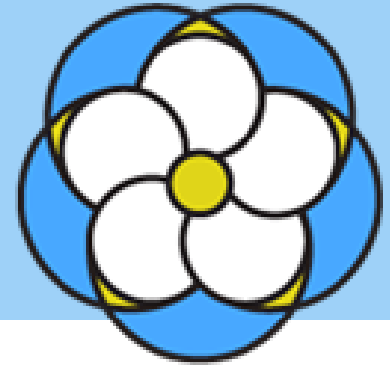


# St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy

Newsletter 6 – 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

We experienced our first real wintry morning earlier in the week and had several slippery "near misses" on the pavement outside the school. This made us realise again how great it would be to have our caretaker at St. Mary's. If anyone is interested in the job the advertisement is on the St. Benet's website: <https://www.stbenets.org/vacancy/>

I expect many children were excited to open the first window on their Advent Calendars, several spoke to me about having chocolate at breakfast time on Wednesday! We have begun an Advent theme for our Monday Assemblies and lit the first candle on our Advent Wreath for the first Sunday in Advent. The first candle represents Hope so we shared some examples of hope and thought about some symbols of Hope. Some of the symbols included an anchor, an eight-pointed star, a butterfly and a rainbow. Next week we will light the second candle which represents Love. The season of Advent is the beginning of a period of waiting for the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. It is a hopeful, loving, joyful time; a time to think of others and to pray for Peace on Earth.

As we head towards this busy festive season we need to continue to remember to keep COVID safe, washing hands frequently and wearing face coverings (adults) in crowded indoor spaces.

With best wishes

**Mrs Lindsay Hanger**  
Interim Head Teacher

***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 19<sup>th</sup> November*

*3Athens – Seb D*

*3Rome – Weronika B*

*4Merida – Isla W*

*4New Orleans – Eva-Bess W*

*5Beijing – Harry E*

*5Mumbai – Phoebe D*

*6Cape Town – Cerys B*

*6Casablanca – Dalin C*

*and, for the week ending  
26<sup>th</sup> November*

*3Athens – Jack B*

*3Rome – Autumn H*

*4Merida – Emily H*

*4New Orleans – Alfie L*

*5Beijing – Max B*

*5Mumbai – Eve H*

*6Cape Town – Mufaro C*

*6Casablanca – Adele O*



## 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.

<u>Week commencing</u>	<u>Mission and values/ Christian Distinctiveness</u>	<u>SWWK</u>	<u>Learning purpose</u>
6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>Courage</b>	<b>History and Geography</b>	<u>We are Humanitarians and World Explorers</u> Links to class names and embracing diversity – teaching others about your city and country
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept		<b>History and Geography</b>	<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 <sup>th</sup> Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct		<b>Science</b>	<u>We are Scientists:</u> On earth and beyond Creating a science fair of extraordinary experiments
18 <sup>th</sup> Oct (half term homework project) 1 <sup>st</sup> November		<b>Reading</b>	<u>We are Storytellers:</u> Using a variety of traditional storytelling methods to present to the rest of the school
8 <sup>th</sup> Nov 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>Resilience</b>	<b>History and Geography</b>	<u>We are Humanitarians:</u> Virtual game shows and online quizzes
22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov		<b>Science</b>	<u>We are Scientists:</u> A journey of crucial discoveries (display boards)
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec		<b>Religious Education and Music</b>	<u>We are Humanitarians:</u> 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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## ***Class Learning Blog – 3 Rome***

Look at what we have been learning this week...

Our current science topic is Rocks and Fossils. We have been looking at different rock types and how they can be classified. We were given a selection of rocks and had to group them in various ways and justify our decisions. We found out that there are three basic rock types; igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary. We tried to work out which group our selection of rocks belonged to.

We also investigated the durability of rocks (we were looking at erosion). We were given a piece of granite, flint, chalk, slate and sandstone and had to create a fair test to rate these rocks according to their durability. We concluded that granite was the most durable and chalk the least.

Isla brought in her quite splendid collection of rocks and fossils and kindly shared them with the class. Her collection included a fossilised shark tooth, an ammonite and a meteorite. Mr Power was quite jealous of her collection.



*Billie and Ruby  
deciding how to group  
their rocks.*

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*Alek and Amari grouping their large collection of rocks.*



*Ruby testing the durability of granite.*

*Izac investigates the durability of flint.*







## ***Reading with your child***

At St Mary's we know that reading helps our children gain a knowledge and understanding of the wider world. The books we choose to share with our children inspire their curiosity, develop empathy, think critically and (most importantly) develop a life-long love for reading. Sharing books with children both in and out of school offers an opportunity not only to develop their reading skills, but also enjoy the true magic that is reading.



We have been very fortunate to have a great friend of the school and of St Benet's Trust, Mrs Kelly Stokes, create three fantastic videos to support you in developing your child's reading at home. These videos are around 5 minutes long and outline how you can support your child as a reader and enjoy stories together.

You can find her videos on our school website under 'Our Learning - Reading'. We hope you find these a useful resource.

If you feel you would benefit from similar tutorials about any other areas of learning, for example in mathematics or writing, please email Ms Dutton at [h.dutton@st-marys.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:h.dutton@st-marys.norfolk.sch.uk) with your suggestions.

## ***Raring2go! New Magazine***

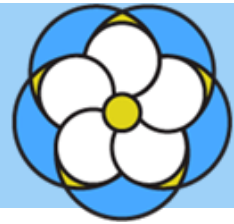
Raring2go! Is a new magazine for Norwich and surrounding areas. Its full of great ideas to help families have fun and keep the children busy and entertained during the winter months.

In this edition they are running a Book Bundle Competition. There are some great quality, educational and fun books for children to read. To enter the competition, all you need to do is click on the advert on page 25.

Please put the below link into a new browser window to take a look at the magazine.

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/norwich/winter/>

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## COVID-19

Unfortunately, we are still experiencing rising cases of Covid 19 amongst our pupils. As a school, we are following current government guidance and have temporarily introduced further preventative measures in order to slow the spread of the virus.

In order to keep our community as safe as possible, we would ask that you only enter the building if absolutely necessary and preferably by pre-arranged appointment. If you do come into the school building, please could you ensure you are wearing a suitable face covering and that hand sanitiser is used.

The discovery of a new variant means that we have to be extra vigilant. **We would recommend that if you or your children experience symptoms associated with a common cold (such as headache, muscle ache, fatigue, runny nose, sore throat), a lateral flow test should be taken** These are available for free at the following website <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

## School Lunches – w/b 6<sup>th</sup> December

Due to the Christmas Lunch being on Friday there will be a change to the Menu for next week as follows:

Monday – Same as Normal (Week 3)

Tuesday – Same as Normal (Week 3)

Wednesday – Cottage Pie, Italian Bean Bake (v), Jacket Potato with Cheese & Baked Beans or  
Egg Mayo Sandwich

Thursday – Fish Fingers, Vegetable Goujons (v), Jacket Potato with Cheese or Ham Roll

Friday – Christmas Dinner – Roast Chicken, Vegetable Pastry Cracker (v)

## Last Day of Term

On the last day of term, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December, school will be closing at 1.30pm. We will be returning to school on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

## Job Vacancy

We are currently have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisory Assistant for 7.5 hours per week, term time only. For more information and how to apply, please visit

<https://www.stbenets.org/vacancy/midday-supervisory-assistant/>

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## **SAFEGUARDING**

Young Minds is a really helpful website that offers a lot of support for parents and children, particularly for supporting positive mental health. It can sometimes be tricky to know where to start when wanting to talk to children about some issues. The attached document suggests ideas for conversation starters.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/starting-a-conversation-with-your-child>

## **2021 – 2022 CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING...**

### **Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December**



On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December we will be raising money for Save the Children by wearing our Christmas Jumpers (with uniform on the bottom half). Please donate via Parentmail in the usual way when this becomes available, so that we can help this charity. 100% of proceeds will go to Save the Children.

Simple medicine saves lives; food helps kids grow up strong and smart; and books help kids see a whole new world. Your donation could warm some tummies, save some lives, and change the future. That's big.



#### **Here's some amazing examples of what Save the Children do:**

- £2 could pay for hand sanitiser to help fight coronavirus in one of Save the Children's medical clinics
- £6 could buy a face shield for a superhero health worker in Yemen
- £10 could buy antibiotics to help five children beat malnutrition
- £20 could buy a back-to-school kit for a child in Indonesia
- £60 could buy toys and books to support children from struggling families in the UK
- £100 could buy a first aid kit for a health worker in Somalia

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## **Christmas Raffle**

We are holding a Christmas Raffle in aid of school funds. Tickets can be purchased on Parentmail for £1.00 each and multiple tickets can be purchased if you wish for more chances of winning.

We have a large selection of prizes available, including Christmas gifts and vouchers. The raffle will be drawn at the end of the day of Tuesday 14th December.

Thank you to the following businesses who have contributed prizes for the raffle:

Snuggle Bubble  
New Hong Kong  
Pizza Plus  
Oh My Cod  
Queens Head, Long Stratton



Vintage Horse Box Gifts  
Court House Occasions  
Slaters  
Foundry Plant Centre

## **Fundraising for School**

Please remember to use #easyfundraising when you do your Christmas shopping.

Over 6,000 shops and sites will donate to St Marys Church of England Junior School - Long Stratton at no extra cost to you - so you can raise donations when you buy gifts, decorations, your festive food or anything else. #ThisMeansMore than gifts for loved ones, it means donations that help make a difference!

Please sign up and help us raise more at:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryscoejs/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_source=social&utm\\_medium=facebook&utm\\_content=rm-chts21-f1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryscoejs/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_source=social&utm_medium=facebook&utm_content=rm-chts21-f1)

## **Mrs Kirman's Fundraising Challenge**

Thank you to those that sponsored me for my Boudicca Way challenge, raising money for Parkinsons Disease. We managed to raise just under six hundred pounds, so thank you again for your support. We completed it by walking 20 miles on Saturday 6th November, then 18 on the 13th, with our mum joining for the last 6 miles which was lovely. Apart from some severe blisters, it all went smoothly!

If you would still like to sponsor, here is the link:

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jane-kirman?utm\\_campaign=lc\\_frp\\_share\\_transaction\\_fundraiser\\_page\\_donation\\_received\\_-\\_nth\\_donation&utm\\_content=dd7328e9-4d](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jane-kirman?utm_campaign=lc_frp_share_transaction_fundraiser_page_donation_received_-_nth_donation&utm_content=dd7328e9-4d)

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## Charitable Fundraising

### 2021-2022 Class Charities

*(Please be advised that we continue to support additional charities such as comic/sports relief, children in need, jeans 4 genes etc)*

LKS2 Class Name	Linked Charity	UKS2 Class Name	Linked Charity
3 Athens	<b>The Hamlet</b> 	5 Beijing	<b>Nelson's Journey</b> 
3 Rome		5 Mumbai	
4 Merida	<b>Norfolk and Waveney</b>  <b>Mind</b> 	6 Cape Town	<b>Finnbar's Force</b> 
4 New Orleans		6 Casablanca	
London and After School Club	<b>NSPCC</b> <b>St Mary's Church, Long Stratton</b>		

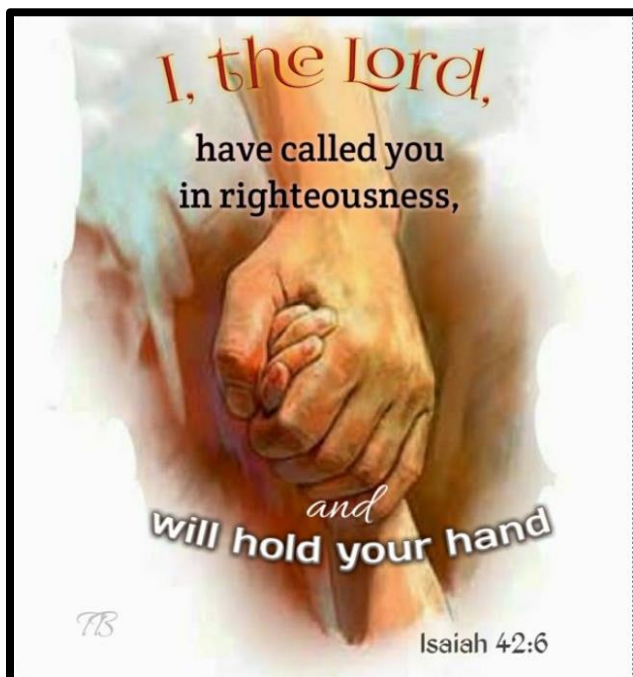
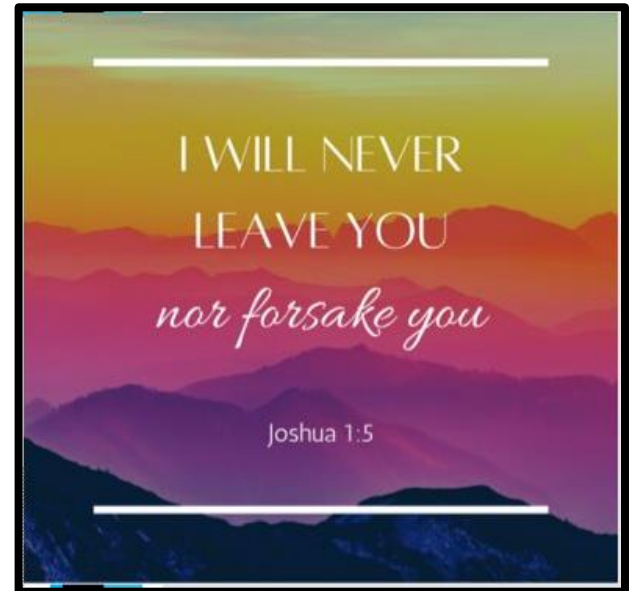
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## CHRISTIAN DISTINCTIVENESS

**This half-term we are celebrating 'RESILIENCE'**

***We embrace challenges, feedback and set-backs in a positive manner - 'bounce-back-ability'.***



### **Songs for RESILIENCE:**

*(click link below)*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbszEOO\\_K5w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbszEOO_K5w) (Echo – Elevation)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgkNB4g3gYM> (Rescue – Lauren Daigle)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7nqg8agRmy4> (Don't Give Up – Shawn McDonald)

[Look Up Child, Lauren Daigle](#)



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01508 530459

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