



St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

Head of School: Miss Becca Hare

Email: office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk



Term 3 Week 6

Friday 11th February

Dear St Mary's Families,

At the end of this chilliest of weeks, we hope everyone has had a little bit of exploration and fun in the snow, which has brought some welcome delight to the children. Collectively it has been a term of hard work and adaption to working remotely and online. All of the children at St Mary's have been learning about and reflecting on 'Internet Safety' this week as part of Internet Safety week.

In addition to this Maple Class have been learning about winter and have experimented with ways of making ice melt. Cherry Class have been learning about money and hibernating animals. Willow Class have been writing their own Revolting Rhymes, inspired by Roald Dahl's book. Lilac Class have been painting and drawing cherry blossom in Art.

On Friday, as part of our 'International Day' all of the classes have learned a bit about The Chinese New Year celebrations, which is brought by today's new moon. This year it is the Year of the Ox.

We would like to thank all the children and their parents and carers for such fantastic support and engagement with their learning throughout the term and hope that everyone has a welcome rest over the half term holidays.

Louise Munn

Maple Class teacher

Headteacher Award

Will (Willow) has received a headteacher award this week for his professional documentary on special Muslim festivals.

Well done, Will!



Reading/Books

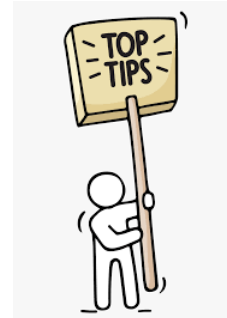
We recently received a fabulous donation of 'pre-loved' books which are fabulous for our library and for use in class.

If you are having a clear out over half term (or at any time), please remember to put your children's books to one side for our school.



Top Tips

- **Information:** Jo Shiner Chief Constable of Sussex Police has [shared a letter](#)
- **Letters home:** Whole school - Online survey and Parent Consultations, Year 1, East Sussex School Health Vision Screening
- **Safeguarding:** If you have any safeguarding concerns for our children, please contact Miss Hare at dsl-smv@pioneerfederation.co.uk or, if out of school hours, the NSPCC on 0800 8005000.
- **Online Learning Review:** If not yet completed, please do so - [online form](#)
- If your child, or a member of your household, tests positive for COVID-19 **during the first 48 hours of half-term**, please contact Miss Hare (head-smv@pioneerfederation.co.uk)



If you need the newsletter, or any other school letter, to be in a different format, please speak with Mrs Funnell in the school office.

If you need help or support with access to any information, please also contact Mrs Funnell.

Miss Hare's Writing Challenge!

Well done to Albie (Cherry) for completing Miss Hare's writing challenge this week. Fabulous drawing of a stripy tiger.

Well done, Albie!



Miss Hare's Maths Challenge

Well done to Dexter (Cherry) and Albie (Cherry) for completing Miss Hare's maths challenge this week.

Week 6 Maths Challenge – KS1



How many different towers can you make using one red, one blue and one yellow block? 6

How many can you make if you have a green block as well? 14



Week 6 Maths Challenge – KS1



How many different towers can you make using one red, one blue and one yellow block? 6 towers

How many can you make if you have a green block as well?



16 towers

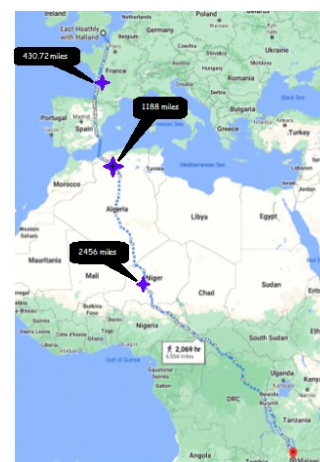
Travelling from East Hoathly to Malawi - 6555miles

What a fabulous week, we have now travelled 2456 miles!

We will continue our challenge until the Easter holidays, as we are now almost, halfway there!

Well done to everyone who is taking part and having a go, we love seeing your 'travel' photos too.

Keep up your travels over the holidays and don't forget to send in your distances. You can send these in daily, weekly or in a couple of weeks at a time by email to: traveltomalawi@pioneerfederation.co.uk or to the school office.



Mindful Monday Photos



In school, Bubble A spent some time making origami figures.

Emily made face snacks for herself and baby Charlie. She also baked some cookies for everyone to share, she even gave some to our neighbours.



Max and Amelia enjoyed the snow and making face snacks



Thank you to all of you and keep sending them in.

Other Fabulous Photos from Home



Emily and Oliver creating their puff painting.



Photos from School



Leon has loved getting creative with paints this week and painted these beautiful dolphins

Book Review

Percy Jackson

Nicco (Cherry Class)

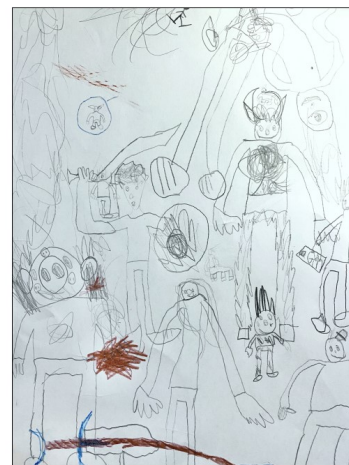
I love the Percy Jackson books by Rick Riordan because there are cool quests and loads of magic weapons. One is a pen that turns into a sword and another is a watch that turns into a shield.

The books are based on Greek Mythology and I am getting into it very much. I love learning about the Greek Gods, planets, places around the world and monsters from Greek myths.



There are five books in this series, and there are more series later that my brother, Will, is reading called Heroes of Olympus. And there are even more after that.

We love playing games in the house pretending that we're all the different characters from the books. I recommend others read it - they will love it!



Thank you, Nicco

A message from Rev Julie

Dear St Mary's School,

I can hardly believe we are at half term. As I look out of my study window I can see sheep and pheasants, a donkey and blue sky!

This week I recorded a short message to everyone who makes up St Mary's school. I wanted to thank everyone for the amazing way they have worked together to teach and learn, whether they are at home or at school. Thank you so much to all the staff and to parents and carers who are supporting all the children who attend St Mary's. I know many of you are juggling learning and working from the same household. I hope you are doing okay?

I know this is a challenging time. I have to admit I never imagined we would be recording online services several times a week. However, we are all learning to do things that make a difference and keep people connected. The many acts of kindness has made such a difference.

Every week we have an online service for church with music and various people involved. We also have a short youth service. You can find both of these services and all information on our church website:

www.hartfieldchurch.org

This weeks recorded message for the children can be found on our website via YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/TzNgTHa4Vew>

I want you all to know you are very much in my prayers. If any of you are in any kind of need or would like to pick up the phone for a chat, I am available on 01892 770436 or email me: revjuliesear1@gmail.com



After half term, I will be keeping in touch with the children and making sure we continue with the various festivals coming up in the church calendar. Lent; Palm Sunday and Easter.

As I say in my short talk to the children. I hope you find time to take a look around and see the many spring bulbs coming up. The buds on the trees and signs of hope.

With love and prayers,

Pioneer Federation Online Safety Parent Webinar February 2021

(part 1)

This information was shared at the Federation-wide Parent Webinar on 8th and 9th February 2021. For further information, please contact Miss Lewis at vwlewis@pioneerfederation.co.uk. (Our online safety ambassador.)



Quick links:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents - further information and support

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre> - click here if you are worried about a child at risk of online sexual abuse.

[Information about Jessie and Friends - resources for 4-7 year olds](#)

[Play Like Share Resource for 8-10 year olds](#)

[Video to show the importance of parental controls and restrictions](#)

[The world changes, children don't! Romeo and Juliet taught us that!](#)

Children online:

The internet and children's online lives can feel very overwhelming for parents and carers. New Apps and games appear every day and with them, new risks.

When supporting your children online, ask yourself these questions:

What can they see? Is it appropriate? What are the security, filtering and privacy settings that can be used?

What are they sharing and who with?

Who are they friends with and what are they chatting about?

What can parents do?

Talk to your child – make this an ongoing conversation – not a 'big chat' but part of your daily conversation about decision making and choices. Talk about what they like to watch, play and do online. Watch videos and play the games together and talk about what the risks could be and how to combat them. Ensure they know what to do if something makes them feel worried, upset or scared.

Look up the age ratings – check them as a guide to whether the content is appropriate.

Set up privacy, security, parental controls and filters – this will help you to manage the content they might see and block obvious adult content. This is not 100% proof, however, so monitoring will still be required.

Encourage reporting – show them how to report inappropriate chat within a game and to tell you if anything makes them worried or uncomfortable.

Use devices in public spaces – don't allow children to stream from bedrooms or bathrooms

Support and report.

Be a good role model – consider your own use of the internet and devices – what are children learning from you and modelling their own behaviour and habits on?



Pioneer Federation Online Safety Parent Webinar February 2021 **(part 2)**

Resources

[Jessie and Friends](#) is a series of three animations for 4 – 7-year olds. The series follows the adventures of Jessie, Tia and Mo as they begin to navigate the online world, watching videos, sharing pictures and playing games. There's also a storybook for each episode, to help you and your child keep the conversation going, and a catchy song at the end, aimed to reinforce the films safety messages.

[Play Like Share](#) is for 8 – 10-year olds. It follows the adventures of Alfie, Ellie and Sam as they form a band and enter their school's Battle of the Bands contest, taking on the mean but 'cool' Popcorn Wizards as they go. The three friends learn that while the internet can help, they need to use it wisely and safely. The films teach children how to spot the early signs of manipulative, pressurising and threatening behaviour by people they might meet online and develops their confidence to respond safely and get help.

Parent info

Parent Info is a partnership project between NCA-CEOP and the parent organisation Parent Zone.

It's a website and advice service for parents and carers, which aims to build the resilience of their children through articles, tips and advice. Articles are written by expert organisations on a range of different topics, all linked by the internet. The website is divided into the following categories:

- Games, apps and tech
- Parenting
- Safety and settings
- Relationships and sex
- Education and the future
- Health and wellbeing

Safer Schools App:

To prevent parents from feeling overwhelmed and to help keep you up to date, we have signed up to the Safer Schools App. The app keeps you updated with all the latest information about gaming, social media, online behaviour and risks while also giving key advice about setting up devices, using parental controls and keeping children safe.

Download the App from the App Store or Play Store, enter the school name and then enter the numeric code



Opportunity

We have been sent information about the re-vamped [CBBC YouTube Channel](#) which the CBBC team think may be of interest for entertainment at half term and outside of home-schooling hours while we are still in lockdown.

They are uploading videos to it daily that are suitable for 5-11 year olds and have all the top CBBC brands with a wide range of genres from factual shows, news, dramas, comedy to entertainment. Programmes like Horrible Histories, Blue Peter, Newsround, The Next Step, Saturday Mash-Up, Operation Ouch, the Playlist, the Dumping Ground, Heirs of the Night and Jamie Johnson. They are also welcoming back Dani Harmer in the brilliant new programme My Mum Tracy Beaker.

If you are interested, parents can freely subscribe to www.youtube.com/cbbc



Opportunity

We have received information from Bowles Outdoor Centre detailing their Half Term activities for children of keyworkers.

Please go to: <https://bookwhen.com/bowles>



BOWLES

ROCKS
ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Opportunity

Lucas (Lilac) and Iris (Willow) have decided to do another run, this time to raise money for a charity.



Signing up to Virtual Runner UK, money raised is being donated to the Child Brain Injury Trust.

Lucas and Iris are aiming to complete 7km in one run for their sponsorship and if you would like to support this them please go to their Just Giving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/lucas-iris>

Working from Home

We have been made aware that if you are working from home you may be able to claim a tax rebate.



Go to: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-relief-for-employees/working-at-home>

More info is also available here [https://blog.moneysavingexpert.com/2020/04/martin-lewis-working-from-home-due-to-coronavirus-claim-p6-wk-/-/](https://blog.moneysavingexpert.com/2020/04/martin-lewis-working-from-home-due-to-coronavirus-claim-p6-wk-/)



Wellbeing



As we all try to process the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, it can be difficult to know how best to empower, educate and connect children and young people so they feel supported through this difficult time. BBC Children in Need has identified [key resources](#) that may help.



Dandelion
Learning

Opportunity

Recognising how difficult it is for parents to navigate the demands of home schooling and that the importance of subject knowledge is key in ensuring learning at home is successful, Dandelion Learning are running fully funded online sessions specifically for parents.

If you would like to consolidate your understanding of word classes including nouns, verbs, adjectives, determiners, conjunctions, pronouns and adverbs and learn techniques to help your child(ren) do the same go to: [Free Online Training! Helping Parents with Home Learning: Getting to Grips with Grammar.](#)

The 45 minute session is free to all parents who have children at primary school.

Opportunity

Helen Arkell
Dyslexia Charity



The Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity, have been given a grant from National Lottery Awards for All to enable them to offer free places on their HELP Parents Course, for families who would find it difficult to pay.

The courses (open to all) help parents of children with dyslexia to support with reading, spelling, maths and study skills. With six online 1.5-hour sessions, support slides and recordings available they are especially helpful while children are at home. One of the courses starts on 22 February and there is another course scheduled for May.

Go to: <https://www.helenarkell.org.uk/news/new-dates-help-course-for-parents-online.php>

Wellbeing: Connecting to Nature

"Things to do" day by day in Winter, sent by the RSPB.

Day 1	Look out of your window (or perhaps at a photograph) and try sketching some wildlife, paying close attention to all the details you may not have noticed before.	Day 2	Try some winter photography - whether it's a beautiful snowy scene or simply a frosty cobweb, see if you can take a photograph that sums up nature in winter.	Day 3	Get creative and make some fat cakes for the birds rspb.org.uk/birdcake . Remember not to put out anything containing raisins if you have a dog.	Day 4	Use Google street view to find a beautiful wild area and spend a moment taking in the view. Perhaps you could try drawing what you see or researching the area?	Day 5	Take a moment to listen out for robins. They are one of the only birds to sing in winter and can be heard in both urban and rural areas.	Day 6	Engage a friend or family member in nature – phone a friend to discuss some of the nature you have seen recently, or plan a video call with a family member.
Day 7	See if you can make a start on some nature-themed art. You could draw, paint, sew, knit, crochet, model – whatever works best for you. See if you can unleash your creativity.	Day 8	Make a nice, warm drink and take a moment to relax and look out the window – what can you see/hear?	Day 9	See if you can bake something nature-themed, for example cupcakes decorated with flowers, or animal shaped gingerbread biscuits! #bakeformature	Day 10	Look up the song of your favourite bird and take a moment to listen to it carefully. See if you can remember it and try to recognise it on any future walks.	Day 11	Time to marvel at nature's best bits! See if you can find a nature documentary to watch and take some time to relax. You can't beat a bit of David Attenborough.	Day 12	Take a moment to notice the weather outside. Perhaps think about what wildlife might enjoy this weather, or how it might affect them?
Day 13	Take some time to work on your nature-themed art project.	Day 14	Take a moment to re-visit a wonderful memory involving nature. See if you can immerse yourself in this memory, enjoying all the feelings associated with it.	Day 15	Wrap up warm and go on a frosty winter walk. Can you spot any key signs of winter, such as berries, snowdrops and robins?	Day 16	See if you can come up with a wildlife-related word for every letter of the alphabet. You could even try picking a category, for example birds, flowers, or British wildlife.	Day 17	Looking forward to the spring, think about what plants you might like to grow and make a plan. If you don't have a garden, focus on indoor potted plants and herbs instead.	Day 18	Take 5 minutes to listen to RSPB Birdsong Radio and immerse yourself in the sounds of nature.
Day 19	Start a nature journal and write down one thing each day relating to nature. This could be a fun fact, something you've spotted, or something you're hoping to see.	Day 20	Take some more time to work on your nature-themed art project.	Day 21	Notice the changing light of a sunrise at the start of the day, or the soft dimming of light at sunset.	Day 22	Take a moment to be mindful. Find a natural soundscape online (perhaps the sound of rain, the sea or woodlands), close your eyes and go on a nature journey.	Day 23	List all the different things you enjoy most about wintertime, for example things you see, hear, smell and touch.	Day 24	Notice the first star appearing in the night sky.
Day 25	Go on a walk or look out of your window and see if you can see any signs of nature, for example fallen feathers, prints, or fur. Try to figure out what might have left them!	Day 26	Spend 10 minutes looking at a wildlife webcam and see what you can spot.	Day 27	Look for some fascinating animal facts online and get lost in the wonders of nature.	Day 28	Open a window and experience the fresh air mindfully - feel it on your face, skin and hair. Now take a slow, deep breath.				



Connecting to nature

Some of these ideas have been inspired by our Nature Prescriptions project in Shetland, and our pilot project in Edinburgh, [rspb.org.uk/naturesremedy](https://www.rspb.org.uk/naturesremedy).
For more ideas visit www.rspb.org.uk and don't forget to take part in our annual Big Garden Birdwatch 29-31 January 2021



Connecting to nature

Some of these ideas have been inspired by our Nature Prescriptions project in Shetland, and our pilot project in Edinburgh, [rspb.org.uk/naturesremedy](https://www.rspb.org.uk/naturesremedy). For more ideas visit www.rspb.org.uk and don't forget to take part in our annual Big Garden Birdwatch 29-31 January 2021