

ST MARY'S NEWS

St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Southam | September 17th 2021



From the Head

I'm sure we were all captivated last weekend by the success of the young British tennis player, Emma Raducanu winning the US Open – what an achievement. This drive and determination is something I am witnessing across our school, on a daily basis I am seeing the children tackling everything with enthusiasm to be the very best version of themselves – I cannot tell you what a privilege it is to see our children flourishing. With all the talk about disrupted learning and that awful phrase 'the Covid generation', here was a real life example for the children to see that perseverance and resilience, in the face of obstacles, can bring success. Emma's success has been the product of years of dedication and hard work, overcoming setbacks and believing in herself and her God-given talents. This is a message to our children that they can achieve anything that they set their minds to – all they need is self-belief, a positive mindset and a willingness to work hard and not be deterred by obstacles in their path. And we as teachers and parents will do everything we can together to help them reach their full potential.

Despite the ongoing building work we have had a smooth start to the academic year and again, I would like to thank all of you, our parents for this. I am looking forward to working in close partnership with you all this year to achieve the very best for our children at school.

God Bless

Maureen Collier

G.I.F.T. (Growing In Faith Together) Team

The GIFT Team have asked children to bring in different types of food such as rice, pasta, tins and packets. The food will be collected in our classes and donated to families within our community who need a little extra help. We thank you in advance for your kindness.



We ♥ Books

Thank you parents and carers for working so hard with your children with their reading, it is a joy to hear them talking about books. They have been talking to me this week about all the different stories that they have been reading. They have been so animated and excited describing their favourite characters and the most enjoyable parts of the stories. I have loved the fact that some of the children have come in to borrow some of my favourite books and then recommended other books for me to read. Please keep up with this enthusiastic approach towards reading as our children will fly with their learning if they have these key skills.

School Links... Get Involved... Parent Governors / Friends

Can you spare some time to support our school? Our school's governing board has a parent governor vacancy (details and nomination forms are being sent with this newsletter). Parent governors are elected by their fellow parents and are vital to a governing board because they ensure that the other governors are kept in touch with the concerns and issues of most importance to our parents. Being a parent governor can be stimulating, enjoyable and rewarding. If you have the enthusiasm and desire to join our governing board then please complete a nomination form or contact us to find out more.

We also have an active friends group – FOSM (Friends of St Mary's) - who are always looking for new recruits and, as restrictions ease and fundraising opportunities open up again, extra pairs of hands. Speak to your Class Rep to find out more, and be sure to join your class WhatsApp to stay in touch:

ROBINS: Iwona 07514 325228, DOVES: Sian 07827 888297, GOLDFINCHES: Amy 07849 828678, KINGFISHERS: Amanda 07921 146069, SKYLARKS: Sally 07941 188063

🔗 Find out more: <https://stmaryssoutham.org.uk/fosm/>

Open Morning – Reception and Nursery Class for September 2022

Surprisingly we still have a number of spaces in Reception and Nursery (and other classes across the school) so please do apply. Don't forget to tell everyone about our very special school too! We need to fill our empty spaces to enable the school to grow in to a one form school.

Mrs Finch and I will be leading a school tour for new reception and nursery parents (class of 2022) on **Thursday 7th October, 9.30 – 11.30am**. We will then look at leading more tours. Please let anybody know who has a child who will be 3 by September 2022 for Nursery or 4 for a place in Reception. If you know of someone with children due to start school next September, or who will shortly be turning 3, do please let them know about our Open Morning.

In order to keep our school community safe, all visitors are expected to comply with COVID safety regulations.

January 15th is the deadline for primary school applications: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applying-school-place-reception

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

APPLYING FOR SCHOOL OR 3+ NURSERY?

Please get in touch to find out more about our caring school and meet our inspirational teaching team:
Open Morning
October 7th 9:30 – 11:00

“The school's values of love, patience, generosity, kindness & mutual respect are embedded across the school”

OFSTED 2019

01926 812512 • admin3505@welearn365.com
www.stmaryssoutham.org.uk



ROBINS

We had lots of fun during our PE session this week. After going through how to use the items safely, we had a go on all of the climbing equipment. The children were amazing! Frederick said that he liked being able to climb up really high 😊



From the classroom..

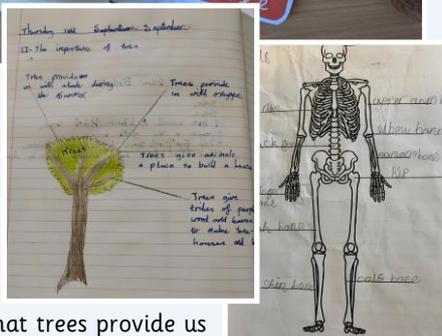
DOVES

Doves have been working hard this week learning the Traditional Tale of the Little Red Hen. We have had our first dancing lesson where the children have been showing their best moves with lots of enthusiasm. In Science we have been learning to identify different types of everyday materials.



GOLDFINCHES

Goldfinches have had another amazing week! We have enjoyed using our detective skills to find clues for our new book this term... The Gingerbread Man. We also enjoyed having Miss Jenny back for dance. There are some dance stars in the making to keep an eye on!



KINGFISHERS

Kingfishers have delved even deeper into their learning this week. The children have been demonstrating some wonderful ways of working collaboratively, not only as learners, but also supporting each other as friends.

We have continued to look at the beautiful nature that surrounds us with the help our book, The Promise, researching the benefits that trees provide us with. We have explored Roman life and created a fact file about Julius Caesar, this has proved to be interesting and thought provoking! As part of our science learning, we have been identifying the main human bones and looking at how our skeletons protect, support and help our bodies to move!

SKYLARKS

Skylarks have had such a busy week. In English, we read the book "Wolves in the Walls" and wrote an "Internal Monologue" in character as Lucy.



Everyone completed their Star Reader tests to enable them to choose the appropriate level reading book from the library. Please ensure your child reads regularly at home - remembering to complete their reading diary with pages read. Skylarks behaved impeccably in church again this week and should all be very proud of themselves. For our topic "Journey Across the Atlantic", in groups, we chose one of the 23 countries in North America to research and then chose how to present our facts- through PowerPoints, posters and videos.

DIARY DATES

Thursday, September 23rd

Kingfishers Mass
9:30 am - 10:15 am

Wednesday, September 29th

Swimming Lessons Start
Year 3/4 (more info to follow)

Thursday, September 30th

Whole School Harvest Festival
Mass (Details to be confirmed)

Tuesday, October 5th

Flu vaccinations YR - Y6
(more info to follow)

Thursday, October 7th

Open Morning for new
parents 9:30 - 11:00

Thursday, October 21st

Individual School Photos

October 25th - 29th

Half Term

October 31st

Application Deadline
Secondary School Places

PLEASE NOTE:

DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
More dates and details online at:
<https://www.stmaryssoutham.org.uk/events/>



Clubs

We still have spaces left in our KS2 afterschool club. Forms are available from KS2 class teachers:

• Football Club

Thursdays after school
- this is free and open to years 4, 5 & 6.

• Funky Dance Club

Mondays after school
- £4 a week for 12 weeks
years 3, 4, 5 & 6.

Macmillan Coffee Morning with a difference: Unfortunately, we still can't invite parents in to school, so our wonderful Mrs Reeves has come up with a fantastic idea; we're going to bake cakes with the children and sell these within school! If you'd like to help us to raise money for this very worthwhile charity can you please send cakes in with the children on Friday and we will sell these across the school to have our very own coffee morning. The children can buy a cake for a donation and we will then try to raise as much money as possible.



HOUSE POINTS & CAPTAINS

Congratulations to our new House Captains and their deputies: St Andrew: Orlaith & Harriet, St George: Zachary & Riley, St: Patrick: Caitlin & Cian, St David: Elena & Chelsea

St Andrew 97

St Patrick 95

St George 85

St David 74

Stars of the Week



Little Robins - Ben

Big Robins - Maisie

Doves - Grace B

Goldfinches - Lauren

Kingfishers - Chloe

Skylarks - Ada

EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR

Robins	Charlotte
Doves	Amelia
Goldfinches	Sophie
Kingfishers	Tami
Skylarks	Maya

LUNCHTIME AWARD

Little Robins	Pixie
Big Robins	Matthew
Doves	Grace
Goldfinches	Lauren
Kingfishers	Chloe
Skylarks	Ada