



ST MARY THE VIRGIN CEP NEWSLETTER

'Learning with love, strength and faith following the example of Jesus'

Dear St Mary's families

Welcome to our second newsletter! The term is now well under way and already we have lots to celebrate at St Mary's. As you can see below there has been a lot going on – from Mr Dalton leading cross country over on The Croft, to Mrs Sanders leading the year's first Forest School visit, the children have impressed us all the way. Next week your children will bring home leaflets about our open afternoon on Saturday 14th October, and the church's 'Art for All' event we are hosting at the same time. Please do come along and take part in the free art activities. The afternoon is also aimed at prospective families so please spread the word and bring along friends and family.

Walking around the school this week the children have settled in so well and are talking enthusiastically about the exciting things going on in their rooms – what a pleasure to see!

Mrs Taylor, Acting Head of School

Cross-country



We were so proud of the children as they dug deep, strode determinedly and gritted their teeth around the course. We were particularly impressed with their sportsmanship, cheering on every runner and showing true strength of character to reach the finish line. Well done to one and all. Ziggy and Seren from year 5 have written us this report, 'On Friday 22nd September our school went to the Croft to do our cross-country run. We ran in class order so firstly Years 1 & 2 did their race which was one lap around the Croft followed by Year 3 & 4 who ran from the Forest Way to the Croft. After a rest of ten minutes Year 5 & 6 ran their race but added an extra lap around the Croft.'

It was a lovely day, the event was fun and everyone was excited. Some of the children said "it was good exercise", "it was fun but a challenge", "it was fun because it was the last one for Year 6".

Raising Resilient Children workshop

It was great to see parents at the workshop on Thursday 21st September; we've had some really good feedback from both the parents and from Sam Mills, leader of the workshop. As a result we have arranged for some further sessions – dates to follow! Please let Mrs Leahy know if you are interested.



Don't forget you can order name labels from Stikins and raise money for the school!
<https://www.stikins.co.uk>

Learner of the week

Week ending 22/9/17

LILAC – Eleanor

WILLOW – Edward

CHERRY – Verity

MAPLE – Will

Week ending 29/9/17

LILAC – Brooke

WILLOW – Francesca

CHERRY – Eva

MAPLE – Jacob

Attendance

Week ending 22/9/17

LILAC – 92.8%

WILLOW – 96.4%

CHERRY – 96.4%

MAPLE – 100%

WHOLE SCHOOL – 96%

Week ending 29/9/17

LILAC – 97%

WILLOW – 98.5%

CHERRY – 100%

MAPLE – 97.7%

WHOLE SCHOOL – 98.4%

Sports Star of the week

Week ending 18/9/17

LILAC – Ollie

WILLOW – Louis

CHERRY – Rhys

MAPLE – Beau

Week ending 29/9/17

LILAC – Ellen

WILLOW – Darcy

CHERRY – Coco

MAPLE – Isaac



Pioneer Partnership update



Mrs King came over from Pioneer to work in collaboration with Mrs Norris on grammar and punctuation planning. Staff across all three schools will be working with each other throughout this year and we will keep you informed about partnership developments.



We are very lucky that Mrs Baughan is continuing to support us for a number of hours in Term 1 to enable us to continue our 1:1 Thrive support for children in KS1 and 2. Mr Patry and Mrs Neville will be working under Mrs Baughan's guidance to offer two 30 minute sessions for these children. I will continue to oversee this support working closely with all 3 adults. This support relates closely to the Raising Resilient Children workshop that took place on 21st September as with the Thrive Approach we make extra efforts to notice, validate and value our children and their emotions. This term we will also update our whole school profiles that help us identify children who may benefit from support in this area for Term 2 and 3. I am very excited as at the end of October I will begin my training to become a Thrive practitioner that will enable me to take over Mrs Baughan's lead practitioner role.

Sian Leahy SENCO

100% Attendance!



During assembly last week, we gave a huge St Mary's cheer to Thomas in Year 6 who achieved 100% attendance for all 6 terms of the last academic year! This is a great achievement and will stand him in good stead as he begins Y6 and moving to secondary school later on. Well done Thomas!

Wildlife Explorers



Wildlife explorers started the new Club term with the school bug hotel make over. It is now slimmer and tidier. All woodlice, beetles, earwigs, spiders and ladybirds have some great new compartments to shelter in! The children organised the refurbishment with some great design ideas. Well done Wildlife Explorers!

Mr and Mrs Rowberry

Governors Corner

Governors have been very busy recently focusing on our new collaboration with the Pioneer Federation. Governors from all schools met this week to talk about the strengths of each school and what we hope to achieve by working together. There are lots of plans for visits across all the schools and we are really looking forward to getting to know one another better. Next week St Mary's governors will meet to have a look at last year's data, and to agree on our priorities for the year ahead.

Chair of Governors

Katrina's Corner

Below are the dates and timings of our Harvest Festival celebrations and some advance notice of collections:

St Mary's Church Harvest service - 8th October at 9:30am

We are collecting financial gifts for International Justice Mission and goods (see below) for Crawley Open House.

School Harvest Festival- 18th October at 2:45pm, all welcome

We are collecting goods for Crawley Open House again this year. Tinned goods, gloves and warm blankets are welcome, and the following are especially helpful: tinned meats (curry, meatballs, ham etc), cooking sauces, cleaning products and toilet rolls! Please drop off heavy or bulky goods at the church on the 18th, or if easily carried, give to your child to bring up to church.

Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Katrina Thomas

Mince Pie Race

Mr Procter and Alan Brundle (Pioneer Governor) will be running the Mince Pie Race on Sunday 10th December. They will be raising funds for school projects.

You are welcome to come and join in on the fun and cheer on Mr Procter and Mr Brundle. Please see the link below for more information.

<http://www.seafordstriders.org.uk/Newsite/mince-pie-ten-mile/>

If you would like to sponsor Mr Procter and Mr Brundle, please see the school office.

Forest School



Our Forest School programme got underway this week with Maple class enjoying their first visit on Thursday. 'What a brilliant afternoon in the sunshine and autumn shade of the trees. Maple class were amazing adventurers and spent all afternoon chatting to each other about what they were doing, what they could see, where they had been on adventures before and what they wanted to do in the future. Thank you to all of them, their parents for the support with their kit and collection and to our brilliant volunteers who helped make it all possible! Can't wait until next time!'

Ground force afternoon



A huge thank you to the family who came and helped us to move the boat on Thursday afternoon. There will be another 'groundforce' afternoon on Thursday 12th October – any help from parents would be greatly appreciated.

Active Kids Vouchers

As luck would have it, our order from Sainsbury's Active Kids arrived today so we thought we would share photos of Maple Class constructing their outdoor sink and enjoying the ribbons that all the vouchers allowed us to choose. Thanks to everyone who collected and donated the vouchers; as you can see, it really is worthwhile!



Pirate Ship!



As we go to press, our amazing new pirate ship is under construction in the playground! We look forward to sharing photos of the finished product in our next newsletter. Thank you so much to our wonderful PTFA for raising the funds for the ship.

No Nuts!

Just a polite reminder that we have children in school with nut allergies so please do not give snacks containing nuts to your children to bring into school.

School Dinners

As next Thursday is census day, the school lunch menu for the day has been changed to try and encourage as many children as possible to have lunch that day. The choice will be **Fish Fingers** or **Vegetable Lasagne**. We would be grateful if you would discuss this with your child.

For those parents with children in Year 3 and above, please could we remind you to regularly check your **Parentpay** account and top up the balance if necessary for school dinners. It is important that there are sufficient funds in your accounts to pay for dinners.

Interesting, Useful and Unusual Words

Every week there will be an interesting, useful but unusual word in our newsletter for the whole community to learn.

Mr Procter and Mrs Taylor will select words each week. Children will then be asked in Friday's assembly what the word means and to put it into a sentence to show they have understood the meaning. This is to help build up our children's vocabulary throughout the year. Please see this week's below:

Voracity

Definition: having or marked by a strong desire for an activity or pursuit



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Term 1: 6th September – 21st October

Tuesday 3 rd October	9-11am – Cherry Class trip to Briars Centre
Wednesday 4 th October	Cross-country event at Beacon Academy – selected children
Thursday 5 th October	1-3pm – Cherry Forest School at Hodore Farm
Saturday 7 th October	Comedy Night at the Village Hall to raise funds for the school – please see PTFA members for tickets
Sunday 8 th October	9.30 – 11am – Family Praise and Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church
Thursday 12 th October	Willow Class Forest School at Hodore Farm
Saturday 14 th October	2-3pm – Open Afternoon for prospective parents
Sunday 15 th October	Family Communion at St Mary's Church
Wednesday 18 th October	12.30-1.30pm Village Harvest Lunch
Wednesday 18 th October	14.45 – 15:15 Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church, all welcome
Thursday 19 th October	1-3pm Lilac Forest School
Monday 23 rd -Friday 27 th October	Half-term week