



NEWSLETTER

“A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum”

Hope, perseverance and courage

Telephone: 01798 872007

8 November 2019

Christian values – We will be looking at hope, perseverance and courage this term and we will share examples of our collective worship as the term goes on.

Parents Evening – The window for booking has now opened for Parent’s Evening which will be taking place **Wednesday 13th November from 3.30pm – 7.00pm** for all classes except for Japan Class, which will take place on Tuesday 26th November 3.30pm – 6pm this is due to Mr Rogers being on Paternity Leave. Mrs Copus will be with the inspector, but appointments can be arranged via the office for after the inspection.

Poppies – Poppies are for sale at break and lunchtime and we ask for a contribution. Slap bands will be for sale on Friday 8th after school on the playground but should not be worn in school.



SIAMS inspection – Our Section 48 SIAMS inspection is happening on Wednesday 13th November. We couldn’t be prouder of the school at the moment and know that we have gone from strength to strength and that we offer so much more for the children in our care. If you feel that we have helped and supported your child, in a particular way, then please write or email and tell the inspector what is special about St Mary’s. Thank you in anticipation.

Road Safety week - 18 – 24th November - The community wardens will be available to offer advice on road safety on the Tuesday 22nd October outside the school gate. The wardens will be handing out hi-vis freebies as the dark evenings are drawing in. They will also be advising on pedestrian safety for those children who are walking home when it’s dark. Do stop to chat with them.



Vine leaves – **Lynden C and Connor P** have been awarded a vine leaf for resilience and maturity as they have shown such a proactive approach to problems this term.

Kindness Shield – **Luca R Japan Class**. Luca it has been a joy to teach you, your kindness cascades through Year 6 and you encourage others to be caring and thoughtful in difficult situations. I am proud that you opitimise our class motto of “HAVE COURAGE AND BE KIND”. There have been challenging moments for you, but you always make the right choice and consider how others can be encouraged to make good choices. In a world where you can be anything you have chosen to be KIND. What a super role model for our caring St Mary’s School you are!



Staff training - The staff were so enthusiastic about the Inset day on Monday. The staff developed the curriculum in line with the new Ofsted framework and looking at vocabulary progression and skills progression. We will be sharing the changes in the new schemes of work as we move into the Spring Term.

Grounds working party – Thank you to those parents who attended. It really does make such a difference to the school environment for the children and it shows that we all care about our school.

Dojos – We have been asked by parents to explain more about Dojos and the system behind it. This is a whole school reward system that inspires children to do their very best. Children can be awarded dojos for doing the right things, showing manners, showing exemplary learning, helping others, doing more than is expected, working collaboratively and lots of other things. Classes use the weekly scores in different ways to award the highest earning children for the week, choosing responsibility roles. Some classes use it to show what has been going on in the week and communicating with parents but not all classes are at this stage yet.

Sport – Cross Country - Well done to all who ran in the cross country at The Weald. Despite horribly muddy conditions, over 30 of our children gave their best and we are so proud of all their (muddy!) efforts.



Six week in meeting – Thank you to all the UK and Austria parents who came to the meeting. There were some positive comments about how the children have settled, which included:

“Excellent communication”

“Settling in sessions were really helpful”

“warm, friendly atmosphere at the school”

“very impressed with the way my child seems to enjoy reading and counting”

“my son loves reading”

“my child has settled really well, her confidence in writing has really come on and thanks to school dinners she is also more open to a wider range of food at home”

“Settling in has been fantastic, we have been Impressed with the varied activities that the children do: forest school, cooking, swimming”

“These informal meetings are really nice to keep in touch with what is going on and to see other parents, my son loves school and his is always smiling going in and coming out of class”

“excellent at understanding my child and communicating with him, I’m amazed how keen he is to start reading, transparency and openness”

”Forest Schools - kids love it and singing – love the songs.

Comments that we will follow up on are: “children wearing their shoes or slippers when they go to the toilet”. We will ensure that the children are regularly reminded to drink – “incentive dojos for those who have finished their bottle at the end of the day”, “School dinners are a problem as my son is not eating”, “Would like a bit more information on dojos and how they are used in school.”

Pulborough Youth Club, this club is run by Sussex clubs for young people (scyp) every Thursday 3.15pm – 5.15pm including October 2019 half term. Follow this link for more information <http://sussexcyp.org.uk/clubs/pulborough/> or search Facebook.

All Saints Eucharist – Thank you to Fr Paul, Mr Holloway and Mr Hancock for our All Saints Eucharist. This is such a special time to celebrate together and Fr Paul gave the Year 6 children a quiz to test their knowledge about Saints. He then talked about how Saints shine their light for all to see. It is important to allow us all to shine and do the right thing.

Diwali musical workshops –Thank you to Little Explorers who funded our Diwali workshops with Jim Bernardin. Children in Year 3 and Early Years had an 'enlightening' morning this week when they took part in a musical workshop, led by Jim of World Music Workshops. The theme of the workshop was 'Diwali', which is the Hindu festival of lights. The children learnt about the observances for Diwali and compared the similarities between that and the Christian celebration of Christmas. They then formed an orchestra and performed drum-based rhythm pieces. Jim made sure that each section was secure in their rhythm before bringing the next section, building up a marvellous blend of harmonies and rhythms. They all concentrated very hard and every child contributed to the whole. Well done, Year 3 and EYFS, you looked as if you were enjoying yourselves!



Remembrance Day – We will have an in school collective worship on Monday 11th November for Remembrance Day and observe the 2 minutes silence at 11am. If your child is a member of a uniformed group, they are invited to wear their uniform that day.



Special Mention - We are so proud that ex St Mary's pupil Ben Streeter, who is now a Royal Marine, will be playing the Last Post at the Cenetaph this Sunday at 11am as part of the Remembrance service in London. Please do look out for him if you are attending in London or watching on TV.

Little Explorers - This week we have been looking at bonfire night / fireworks and Diwali, the children have been creating firework pictures, mixing colours in shaving foam, blow painting and made fruit rockets for snack. Some of the children enjoyed having their hands painted with Diwali mehndi patterns.

They have also enjoyed bonfire night role play where they toasted marshmallows and drank chocolate milk. At forest school the children made conker comets, jumped in muddy puddles and enjoyed the mud kitchen .On Wednesday the children joined the reception class for the Diwali/ drum workshop, they had a great time listening to the different sounds and having a go at playing an instrument.

Anti-bullying week – Next week is anti-bullying week – we are keen to raise awareness of what bullying is, how we deal with bullying and ensure that we answer parental queries regarding how we deal with bullying. Do complete the slip below if you have individual questions and we will try and answer them in next week’s newsletter.

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Anti-Bullying week more information for parents

We would like to know how the school:

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Wednesday 18th Dec

£2.35

Festive Menu

Choose a main meal...

**Roast Turkey
with Stuffing, Cocktail Sausage & Gravy**

or

**Quorn Fillet
with Stuffing Ball & Gravy**

on the side...

**Roast Potatoes
Peas and Carrots**

for dessert...

Chocolate Dipped Shortbread

or

Fruit Salad

for a drink...

Fruit Squash

Milk

Water

To enjoy our festive-inspired day,
please order at www.measelector.co.uk
by 8th December 2019 latest

Horsham Hub

Enabling Parents

**Would you like to be able to understand your
child's feelings?**

**Would you like to have some practical ideas to
communicate with your child?**

**Enabling Parents is a practical parenting course to
help you find solutions to difficulties. (Suitable for
parents with children aged 0-11years)**



**The next course will be held on
Saturday 14th and 21st March 2020
From 9.30am – 12pm**

**At Southwater Children and Family Centre
Worthing Road, Southwater, RH13 9HA**

You must be able to attend both sessions.

**For further information or to book onto the course,
families can call 07525 211177 or email**

HorshamHUB@westsussex.gov.uk