

# St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy

Newsletter 15 – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024



## English Parent Café - 1<sup>st</sup> February

We would like to offer our parents and carers an opportunity to see how we teach the many aspects of English - reading, writing, spelling, handwriting, phonics within school and why we teach in this way. There will also be ideas on how you can support your child at home with their English learning and an opportunity to discuss any concerns or thoughts that you may have with your child's English learning.

If you would like to attend this workshop, this will be held in the school hall on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February between 8.45 and 9.30am. Please email the office if you would like to attend.

We look forward to seeing you.

### CELEBRATING LEARNING

*Congratulations to our  
Stars of the Week:*

*Week ending 19<sup>th</sup> January*

*Robin – Charleigh D*

*3 Skylark – Ella W*

*4 Kingfisher – George S*

*4 Woodpecker – George G*

*5 Avocet – Rory B*

*5 Curlew – Kieran S*

*6 Falcon – Arran McK*

*6 Red Kite – Josh T*

*Dates for your Diary*

*22<sup>nd</sup> Jan – World Religion Day – children  
completing a whole afternoon of RE*

*23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> Jan – Yr 5 Bikeability Course*

*w/b 29<sup>th</sup> Jan – Yrs 3, 4 & 5 PiXL  
Assessments*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Feb – Pastoral Drop in Session  
In Hall 2.30 – 3.00pm*



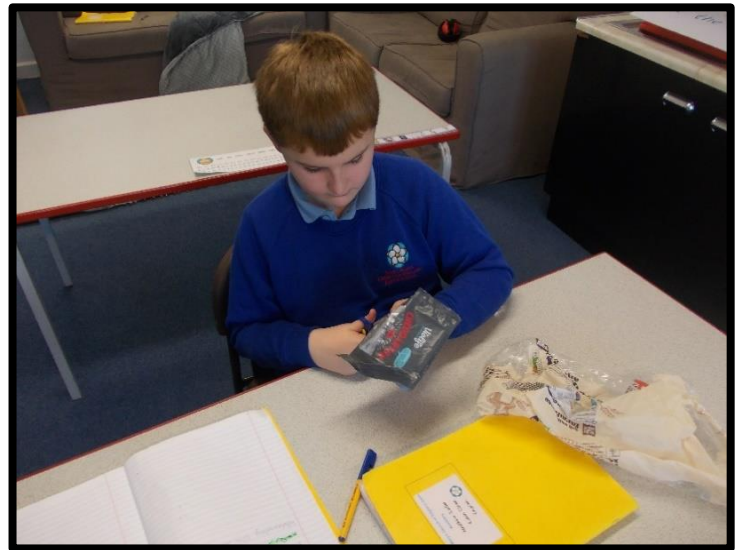
**"They will soar on wings like eagles"**



## Learning Blog – Robin Class

In English Robin class have been doing work based on the book 'One Plastic Bag' by Miranda Paul. It is about a woman from Gambia who notices the terrible problem of plastic bags being thrown away and decides to do something about it.

In our first session the children were given plastic bags and asked to make something – this turned out to involve various items of clothing. In another session the class started to think about how they could start to prepare plastic bags in order to recycle them by making woven purses and bags (like in the book).



Reece makes a fine plastic apron to wear before he starts work!

Nurture. Respect. Responsible. Community.  
Compassion. Courage.



In science we have just finished our topic, Rocks and Soil. In the last session we had five different types of soil and we tested them to see which ones allowed water to drain the quickest and the slowest. We then examined some samples of the different soils and described the texture, structure, colour and moistness of each one. We were allowed to put our fingers in the soil to study it closely.

Our new geography topic is Europe. In the first session we identified the countries of Europe and located them on a map.



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## ***Pastoral Drop in Session***

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February from 2.30pm to 3.00pm our Pastoral Team will be available in the school hall for a Pastoral Drop in Session. Parents can come into school to discuss any problems their child may be experiencing i.e. young carers, bereavement, anxiety, social and family issues etc

## ***After School Clubs – FREE Trial***

This half-term we want to encourage children to participate in our after-school clubs and will be offering them the opportunity to try out our clubs for FREE (1 week only, which if you wish to continue further sessions will be £4)

Next week, on Monday (22<sup>nd</sup> January) we are offering free places for our Multi Sports Club, provided by Premier Education from 3.20 - 4.20 p.m.

The club is limited to 20 spaces and will be offered to parents on a first-come, first-serve basis, although if demand is high, we will offer children an opportunity to 'try it' later this half-term.

If you would like to register your child for this club please contact Mrs Drake, at the school office ensure your child comes to school with suitable clothing to participate in.

## ***Our current After School Clubs are:***

Monday: Multi Sports with Premier Education

Tuesday: Street Dance with ARTS

Wednesday: Football with CSF

Thursday: Taekwondo with Chris Hemstock

Friday: Football Winter League – Friday's will be kept free for any inter-school football matches (more information will be sent out as these come up)

The clubs will run for six weeks and will cost £24 for the term (£4 per session) payable at the beginning of the term on Parentmail.

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## Attendance

Every day at school adds up, so make the most of it.

As part of the national 'Everyday Counts' attendance campaign, we will continue to monitor attendance very closely. If you need support on this matter please make an appointment to see Mrs Dale our pastoral officer or visit [www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/attendance](http://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/attendance)

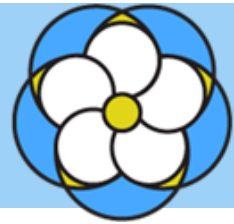
Well Done to the following top three classes for their attendance during the week 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

5 Curlew	97.89%
5 Avocet	95.5%
6 Red Kite	95.48%



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## Dates for the year ahead:

22/01/24	World Religion Day – children completing a whole afternoon of RE
w/b 29/1/24	Years 3, 4 & 5 PiXL Assessments
01/02/24	English Parent Cafe
02/02/24	Pastoral Drop in Sessions in Hall 2.30 – 3.00pm
05/02/24 – 09/02/24	Children's Mental Health Week
06/02/24	Safer Internet Day
16/02/24	World Kindness Day
19/02/24 – 23/02/24	Half Term
26/02/24	Back to School
w/b 04/03/24	Yr 6 PiXL Assessments
07/03/24	World Book Day (more information to follow)
09/03/24	International Women's Day
13/03/24	Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.30pm
14/03/24	Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.30pm
15/03/24	Red Nose Day – non-school uniform
15/03/24	Easter Craft afternoon with Yr 3 & 4 parents and Robins Class
w/b 18/03/24	SEND Parents Meetings
22/03/24	Easter Craft afternoon with Yr 5 & 6 parents
27/03/24	Easter Service at the Church (children only)
28/03/24 – 12/04/24	Easter Holidays
15/04/24	Back to School
22/04/24	SENDCo from Long Stratton High School meeting with Yr 6 SEND Pupils re transition
06/05/24	May Bank Holiday
27/05/24 – 31/05/24	Half Term
03/06/24	Back to School
19/07/24	Last day of Term

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