizes for the Christmas Fair. We will collect at school on Mon 4th Nov.

Contact us; pta4stmarys@gmail.com

Office News

Please note that for any **unauthorised leave** requests a green form must be completed via the office.

Attendance & Punctuality

Whole school attendance this week is 93.9%. The class with the best attendance this week is Otter Class with 98% Well done!

Please remember that the school will not be able to authorise any requests for term time holidays. If your child's attendance falls below 90% your child will be regarded as a persistent absentee and the Educational Welfare Department will be informed.

Harvest Festival Celebrations



Thank you to everyone who donated food & came to celebrate our Harvest festivals with us for both KS1 & 2 and EYFS. In our main Harvest assembly we had more than 45 families attend which was wonderful. Please head over to the latest news section of our website for more photos!



Please share your special news & interests with us so we can proudly celebrate your achievements with you!

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

October

W/C 28th Oct Half Term

November

Mon 4th Nov Sweet Amnesty (PTA)

Fri 8th Nov Mufti Day for Chocolate

Wed 13th Nov Owl Class Cake Sale

Wed 13th Nov Reception 2020 open evening from 6pm

Fri 15th Nov Inset Day - school closed

Tues 19th Nov & Thurs 21st Nov Reception 2020 open morning from 9.45am

Fri 22nd Nov Pamper Evening 6.30pm

Thurs 28th Nov 2018/19 Mayor's 100% Attendance Awards.

December

Sat 7th Dec Christmas Fair

W/C 9th Dec Christmas Performances; Dates TBC

Mon 9th Dec Flu Immunisations

Thurs 12th Dec Christmas Lunch

Fri 13th Dec School Discos

Tues 17th Dec EYFS/KS1 Church Service, 9.30am

KS2 Church Service 11 am

Fri 20th Dec Last day of term; 1.15pm finish.