



Update Friday 20th November 2020
Head Teacher Mrs Lynne Osborne

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been 'Good to Talk' and 'Cool to be Kind' week and we have focused on the importance of our Christian value:

Friendship

We have been delighted by the way even the youngest children have been able to discuss their feelings and identify strategies to help both themselves and other people. The messages from this week are important ones and we shouldn't underestimate the value of talking things through and the old adage 'a problem shared is a problem halved.'

Friday's finally here and today, at least, the 'rules' were well and truly broken! Who knew that there was such a variety of hair dye available or that multi-coloured nails could be worn by all? Thank you for your extremely generous contributions and to the School Association for organising this popular event.

STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS!

'Field Friday' was a great success with lots of happy and muddy children. From now on every Friday will be 'Field Friday' (weather permitting) so please ensure your child has wellies/old shoes in school on Fridays.

Christmas is coming:



It might only be November but Christmas is well and truly underway here at St Mary's. Although things are a bit different this year we still have lots of activities planned to get everyone into the Christmas spirit.

Friday 27th November – Christmas Decorations Day. Children can wear non-uniform (hopefully something Christmassy) and help decorate the school. Please can all children also bring in a Christmas tree ornament (labelled so it can be returned after Christmas) to hang on the St Mary's tree.

Monday 30th November – Occasional Day

Friday 4th December – Christmas Secret Room

Wednesday 9th December – Christmas Jumper Charity Day (the School Council have chosen Save the Children as their charity)

Friday 11th December Santa Jog (all classes)

Week of 14th December – many Christmas events and in-class Christingle Service on 18th December.

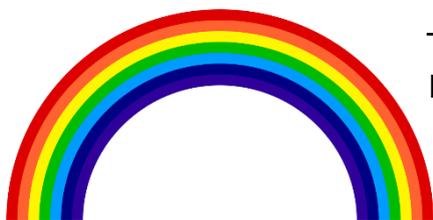
Virtual concerts:

As we are, unfortunately, unable to allow visitors into school we are planning on holding virtual concerts for Years N, R, 1 and 2 - dates will follow shortly.

On Friday 11th December we will also have short Zoom concerts for the parents of children in Years 3, 5 and 6 to showcase their recorder/ukulele skills. Again, more details soon.

(Year 4 will be having djembe drumming sessions in 2021 and their concert will follow this).

Celebration Assembly:



Today we celebrated our Special Achievers and our Rainbow Awards. Rainbow Awards are awarded to those children who have demonstrated excellence in their learning or behaviour towards others – they have reached the end of the rainbow!

Congratulations to Milo, Amelie, Daniel, Luca and Lex for their achievements.



The quality of the entries made the decision very difficult but ... our new house shield designs have been chosen and congratulations to:

Mimi (1), Iklima (2), Lucy (5), May (6)

School Council News:

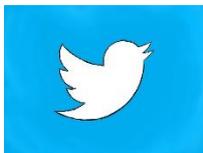
The School Council would like as many children as possible to design and make a star for the Christmas Tree – the winning entry will win a treat for their house and the pleasure of having their star put at the top of the tree next Friday! Please send any entries into school by Wednesday 25th November.

Remembrance Service:



Those of you who live near school may have been fortunate enough to hear our very affecting Remembrance Service. Jonathan and Miranda delivered very moving thoughts and prayers and Year 4 performed some thoughtful poems with aplomb. Year 4's words and Ms Pearson's bugle rendition of 'The Last Post' moved many of us to tears. A very special ceremony.

Social media



Follow us on Twitter (St Mary's C of E Primary School @StMarys916) and check our class webpage for updates about what we have been up to in class.

Light up a Life

The Hospice of St Francis are hosting a virtual event this year called Light up a Life on Sunday 6th December at 4.30pm on Facebook live, You Tube and the Hospice of St Francis website. The event is a moment to pause and reflect on 2020, to celebrate our amazing community and to unite as we look positively to the year ahead. There will be live original music from local artists, Christmas songs, a reading by British actress Fiona Dolman as she lights a candle in memory of loved ones and the illumination of our Christmas lights.

To be part of Light up a Life visit www.stfrancis.org.uk/LUAL

A message from St Mary's School Association!

St Mary's School Association is a charitable organisation, run by a small group of parent volunteers. We work hard to raise vital funds, to enhance our children's learning and fun at school. We're always open to feedback and on the lookout for new ideas and enthusiastic helpers. You can reach us quickly and easily by:

Email: stmarys.northchurch.sa@gmail.com

Facebook: [St Mary's CE Primary School Association, Northchurch](#)

Website: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/northchurchstmarys-schoolassociation/index.cfm?event=Shop#.X6RUhWj7SUk>

Plus - did you know, if you shop through smile.amazon.co.uk Amazon will donate money to us? Just launch the URL, then select 'Your AmazonSmile' from the menu and then select 'Northchurch St Mary's School Association' as your chosen charity.

Monday Music:

Next week it's Year 6's turn to choose the tracks!

Word of the week:

Mrs O'Dell's choice: **discombobulated** (because she likes the way it sounds)

Def: confused and disconcerted.

"she is looking a little pained and discombobulated"

Poor Mrs O'Dell!



Have a lovely weekend Mrs Osborne and the staff team.