

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

**June 2021**



**Dear Parents/Carers**

What a difficult week this has been! We've had to close five classes and it's only Thursday! I appreciate the difficulties you face when we are forced to close bubbles and hope you are all managing as best you can during this challenging and difficult time. Thank you to all those parents/carers who are being vigilant with COVID symptoms and taking the time and trouble to test. Thank you too for wearing masks around the school premises and informing us immediately of results and any COVID related concerns. It is wonderful to be a part of a community where the majority of families are all looking out for each other and trying to prevent this seemingly ongoing succession of closures – after all, we are here for the children and not ourselves.

Moving on...what have we been doing since my last newsletter?

**EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE**

Our Pre-school children are book worms at the moment! Their recent favourites are 'The Very Busy Spider', where they have enjoyed spinning their own spider's webs during our Messy Club, and 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. The children have been re-enacting the story both indoors and outdoors, walking through the long wavy grass, whispering and tiptoeing through caves and hiding under blankets. We have also been learning to put our own coats on. The children have been trying extremely hard and we would really appreciate it if you could support us by encouraging your child to have a go at doing this at home too. In Nursery this term we are learning all about 'The Sea'. We have had lots of fun being pirates and making treasure maps. Over the next few weeks we will discover some animals that live under the sea. We will also be thinking about what it is like going on holiday to the seaside. The children are getting really good at listening to stories now, which is great. We are also getting super clever at counting to 10, but keep practising at home! In Reception the children have also been enjoying learning about pirates. PE continues to be on a Friday. Please make sure PE kit is in school. We are working on making sure all the children are ready for Year One by getting changed independently. Please keep practising at home. We'd also like all children in Reception to read aloud to an adult or older sibling at home every day and sign their diaries. Thank you. Weekly activities will be on Teams every Monday for those having to isolate. Children in school can also use these activities to further their learning at home. Don't forget to put sun cream on your child and send a sunhat in if the weather is warm.

**YEAR 1**

Year 1 have had an exciting return to school. We have been really enjoying our final term in Year 1 and the children have been getting ready to move up to Year 2! In History and Geography, we have been learning all about our local area of Bolton. We have been learning compass directions and where Bolton is situated in the UK! We are starting a new topic in science and DT lessons learning about vehicles, pushes and pulls. We are designing and creating our own vehicles in DT lessons. For this, we ask that the children bring in a cardboard shoe box with a removable lid.

In English, we have been reading the Rabbit Problem and Beegu, learning how to write invitations to our own parties and writing our own stories. We will then be moving onto non-fiction writing, learning how to write a fact file. In Mathematics, we are finishing measurement and will be moving onto multiplication and division and fractions. In PE, we have been doing athletics. The athletics club has been going really well and the children have enjoyed learning about running in relay races. Both Year 1 classes will have outdoor PE on a Monday and a Wednesday. We would like to remind you to continue to read with your child each night for ten minutes and to check Microsoft Teams for any homework set – thank you for your ongoing support.

## **YEAR 2**

Year 2 are having a lovely Summer Term. We are learning all about 'The Great Fire of London' in our History topic and are enjoying learning about how the events of the fire unfolded over four days. In Design and Technology, we have designed our own bunting and are now beginning to make our own pieces of bunting using felt and sewing skills. In Art, we have created some amazing L.S. Lowry pictures using charcoal and will be starting to look at his painting of Bolton Wanderers Football Stadium next week. Next week, we will also be starting our final Science topic, which is all about plants. All of the children are working extremely hard this term and the Year 2 staff are very proud of them.

## **YEAR 3**

In Year 3 we can't believe that we are almost at the end of this school year! Even though the end of the school year is fast approaching, we're still working hard in all our subjects. In Maths, we are learning all about fractions and decimals and for English we are currently developing our letter writing skills and looking forward to reading and writing our own play scripts in a few weeks. We are just about to start our 'Plant' topic in Science and are still enjoying our Geography topic 'Bolton is a region of the U.K.', where we are developing our knowledge about Bolton and how to understand and use maps and atlases. Thanks as always to all the parents/guardians who continue to read every night with your child and sign their diary.

## **YEAR 4**

The children in Year 4 are enjoying the warmer days of early summer. We are now able to play cricket, rounders and athletics on the school field. This time of year also brings with it opportunities in Science to study 'All Living Things' around our school grounds. Continuing our Ancient Greek topic this term, we have made Greek vases using clay. Last week we designed our labyrinth in a shoe box and next week we will add the Minotaur! In Mathematics, the children are getting to grips with fractions and decimals, ready for Year 5. Thank you for your continuing support with your child's daily reading.

## **YEAR 5**

Year 5 have continued to work hard this half-term and it is fantastic to see the effort they are putting in before their transition into Year 6. Over the past few weeks, we have started our Anglo-Saxon topic. We have been learning lots about The Anglo-Saxon invasion of the UK, their settlements and the weapons they used in battle. We have even started to design our own catapults in Design and Technology, and we can't wait to make them over the next few weeks. Year 5 have also been looking at the architect, Norman Foster, in Art and we have been amazed by the fantastic designs the children have created of their very own buildings. We would like to thank you for your continued support.

## **YEAR 6**

With only a few weeks left to go, it is a busy time of year for Year 6! Secondary school transition is understandably affected by Covid-19 and, as a result, you will either be contacted by your respective high schools independently or we will facilitate transitions for

those that are in a position to do so. On the Friday 2nd July we will be rewarding the Year 6's for all their hard work and celebrate the end of primary school with inflatable bouncy castles on the school field – well deserved! In addition, we have a school trip at Urban Outreach, Bolton to learn about the work they do in the local area (Year 6W – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June and Year 6M – Thursday 1st July). Please can you bring appropriate footwear and a jacket in case it rains/sun-cream protection in case of sun. Those children who have applied for Bike-ability (Monday 5th/Tuesday 6th July) will store their bikes on the school premises in a designated spot and need to remember helmets and ensure their bikes are road-worthy.

## **MORE INFORMATION!**

### **WELLBEING AWARD – MRS ASH**

We have had our Verification Meeting for the Wellbeing Award for schools and thanks to everyone involved, we have passed with flying colours! The advisor spoke to pupils, staff and parents to gather information about our wellbeing provision in school and also our goals for the future. The words amazing, enthusiastic, supportive and team effort were used (amongst others) to describe our pupils and staff. I would just like to say, I am proud to be a part of St Mary's and proud to work alongside the fantastic pupils, staff and families in our community. Congratulations to you all.

Thank you to Mrs Ash for leading the school in achieving the Wellbeing Award and thank you to Mrs Halliwell for her support during those 'scary' meetings. Thank you too to our Wellbeing Team, staff, pupils, parents and governors.

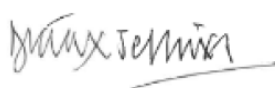
### **SCHOOL MEALS**

School meals are going up in September 2021 by 40p per day – I know! So, school meals will be £11.00 per week from the start of the next academic year – September 2021! This will just be for pupils in Key Stage Two, as Early Years and Key Stage One will still have the Universal Free School Meal (silver linings and all that...).

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY SUMMER TERM 2021 SO FAR...**

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	PM	Year 6W Urban Outreach	School
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	PM	Year 6M Urban Outreach	School
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021	PM	Year 6 Bouncy Castle Treat	School
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2021 Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	All Day	Year 6 Bike Ability	School
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	AM	Reception Height and Weight Checks	ICT Suite
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	All Day	Whole School Transition Day	School
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	9.30am	Church Leavers Service	Virtual
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	All Day	Parents Evening – Questions regarding reports	Virtual (TBC)
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	9.30am	Year 6 Leavers Assembly	Virtual (TBC)
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021	Class Finish Times	End of the Academic Year	School

Best wishes and take care,



Diane Jeffries  
Head teacher