

**St Mary's CE Primary
School
Newsletter**

November 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope our November Newsletter finds you well and not too disheartened with the current lock down. I was having a look my comments in last year's newsletter for November and it made me a bit sad...there were so many celebrations....this year, our children have missed out on so much! Hopefully, we will have better news in December...until then, let's all keep positive and enjoy our children's news. Thank you to all our school community for your hard work, resilience and persistence during these challenging times.

November 2019 Newsletter Introduction

'I cannot believe its November 2019 already...I hope you all had an enjoyable half term break and had fun and family time during Diwali, Halloween and Bonfire Night – those celebrations just keep coming! Anyway, without further ado, welcome to our November 2019 newsletter!'

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE

In Preschool the children discovering who lives under the sea and learning the names of different sea creatures. They have been experimenting with foam and making lots of messy marks with their hands. In Nursery the children are learning all about Heroes who Help - this will include firefighters, doctors and nurses, ambulance drivers and police. We will also learn the traditional tale 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. We are really pleased with how the children are trying to put on their coats by themselves. Please keep practicing this as much as you can at home. In Reception, the children have loved spending time in our new Doctor's surgery role play area. As part of the topic, we will be learning about a range of people who help us from firefighters to postal workers. Keep an eye on Microsoft Teams for our weekly bulletin which will keep you informed of our learning for that week. This is uploaded every Monday. If you need support logging on, please see the school website for a step-by-step guide. Log in details are in children's reading diaries. You can also keep an eye on our learning in school by logging into Learning Book. Here we will upload pictures and videos of the children learning in class. Just a reminder that snack money is £1.50 and this should be paid every Monday for the week ahead. Children also now have reading books in their books bag. Please share these with your children at home as much as you can. Once you have done this please sign your child's diary. Thank you for your support.

YEAR 1

In Mathematics this term, the children are learning to add one more and one less to numbers 1 to 10. The children have really enjoyed learning about this and hope you can continue to support this learning at home. In Topic, we have been learning about Hot and Cold Places. We have been doing a lot of writing linked to the Lost and Found book by Oliver Jeffers and the children are looking forward to becoming presenters and recording their own Podcasts. Year 1 PE will now be on a Monday and Wednesday. Please send your child with their PE kits on both these days. Monday PE will be outdoor and indoor/outdoor PE with our coach on Wednesday so please send your child with appropriate and warm clothing on both days.

Reading books will now be changed on a Wednesday. Please can we politely request that all parents read with their child at home and sign your child's homework diary when they have. We want to say a huge thank you to all parents that are helping to complete your child's homework every week. If you are having trouble accessing the homework, there is a letter under 'Home Learning' on the school website which tells you how to login to MS Teams. If you are still experiencing problems, then please let Miss Jeffs know. We are really proud of all the children and can see lots of progress already! Please continue to support your child's learning at home as this really does enhance your child's learning. All children have made a great transition into Year 1. Well done!

YEAR 2

Thank you to all of the parents for your continued support with children's return to school this half term. The children have come back with fantastic attitudes towards their learning and we are so proud of you all. We have now started to work from the Year 2 Curriculum. So far, the children have worked extremely hard with this – well done! Our topic for this half term is Africa. We will be learning all about the continent through different subjects and comparing different lifestyles in Africa and England. Please note – PE has now changed to Tuesdays and Fridays. Please ensure that your child has both an indoor and outdoor PE kit.

YEAR 3

Year 3 really enjoyed our 'Great Fire of London' topic last half term and produced some great work especially with our writing and we have created great diary entries just like Samuel Pepys. Now we are moving onto our 'Stone Age to Iron Age' topic, we have already started to look into the lives of our ancestors that lived thousands of years ago along with linking it to the learning in our new Science topic of rocks and fossils. In Maths we are now moving onto multiplication and division and are constantly practising our times tables.

YEAR 4

Year 4 are learning all about the Ancient Egyptians this half term. Our class book is the Egyptian Cinderella and we are doing lots of reading, writing, art and design this term using this text. PE has now changed to Monday and Tuesday for Year 4U and Monday and Wednesday for Year 4B. Homework is provided on MS Teams, Mathletics. Spelling Shed, Reading eggs and TT Rock Stars. Thank you for all the children with parent support have uploaded their work to Teams.

YEAR 5

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to their second half term and it is great to see the progress that they have already made. Over the next few weeks, we will be looking at our new Geography topic Rivers, learning about the different features of a river and looking at their importance. We are also starting our Healthy eating topic in DT where the children will get to cook their own vegetable soup ready for the icy months ahead! We appreciate all of your support at home and would like to say thank you to all of the parents supporting their children on Teams for both their homework and any time away from school. Keep well and Stay safe!

YEAR 6

Our children are working so hard and we congratulate them all for their continuing attendance and the following of social distancing rules. We have been incredibly lucky in not having to close our 'bubble' so far! In the few instances of children being off from school from Year 6, we are pleased to see children continuing their learning at home through the use of Microsoft Teams and online learning - this is so important! Thank you again to those parents/carers who are reading regularly at home with their children and signing the reading diaries - your support in this matter is invaluable.

As the weather is changing, a reminder that our P.E. day is Friday. Children need to bring both an outdoor PE kit and an indoor kit due to the inclement weather. The school kit is expected to be worn which can include trainers and a dark, non-logo tracksuit for outside, and the school shorts and royal blue t-shirt with pumps.

For our latest topic work, we are currently researching and finding out about South America! we are hoping to bring the carnival spirit to both Year 6 classes and maybe even do some Latin dance...possibly find contenders for Strictly!

MORE INFORMATION!

WELL BEING

Thank you to everyone who completed the Evaluation Survey for the Wellbeing Award. We will use the results to establish what we need to look at to support our Pupils and Families. The results will be posted on the school website.

So, what have we been up to in school regarding wellbeing...? We have appointed our Year 5 Wellbeing Ambassadors who will work alongside our Year 6 Ambassadors. We cannot wait to get started! Keep checking the Wellbeing section of the school website for information on our Ambassadors for 2020-2021, our Wellbeing Team and the work we have planned. All classes in school created some fantastic work for Mental Health Day. We now have an amazing display in school covering the book "The Huge Bag of Worries." Please remember that if you need any help, advice or just someone to talk to, we are always here to support our pupils and our families.

CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

We will be having our School Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 16th December 2020. A copy of the menu is on the school website.

POLITE REMINDER

Please contact school on your child's first day of absence and follow up in writing with reason for absence on their return.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AUTUMN TERM 2020 SO FAR...

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday 23 rd November 2020	All Week	Road Safety Week	School
Friday 4 th December 2020	All Day	School Closed – INSET	School
Thursday 3 rd December 2020	PM	Year 1 Christmas Parties	Hall
Monday 7 th December 2020	PM	Year 2 Christmas Parties	Hall
Wednesday 9 th December 2020	PM	Year 3 Christmas Parties	Hall
Friday 11 th December 2020	PM	Year 4 Christmas Parties	Hall
Monday 14 th December 2020	PM	Year 5 Christmas Parties	Hall
Wednesday 16 th December 2020	ALL DAY	EYFS Christmas Parties Santa in School – EYFS/KS 1	Hall
Friday 18 th December 2020	AM	Year 6 Christmas Parties	Hall
Friday 18 th December 2020	1.00pm	School Closes	School

Best Wishes



Diane Jeffries
Head teacher