St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy

Newsletter 1 – 10th September 2021

From the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to a new school year, and a very warm welcome to those of you new to joining us here at St Mary's.

We have kicked off our new academic year with St Mary's as an official new MAT member of the St Benet's Multi-Academy Trust. Over the last year, we have worked very closely with the Trust and their family of schools and have benefited on many levels, all which have positively impacted the life here at school for your children.

Over the summer, the Trust has supported us in changing over and replacing the entire boiler system and upgraded electrics and they are currently looking at ways to improve the school and site even further, to ensure a safe, warm and comfortable learning environment.

Further to this, we have learning opportunities through work with experts from the educational field, as we look to further develop our curriculum and whilst participating in some exciting collaborative projects. We look forward to, to further enhancing our curriculum by returning to educational visits. We may not quite get into the full swing of things straight away, but please do look out for some school trips to come over the course of this academic year.

Whilst we may be working with a new normal, it is one which continues to be filled with joy, hope and aspiration. I look forward to sharing the journey with you and your children.

God bless, Ms Cranmer

Raising aspirations and a love for learning through courage, resilience, positive relationships and God's love!



CELEBRATING LEARNING

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week:

Week ending 10th September

3Athens – Mollie Q 3Rome - Kaci T 4Merida – Michael A 4New Orleans – Leela C 5Beijing – Chloe H 5Mumbai - Kaison P 6Casablanca – Theo B 6Cape Town – Lois B





LEARNING AND CURRICULUM NEWS

Autumn Term Curriculum Calendar

Curriculum vision: The curriculum here at St Mary's Church of England Junior School is an avenue for discovery and knowledge of the wider world. We will use clear purpose, audience, engagement, interaction and oracy to drive learning of a wider curriculum with an outcome of 'showing what we know' - a display of knowledge and celebration of learning through high aspirations, courage, resilience, positive relationships and God's love.

Week commencing	<u>Mission and values/</u> <u>Christian</u> <u>Distinctiveness</u>	<u>SWWK</u>	Learning purpose	
6 th Sept	6 th Sept		We are Humanitarians and World Explorers Links to class names and embracing diversity – teaching others about your city and country	
13 th Sept 20 th Sept 27 th Sept	-	History and Geography	<u>We are Humanitarians:</u> Sharing learning journeys so far (within year groups). Discussions/debate – what is progress? How can I see progress in my own learning?	
4 th Oct 11 th Oct			We are Scientists: On earth and beyond Creating a science fair of extraordinary experiments	
18 th Oct (half term homework project) 1 st November		Reading	<u>We are Storytellers:</u> Using a variety of traditional storytelling methods to present to the rest of the school	
8 th Nov 15 th Nov		History and Geography	We are Humanitarians: Virtual game shows and online quizzes	
22 nd Nov 29 th Nov	Resilience	Science	<u>We are Scientists:</u> A journey of crucial discoveries (display boards)	
6th Dec 13 th Dec		Religious Education and Music	We are Humanitarians: Is Christmas celebrated around the world? How is it the same/different? If not, then what? Embracing diversity.	

*Please note that music, RE and languages will continue to be taught weekly.

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Lego Donations

Now that we are returning to a more 'normal' lunchtime routine, we will be offering lunchtime clubs across the school for all year groups. If you have any lego collections at home that your children have grown out of, we would really appreciate donations!

If you have any to donate, please bring to the school office or to Mrs Beuttell (5 Mumbai). Thank you in anticipation of your support.

After School Sports Club

We are very fortunate to be able to offer a number of after school sports clubs at St Mary's this term, which run from 3.30pm until 4.30pm. Spaces are currently available at all clubs and are priced at £4.50 per session. If your child is entitled to pupil premium funds, please speak to the office because we can offer a reduction on this price. If your child would like to attend, please contact the school office where we will allocate places on a first come, first served basis. **Sports clubs available are as follows:**



	Tuesday	-	Quidditch (Year 5/6)
	Thursday	-	Tennis (Year 5/6)
	Friday	-	Cheerleading (Year 3/4)

We hope to be able to provide Multi-Sports for Years 3&4 on a Monday after half term.

Attendance

In light of the difficult times we have all experienced in recent years, we hope that all pupils will be able to attend school as much as possible this year. We would appreciate if parents could only take pupils out of school if they have good reason, and with this in mind, please find attached a copy of our updated Leave of Absence Form along with a Fixed Penalty Warning Letter, which explains that there could be a possible fine incurred it your child has unauthorised absences for at least 9 sessions (4.5 school days) in a six week period.

Flu Immunisations

Once again, flu nasal sprays are being offered to all year groups this year. The team will be in school to carry out the immunisations on Friday 5th November. Please see the attached letter for more information. If you would like your child to have the nasal spray, then you will need to complete the attached consent form and return it to the office by **21**st **October.**

<u>Please note, this year the team can offer an alternative vaccination to any parent who does not want their child to</u> <u>have the nasal spray because of the porcine content. If you need a separate consent form for this purpose, please ask</u> <u>at the office.</u>







School diaries

Within the next couple of days, your child will come home with a brand new diary. The purpose is that it helps to continue to build independence and responsibility, as well as encouraging a love for learning. This diary is therefore precious, and we would expect your child to treat it as such, bringing it **back and forth from school daily**.

How the diary will be used:

- You will find your child's logins and passwords for Google Classrooms, Accelerated Reader and TT Rockstars;
- Your child should use their diary to keep record of their daily reading. Independence, responsibility and love for learning, means that we are asking that you encourage your child to be the one who writes in their daily reading log;
- We will encourage your child to input upcoming diary dates and events such as school trips or dressing-up days, but we do still ask that as we fine tune our practice and that of your child, you continue to keep up to date with the parent calendar that you will have received alongside this newsletter;



- Please continue to email <u>office@st-marys.norfolk.sch.uk</u> for contact with your child's class teacher. If you are unable to email, please feel free to use this diary as a means. However, email would continue to be the preferred means of written contact. Don't forget though, that you may phone 01508 530 459 or catch your child's class teacher at the gate;
- Homework will continue to be available via Google Classrooms. Please inform your class teacher if your child has any difficulties accessing their Google Classrooms from home.

Summer Reading Challenge

Many of you will have successfully completed this year's Summer Reading Challenge, organised by the Norfolk Library Service, and we would like to celebrate your success in our school newsletter and within school. In order to do this, could you please send a photograph of yourself holding your certificate to <u>office@st-marys.norfolk.sch.uk</u>. Well done to everyone who participated in this. Daily reading is a wonderful habit to establish and supports your development in many ways.

Mrs Beutell & Mr Roberts





St Mary's Church of England Junior School



Free Online Coding and Writing After-School Clubs

The Norfolk Library Service are offering some fantastic, free after-school clubs for those children who would like to develop either their writing or coding skills.



Online Code Club on Zoom

The six week Code Clubs are a great way for children 8-12 years of age to learn how to use Scratch coding

Clubs for beginners: Thursdays 4-5pm, starting on 4 November and running weekly until 9 December.

We also have a Scratch Module 2 club for children who have completed Module 1.

Story Writer Groups

The online story writer groups are for children aged 8-12 years old and run for five weeks. There is a Monday group and a Thursday group from 4.30-5.30pm week commencing 20 September. They are themed and supported by experienced staff who will help your child explore their creative writing.

If you would like to find out more about these clubs or book a place please email <u>libraries.iconnect@norfolk.gov.uk</u>



Safeguarding

Just One Norfolk

Just One Norfolk is a great tool for families, where you will find a wide range of free resources for supporting transitions back to school. You will find here a wide range of information and support from health and well-being, to learning and attendance, and from money and family advice and support, to ideas for activities for your child and family. There is something here to support everyone.

https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/return-to-school/resourcesfor-families





2020 – 2021 CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING...

Jeans for Genes

Friday 17th September

We are again supporting this very worthy cause. Please come to school in your school uniform tops but wearing jeans, and bring along a donation for the Jeans for Genes charity (suggested donation of £1.00). Please can your donations be made by Parentmail because we are no longer taking cash payment. Many thanks.



Jeans for Genes raises money for <u>Genetic Disorders UK</u> and aims to change the world for children with genetic disorders. Individually, genetic disorders are rare but together they affect 1 in 25 children born in the UK – that's more than 30,000 babies each year. Their associated health problems mean that genetic disorders are the biggest cause of death of children aged 14 years and under.

5 Mumbai (4 King Jr) Charity Fundraising

Way back in Year 4 (which seems like such a long time ago now), Mr Miller set 4 King Junior Class (now 5 Mumbai) a challenge to participate in a sponsored 30 Miles in June Challenge. Not only did the children whole-heartedly embrace this challenge, they truly went above and beyond and raised the jaw-dropping sum of **£775**! We are truly staggered by the generosity and hard work of the children, families and supporters involved in raising this sum. Half of the money will go to Norfolk and Waveney MIND and the other half will go to school funds to help enrich the learning experience for all children. Well Done to all in 5 Mumbai and thank you again!





Thank you for your support over the last academic year!

3 Potter has raised £32.91 for	The Dream Factory	3 Dahl has raised £28.68 for	Hallswood Animal Sanctuary
4 King Jr has raised £414.91 for	for better mental health	4 Curie has raised £227.76 for	Marie Curie Cancer Care
5 Bevan has raised £53.50 for	East Anglia's Children's Hospices	5 Attenborough has raised £25.67 for	World Wildlife Fund
6 Parks has raised £27.06 for	ST PHATE UK STOP HATE. START HERE	6 Switzer has raised £314.91 for	JORF IMPROVING LIVES. CURING TYPE 1 DIABETES.
After-school club has raised £16.16 for	NSPCC Gruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.	Keller Class has raised £16.16 for	St Mary's Church

Half of all monies raised goes directly to the charity that each class supports and half of it goes directly back into learning resources and technology for your child's class. Therefore, we thank you for helping us to raise an equal amount shown above for each class.

Look out in the next Newsletter to see which Charities we will be supporting this year



CHRISTIAN DISTINCTIVENESS



This half-term we are celebrating 'COURAGE'

We accept and look forward to a challenge, taking risks, reflecting on learning and moving forward positively.

Songs for 'Courage': (click on the link below for quick access) Look Up Child, Lauren Daigle

Under The Rock, Mwamba Children's Choir

You Say, Lauren Daigle (using sign language)

I Will Fear No More, The Afters

Raise a Hallelujah, Bethel Music

No Longer Slaves to Fear, Bethel Music





Joshua 1:9

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Raising aspirations and a love for learning through courage, resilience, positive relationships and God's love!

Contact us: St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy Swan Lane, Long Stratton, NR15 2UY 01508 530459 <u>office@st-marys.norfolk.sch.uk</u> www.stmaryscoejunior.co.uk