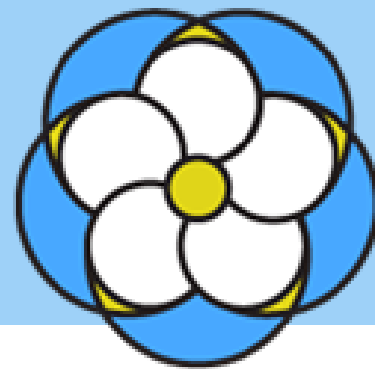


# St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy

Newsletter 8 – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023



## New School Crossing Patrol

We would like to congratulate Mr Rochester, who you may have noticed at the new crossing patrol point on Swan Lane.

He will be available for 30 minutes to help your children cross safely each morning and afternoon. Please ensure that your children are aware of where they can now cross safely on their way to school.



### CELEBRATING LEARNING

*Congratulations to our Stars of the Week:*

Week ending 10<sup>th</sup> November

Robin – Daniel D

3 Skylark – Theo C

4 Kingfisher – Ben R

4 Woodpecker – Haydes W

5 Avocet – Autumn M

5 Curlew – Weronika B

6 Falcon – George F

6 Red Kite – Max H

Dates for your Diary

**14<sup>th</sup> Nov (New date)**

– Parents invited into school to learn how we teach maths  
8.45am – 9.30am

14<sup>th</sup> Nov – Diabetic Assembly – Parents invited 10.15am

17<sup>th</sup> Nov – Children in Need (Non-school uniform day)

17<sup>th</sup> Nov – PTA Christmas Market in Hall from 3.10pm

23<sup>rd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Scholastic Book Fair  
8.30 – 9.00am and 2.45 – 3.30pm (daily)

27<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parents Evening  
3.30 – 5.30pm

29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parents Evening  
3.30 – 6.30pm

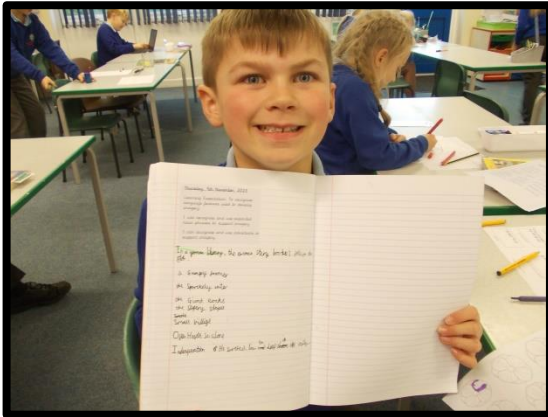
30<sup>th</sup> Nov – Flu Immunisations (all year groups)





## Class Learning Blog – 4 Woodpecker Class

We started a new text 'Fly, Eagle fly'. We have been using the model text to identify expanded noun phrases and adverbials.



As it is Remembrance Day this week, we have been learning about why we remember. We created a peace tree to help us reflect about being 'peacemakers'.

In maths, we started a new unit of measuring area. The woodpeckers have learnt that area is the space inside a shape and how to find it using squares.



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## *New School Facebook Page*

One of the things that the school has been thinking about for some time is creating a school Facebook page. This was mentioned in some of the feedback from the parent questionnaires we sent out last year and it is important for schools to have a social media presence.

Facebook is the largest social media platform in the world and has over [50 million active users](#) in the UK. The most significant advantage to having an official page is that we can control the school's digital presence. This means that there is a huge potential for us, and other schools, on Facebook to reach prospective parents. The main purpose of our Facebook page will be to market and communicate with parents and the community. It's our opportunity as a communicator to get the message we want out in front of the most interested audience around.

I understand that some of you may feel like this is another thing for you to check, however, I want to reiterate above that the main point of a Facebook page is a way to market ourselves and reach a wider audience and the community. We will continue to send the weekly newsletters with the school events on as normal.

There will be no photographs of children put onto Facebook at the moment until a separate permission form has been sent to you for this. There are also rules about expected use of the page and you may also find that commenting is turned off for most posts. We have a few admins of the page so it is monitored by more than just one person and the rules state clearly that anyone not using the page correctly will be blocked from it. It is also not a way to contact the school.

Please be aware that it has just finished being built so is quite sparse at the moment but it will be built up. Please feel free to share it with family and friends!

Here is the link to the page

- <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553051575236&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

We would also ask that you fill in a short form to let us know if you give us permission for your child's photograph to appear on our facebook page. Please fill in this form by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November by using the following link.

<https://forms.gle/KRFRh4bVvgsLMKac7>

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## Scholastic Book Fair

We will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair from 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> November in our Library from 8.30am – 9.00am and 2.45pm to 3.30pm each day.

We have some great ideas for presents and stocking fillers for Christmas, so please come and take a look, to see if there is anything you would like to purchase. There will be over 200 books available from award-winners and new releases to beloved favourites and best-sellers. Plus, for every book bought, you help to **earn free books for our school**.

Scholastic state "There is something for every pocket on the book fair to assist with the rise in the cost of living. **Approximately 30% of titles are under £5**".

### What form of payments can I take to the fair?

- Unfortunately, we are **unable** to accept cash at the book fair.
- There will be a QR code that you can scan so that you can pay online
- Parents can also purchase pre-buy Book Fair Vouchers which can be used to pay for the books at the fair (available in multiples of £5.00 – please read T&Cs). This could be helpful if you are not coming to the fair with your child.
- There will be a card machine available at the fair (TBC)
- If parents are unable to attend the fair in person, their child can order books via a Wish List (see attached), which can also be downloaded from the scholastic website. Any Wish Lists need to be back in school by Monday morning to enable us to order the books in before the end of the Book Fair.
- **All payments for books will need to be made by 3.30pm on 29<sup>th</sup> November, as the books need to be returned to Scholastic after this date.**

Please take a look at the books available on the scholastic travelling books website:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/travelling-books>

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**World Diabetes Day – 14<sup>th</sup> November**



**Evie, her mum and St Mary's staff would like to invite parents to join us for a special assembly on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 10:15am.**

**We will be raising awareness by celebrating World Diabetes Day.**

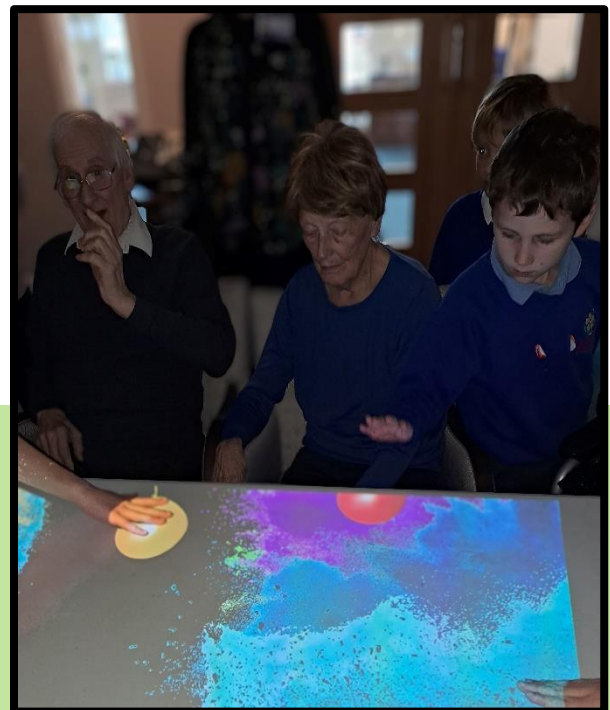
**Evie will be brave and share with everyone a Rufus The Bear colouring competition.**

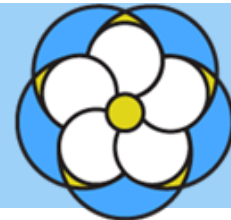
**Hope to see you there!**



## *Happiness Programme*

On Tuesday, our Year 3s once again visited Mayfields Care Home where they spent time with the residents exploring their new Happiness Programme, which is a series of interactive games that can be projected onto any surface i.e. a table, wall or bed frame for example.





Messy Church will be held at Long Stratton Village Hall after school on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November from 3.30 to 5.30.p.m.

Children of all ages welcome accompanied by adults.  
Light refreshments provided.

Contact Megan on 07956 715383

## *Christmas Shoebox Appeal*

Thank you to everyone who donated a shoebox for the Christmas Shoebox Appeal. These have now been forwarded onto them and are on their way to helping these families.



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## Children in Need

This year's Children in Need will be on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November and we will be holding a non-school uniform day in aid of the charity. Please can payments (suggested amount £1.00) be made on Parentmail.



We also have a small amount of children in need items available to purchase such as Pudsey and Blush Ears and some pink wristbands. We have decided this year not to purchase anymore stock, but if anyone would like any of these items, they are available on Parentmail.

Anything purchased, will then be delivered to your child in their class during the week.

## 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 30<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

4 Kingfisher	97.27%
6 Red Kite	97.1%
Robins	96.25%





## *St Mary's PTA Events...*

The PTA are holding a Christmas Market at the school on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November from 3.10pm in the School Hall.

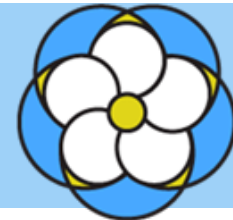
There will be an 'Elfridges', for children to buy and wrap gifts for their families, a raffle and a tombola.

Any donations for the raffle and tombola will be gratefully received. Please bring any donations into the school office during the next couple of weeks.



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# St Mary's Church of England Junior School



## Dates for the year ahead:

13/11/23	Anti-bullying Week
15/11/23	Parents invited into school to learn about how we teach maths 8.45am – 9.30am
17/11/23	Children in Need Non-school Uniform (donations to be made on Parentmail)
17/11/23	PTA Christmas Market in School Hall from 3.30pm
23/11/23 – 29/11/23	Scholastic Book Fair – Opening Times 8.30 – 9.00am and 2.45 to 3.30pm (daily)
27/11/23	Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.30pm
29/11/23	Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.30pm
30/11/23	Flu Immunisations for all Year Groups
01/12/23	Long Stratton Community Event 4pm – late (St Mary's choir singing at event at 5pm)
08/12/23	Year 3 & 4 Parents invited in to Open Classrooms 2.15 – 3.00pm
11/12/23	SEND Parent/Teacher/Pupil Meetings to review Autumn SEN Support Plans (3.30 – 5.30pm)
13/12/23	SEND Parent/Teacher/Pupil Meetings to review Autumn SEN Support Plans (3.30 – 5.30pm)
15/12/23	Year 5 & 6 Parents invited in to Open classrooms 2.15 – 3.00pm
19/12/23	Year 3 & 4 Nativity Performance at 9.15am
19/12/23	Christmas Lunch (details to follow) Christmas Jumper Day (donations to be made on Parentmail)
20/12/23	Year 5 & 6 Parents invited to our Christmas Carols around the tree at 2.30pm
20/12/22	End of Term (School Closes at normal time)
21/12/22 - 03/01/24	Christmas Holiday
04/01/24	Back to School
19/02/24 – 23/02/24	Half Term
26/02/24	Back to School
28/03/24 – 12/04/24	Easter Holidays
15/04/24	Back to School
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

Contact us: St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy  
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