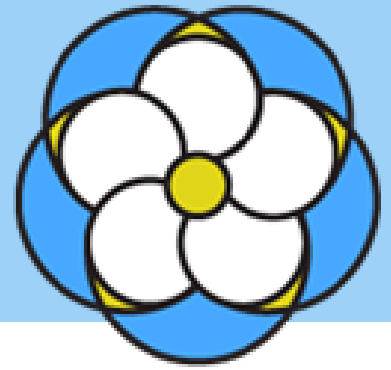


St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy

Newsletter 19 – 16th February 2024



British Science Week

8th – 17th March

British Science week is coming after the half term and we will be holding a poster competition.

The theme this year is **'Time'**. We would like you to draw/design a poster showing how a certain type of technology has changed over time or even the advancement of time-telling technology itself. Your poster could also go futuristic to show how you think the world might look in years to come or perhaps look at nature – lifecycles, lifespans, evolution and hibernation – nature is full of timely topics.

The judges will be looking for:

- Creativity in approach – innovative angle on the content or creative interpretation of the theme – don't be afraid to think outside the box.
- Content – Clear, accurate and informative.
- Effective communication – presented and communicated in an engaging way.

The posters should either be A4 or A3 size. You are welcome to work as a group, in pairs or on your own and include your family members. There are only five entries allowed per school but it would be lovely to make a display of all the entries somewhere in the school.

The posters need to be handed to Mr Power (our Science Lead) or the school office by **Monday 25th March** as we need time to decide which entries we're going to submit.



"They will soar on wings like eagles"

CELEBRATING LEARNING

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week:

Week ending 16th February

Robin – Tyler H

3 Skylark – Leighton H

4 Kingfisher – Ethan W

4 Woodpecker – Jack W-T

5 Avocet – Lola H

5 Curlew – Seb D

6 Falcon – AJ W-S

6 Red Kite – Max H

Dates for your Diary

19th – 23rd Feb – Half Term

26th Feb – Back to School

4th Mar – Yr 6 trip to Gressenhall

w/b 4th Mar – Yr 6 PiXL Assessments

5th Mar – Second-hand Uniform Shop

9.00am in Hall

7th Mar – World Book Day

Parents invited in for the Book Café in library after school



Meet the Trust Team

Being part of St Benet's Trust means St Mary's is supported in many ways. I want to introduce you to some people from the Trust that you will see regularly around the school or on the gates and why they come to the school.

Mr Mark Carlyle – Improvement Director



My role within St Benet's Multi Academy Trust as an improvement director is to work alongside school leaders and staff, supporting the work they do in developing best practice in their schools. This involves different aspects of improvement and development at a strategic level, across a number of schools in the Trust. Having been a headteacher for fourteen years, both within St Benet's and outside of it, I have a depth of experience that I can apply to the many opportunities and challenges that schools face on a daily basis.

Mrs Stokes – Trust Improvement Officer



Mrs Stokes has a passion for English. She comes into school to support with the curriculum design, teaching and learning and monitoring of all subjects across the school. Mrs Stokes has previously been a headteacher and Director of School Improvement for another large Trust. You will never see her without a smile on her face and an exciting anecdote to tell you.

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

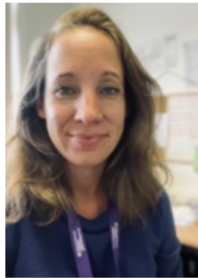


Mrs Avenal– Trust Improvement Lead for SEND



Mrs Avenal has over 15 years of experience working in a diverse range of settings. She is incredibly knowledgeable and passionate about supporting pupils with SEND. You know she is in the building through her infectious laugh that echoes around the school.

Miss Richardson – Trust Improvement Lead for Maths



I did not want to leave you wondering how the Trust supported maths. I am a qualified Mastery Specialist and School Development Lead for Maths. I work across the trust supporting school to implement a mastery curriculum for maths. I am committed to ensuring all teachers have a good pedagogical understanding so every child receive a great education. I love my job!

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Learning Blog – 4 Woodpecker Class

We have come to the end of our gymnastics unit. We set up the equipment and travelled between each.

To practise our skills, we jumped using straight, star and tuck jumps.

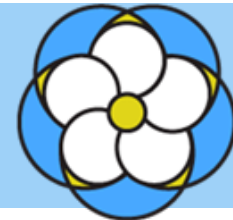
Demonstrated balances on the wall bars and various rolls on the mats.



In maths we have learned about adding and subtracting fractions, mixed numbers and improper fractions.



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British Science Week - 8th – 17th March



Back Saturday 17 - Saturday 24 February 2024!

A celebration of science! Get ready for intriguing discoveries, inspiring talks, engaging exhibitions, cutting-edge research and lots of family fun!

Presented by The Forum, [Norwich Science Festival](#) combines cutting-edge research with fantastic

events; revealing the fascinating science of the world around us.

With more than 180 events taking place over eight days, there's plenty for everybody to enjoy. As well as free, family activities in The Explorium each day, there are lots of family talks, shows and workshops throughout the Festival. If you're looking for something that's for adults only, we have a whole selection of laugh-along lectures, taboo topics, deep dives and chances to get involved.

Exploring
Science Amusement Lab

Why not visit the Exploring Science Amusement Lab at Bowthorpe for some hands on science activities over half term. Visit their website at exploringsscience@gmail.com for more information.



Football Match

Last Friday our UKS2 Mixed and Girls Football Teams played matches against Newton Flotman Primary School teams. Both teams did very well with the scores for UKS2 being 8- 2 to Newton Flotman and for the Girls, 9-1 to Newton Flotman. Well done everyone who took part.

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Year 3 Visit to Mayfields

On Monday Skylark class were lucky to be invited to take part in a music and dance workshop at Mayfields Care home. This was an opportunity for the pupils to engage with the residents in a fun and energetic way. The children enjoyed dancing, singing and using pom poms and scarves to embellish their efforts. The residents enjoyed watching and joining in with the pupils. The pupils were able to show how thoughtful and caring they can be when talking to the residents.



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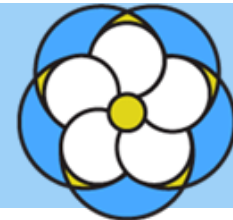
After-school Sports Clubs for next half-term

The After School Clubs will remain the same for next half term. If your child already does a club and they are happy to continue we will re-enrol them. If they have changed their minds, please let the office know.

We have spaces at most of the After School Clubs, please contact the office if you are interested in your child attending. All after-school clubs will be charged a rate of £4 per session, which accurately reflect the costs of running our after-school sports provision.

Monday: Multi Sports with Premier Education
Tuesday: Street Dance with ARTS
Wednesday: Football Club with Community Sports Foundation
Thursday: Taekwondo
Friday: Any football matches that have been organised with other schools
(details sent out separately)

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Celebrating Success

Congratulations to Kieran, Year 5, who is pictured here proudly showing off his certificate for passing his Street Dance Exam which took place in Dec 2023. He passed with the Highest Score (Highly Commended).

Kieran has been dancing for years now and joined ARTS 2022 when his family moved back to Norwich. Since joining he has also performed at the Theatre Royal which he's looking forward to doing again this year.

If your child has achieved something out of school that you would like us to celebrate on our Newsletter, please email the office with a short description and a photo.



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

Well Done to the following top three classes for their attendance during the week 5th – 9th February 2024.

4 Kingfisher	99.05%
3 Skylark	96.33%
4 Woodpecker	96.11%



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St Mary's PTA Events...

St Mary's C of E Junior school PTA would like to raise funds for a new school mini bus.

The PTA are hoping to raise £30,000 to support the school to purchase a school minibus of their own. We are hoping that we can acquire funds through various different avenues and we are hoping to secure enough money to purchase a used but good condition mini bus in full. The school currently has two people trained to drive the minibus.

Why a minibus would make a difference

A mini bus can be a game-changer for the school and its students. Here are a few reasons why the PTA believe funding for a mini bus is crucial:

- **Accessibility:** A mini bus would provide a safe and accessible mode of transportation for students. It would ensure that all students, regardless of their location or physical abilities, have the opportunity to participate in off-site activities, field trips, and sports events.
- **Educational Opportunities:** With a mini bus, the school can organise educational trips to museums, historical sites, and other places of interest. These trips can enhance the students' learning experience by providing hands-on learning opportunities and real-world context to their studies.
- **Sports and Extracurricular Activities:** A mini bus would enable the school to transport students to sports competitions, music events, and other extracurricular activities. This would not only foster a sense of community and school spirit but also provide students with valuable opportunities to develop their skills and talents outside of the classroom.
- **Community Engagement:** A mini bus can also be used to engage with the local community. The school can organize trips to nursing homes, community centres, and other venues, where students can interact with and learn from different generations and cultures. This would help foster empathy, understanding, and a sense of social responsibility among the students. It would also enable the children to visit other schools across St Benet's Trust and collaborate.
- **Cost Efficiency:** Having a mini bus would eliminate the need to hire expensive external transportation services for school trips and events. This would not only save money but also provide the school with greater flexibility in planning and organizing activities.
- **Safety and Security:** With a mini bus, the school can ensure the safety and security of its students during transportation. It would allow the school to have control over the vehicle and its maintenance, ensuring that it meets all safety standards and regulations.
- **Environmental Impact:** A mini bus could also contribute to reducing the school's carbon footprint. By providing a shared mode of transportation, it would help reduce the number of individual cars on the road, leading to less traffic congestion and lower emissions.

How the PTA want to fundraise

The PTA is hoping to raise money by taking part in Motivational May! This is where the children of the school, their families and people in the local area get moving in May! We would like all those who would like to participate to move 31 miles over the 31 days in May. This could be walking, running, cycling, swimming, rowing, skiing etc. They can do as much or as little as they like. As long as we reach a target of 31 miles in the 31 days!

By helping us raise the money we need to purchase a mini bus for the school you will be helping to shape mind's and enrich the current and future young people at St Mary's C of E junior school. On behalf of St Marys C of E junior school and the PTA I would like to thank everyone who can help us achieve our goal.

Please see the link below for our go fund me page

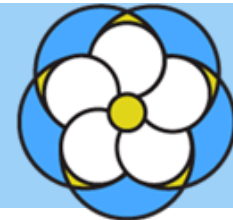
https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-marys-c-of-e-junior-academy-pta-mini-bus-fund?utm_campaign=p_cp%20share-sheet&utm_medium=chat&utm_source=whatsApp

Scan to donate



gofundme

St Mary's Church of England Junior School



Dates for the year ahead:

19/02/24 – 23/02/24	Half Term
26/02/24	Back to School
04/03/24	Year 6 visit to Gressenhall
w/b 04/03/24	Yr 6 PiXL Assessments
05/03/24	Second-hand Uniform Shop 9.00am in School Hall
07/03/24	World Book Day (more information to follow)
08/03/24	Tombola and Cake Stall 2.50pm
09/03/24	International Women's Day
13/03/24	Yr 3 & 4 Parents invited into school to work alongside their child 9.00am – 11.30am
13/03/24	Yr 5 & 6 Parents invited into school to work alongside their child 1.30pm – 3.00pm
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
19/03/24	SEND Parents Meetings 3.30 – 5.30pm
21/03/24	SEND Parents Meetings 3.30 – 5.30pm
22/03/24	Easter Craft afternoon with Yr 5 & 6 parents
21/03/24	No SATS Booster Club for Year 6
26/03/24	Easter Raffle & Cake Stall 2.50pm
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
18/06/24	Class and Yr 6 Leaver Photos
20/06/24	Sports Day 9.00am – 12 noon
19/07/24	Last day of Term

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