



Newsletter – Issue 3 – 08/11/2023

Please note that should you wish to receive this newsletter in a different format please ask at the school office.

This term's Christian Value is Compassion:

'Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience'

Colossians 3.12

Term dates



November

- 13th - 17th Anti Bullying Week
- 17th ODD SOCK DAY – children wear odd socks to celebrate diversity
- 30th Christmas Disco

December

- 1st Mufti Day– please donate a bottle for our School Fayre
- 7th Christmas Fayre 3.15pm
- 13th Nursery Celebrate Christmas 9.15 (School Hall) - parents, grandparents and all invited
- 13th Christmas Dinner Day
- 13th KS1 & Reception Nativity 2pm School Hall - parents, grandparents and all invited
- 14th KS1 & Reception Nativity 9.30am School Hall - parents, grandparents and all invited
- 19th KS2 Christmas carol Service, 9.30am School Hall -parents welcome
- 19th End of Term 2 at 2.30pm

St Mary's Achievers

Little Acorns: Blake for increased independence this week.

Little Oaks: Bowen for settling in so well.

Class 1: Brodee for always working so hard and remembering lots of facts about the Great Fire of London.

Class 2: Ezra for giving 110% in all his learning this week.

Class 3: Lily for correctly using all the features to write excellent instructions.

Class 4: Cody for being fantastic.

Class 5: Tommy for his impressive choices of vocabulary in his setting description.

Class 6: Jayden for creating lovely sentences every morning.

Other Achievers:

Mason for a wonderful letter to Rosa Parks.

Any spare jam jars?

Class 4 are busy collecting jars for their Christmas Fayre craft - if you have any spare jars lurking at the back of the cupboard please bring them in – they will be much appreciated.



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Anti-Bullying Week

13th-17th November.

Pupils in all year groups will be participating in Anti Bullying week beginning with a whole school worship on Monday focusing on this important issue. Throughout the week pupils will explore the subject of bullying in class and as part of their PSHE lessons. The theme is 'Make a Noise about Bullying'. The definition of bullying is:

... behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally

We use a pneumonic at school for the children to understand what bullying is (the definition):

STOP

(Bullying is) SUSTAINED, TARGETTED, ON, PURPOSE.

Children will be taught strategies to empower them to address unkind behaviour.



To raise awareness of diversity and inclusion (that we are all unique) in Anti-Bullying week, children and adults are invited to wear odd socks to school on Friday 17th November to help raise awareness.

We shall also be running a 'Design a Pair of Odd Socks' competition with a prize for the best designs. Pupils will be bringing home an entry form today.

We have a zero tolerance of bullying at St Mary's and speak to the children regularly about this. We are pleased that in our most recent surveys children and parents tell us that children feel safe in school and that we take bullying seriously.

In the most recent BANES-wide SHEU survey with children. The first figure is our school. The second is children across BANES. It is interesting to note that we are above the BANES average for both measures.

% who think their school takes bullying seriously.	82%	64%	
% of Year 6 pupils who feel their school teaches them about bullying 'fairly' or 'very' well.	95%	82%	

In our most recent parent survey 93% of parents said that the 'school deals with bullying quickly and effectively'. 100% said that their child feels safe at our school!

Recently we had a review, by an external partner, of 'Behaviours and Attitudes' at St Mary's. Our reviewer made their judgements based on observations (during class time, playtime, worship), speaking to staff and children and conversations with the Senior Leadership team.

We were pleased to read the review this week which rated us with the best possible grade.

Children In Need

This year, BBC Children in Need will be taking place on Friday 17th November. This will mark the 43rd TV Appeal to raise money for disadvantaged children and young people around the UK.

We will be marking the occasion as part of anti-bullying week and children will be wearing ODD SOCKS to school. Should you wish to donate to the Children in Need charity, please bring donations into school.

This will NOT be a mufti day but pupils are welcome to wear any Children In Need merchandise they may have and bring a donation into school.



St Mary's C of E Primary School & Nursery

'Be the best you can be'
Whatever you do, do it with all your heart' (Colossians 3:23)



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Christmas Mufti Day

Friday 1st December is CHRISTMAS MUFTI DAY (wear red, green, Christmas Jumpers etc.) – Please bring in one bottled item from home (bubble bath, table sauce, drink.) that could be used in our BOTTLE TOMBOLA stall at the Christmas Fayre



Christmas Musical celebrations

Nursery: Little Acorns :

13th December 9.15am : **Nursery** children will be giving a short performance of songs to celebrate Christmas.

Little Oaks & Key Stage 1

13th December 2pm: Class 1, Class 2 & Reception Class Nativity 2pm performance.

14th December 9.30am: Class 1, Class 2 & Reception Class Nativity 2pm performance.

Tickets cost £1 each and will be available to purchase via Parent Pay on Monday 13th November. Tickets will be limited to two tickets per performance per **family** – these will be allocated via Parent Pay to the eldest sibling participating in the performance.

KS2

19th Class 3, 4, 5, & 6: Christmas carol Service, 9.30am School Hall - parents, grandparents and all invited.

All performances will be held in the school hall, parents and carers are invited.

Christmas Raffle

Raffle Tickets will be coming home with pupils. Please sell as many as you can to friends, family, neighbours, or at work. Great prizes to be won!

Please return the counterfoils and money to the school office by Monday 4th December.
More tickets available from the school office



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Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will be served at school on Wednesday 13th December.

Menu choices can be selected via parent Pay in the usual way.

Please note: if you have already selected your menu for the whole term in advance, you will need to return to the menu and pick your selections for Christmas Diner day.

This will **NOT** be a mufti day but pupils are welcome to wear a Christmas Jumper if they wish.



School Disco



Thursday 30th November 2023

Little Oaks, Year 1 and Year 2: 5.00pm- 6.00pm

Class 3, Class 4, Class 5 and Class 6: 6.30pm -7.30pm

Get your groove on with DJ Pete.

£3.00 entry this will include drinks and a snack.

Children can come in party clothes or casual wear.

All payments must be made through Parent Pay by 24th November 2023

Wrap A Gift

Our ever popular Wrap A Gift stall will be at the Christmas Fayre again this year and our PTA are already busy sourcing gifts.

Tickets for the Wrap a Gift stall may be purchased in advance via Parent pay at £3 each.

In order to gain an idea of numbers for this this event we are asking for payments by the 17th November. However, there will be extra gifts available on the night should you decide at a later date.



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Santa's Grotto



Father Christmas will be joining us again this year and will be in his Grotto at the Christmas fayre. Pupils will be able to visit him and if they are really well behaved they will even receive an early Christmas present!

In order to help Father Christmas and his Elves organise gifts at this incredibly busy time of year we shall be selling tickets in advance again.

Tickets are available via Parent Pay at £3 each.

You may purchase as many tickets as you wish for siblings, family & friends - please state names and ages at the Parent Pay checkout.

We are asking for payment to be made via Parent Pay by the 17th November but please do not hesitate to contact the School Office or a member of the PTA should you miss the deadline or have any other queries.

Helpers Needed

As you are aware, planning for the Christmas Fayre is well under way with further details coming soon.

Such events generate substantial funds as well as creating an enjoyable and educational experience for our school community, but I am sure you can appreciate they also require a lot of administration tasks and pre planning as well as help on the day.

WE NEED YOUR HELP – PLEASE !!!

Even though we are still in November, our wonderful PTA are already volunteering their spare time with the pre planning and we need help with the following:

Pre planning: shopping for items and resources, wrapping gifts, writing letters, creating posters and signage, baking - and many many more tasks.

Set- up: The days leading up to and the day of the Fayre is equally busy with setting up, collecting fresh produce from supermarkets, moving furniture and items into place, decorating the Grotto, cooking, baking etc. – all in advance of the event itself.

Event: The event itself requires adults to help oversee and supervise stalls – if we have several volunteers filling short time slots this enables everyone the chance to enjoy the Christmas Fayre with their children – the more the merrier! Grandparents, Aunties, Uncles, the next door neighbour are all welcome too!

Clean - up: After the event has taken place we need to put everything away again ready for lessons to take place again in the morning – moving tables back into place, sweeping, washing up etc.

If anyone can help lighten the load and take on some of the tasks we would be **very** grateful - – you are not expected to attend PTA meetings (although you are more than welcome to if you wish)

The Christmas Fayre is one of our biggest fund generators but also incredibly good fun and a wonderful festive community event and atmosphere.

Therefore if you, or someone you know, are able to spare any time from a few minutes to a few hours on the day or in the lead up to the event please inform a member of PTA or the school office.



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Little Oaks

In Little Oaks, we are working very hard to develop our outside learning area. As you can see from the photos, we learn outside in all weathers!

We have a list of items that would really help us to resource this vital aspect of the children's learning journey in EYFS.

If anyone has any of the following items that we can have, we would be very grateful!

- Sturdy plastic milk crates (x4)
- An old steering wheel (x1)
- A wooden child's play kitchen
- A wooden child's bookshelf
- A wooden child's dolls house
- Some low-level garden border fencing
 - A tractor tyre

Please speak directly to Mrs Martin or Miss Hallowes or email the office if you can help.

Thank you
The Little Oaks Team



Staff Car Park

To ensure the smooth flow of daily operations AND in order to comply with our school Travel Management Plan we ask that you do not park in the school staff car or use it at any time for example to drop children off or for collection.

We have a constant flow of visitors who visit the school to deliver lessons, after school activities, attend meetings, delivery drivers etc - our spaces are reserved for staff members and authorised users of our car park.

We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a safe and organised environment at our school.



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Ready To Read- an update...

This week EYFS were lucky enough to have a visit from the Mobile Library truck. We are hoping to welcome them back again after Christmas so other year groups will get a turn. Here is the link to their website should you like to see when it is in the area.

[The Mobile Library Service | Bath and North East Somerset Council \(bathnes.gov.uk\)](http://bathnes.gov.uk)

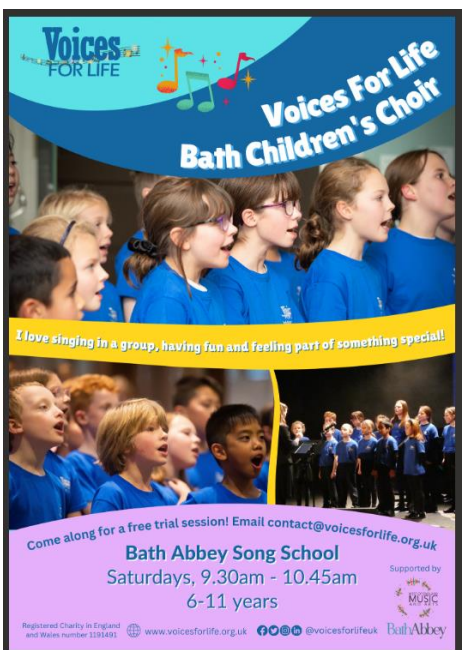
We are also delighted to announce that Mrs Evans is running our Reading Club on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in our wonderful new Library. All children are welcome to attend. It is run during lunchtime play. It is a great opportunity for the children to relax and read quietly, in a space dedicated to reading and only reading- and a chance to enjoy lots of our new and fabulous books.

Attendance

Finally we would like to say a big thank you parents, carers and pupils for adjusting to our new start time in the mornings. Your support has ensured the mornings morning lessons are starting promptly with pupils entering the classrooms independently and ready to learn by 8.45am – THANK YOU !

Community Notices:

(We bring these to your attention, without necessarily recommending them)



Please see attached flyer for details.
Starting from 6th January 2024, the Voices for Life Choir will rehearse in the fabulous Bath Abbey Song School on Saturday's, 9.30am – 10.45am

Chartwells
Schools

Are you looking for a career that fits around school hours and is term time only?

Chartwells are currently recruiting for a ...
School Catering Delivery Driver

Monday – Friday
10am – 2pm
Term Time Only
£10.42 per hour
Bath Area

Please call Sherina for further information on: 07741 168 281



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Design a Pair of Odd Socks

Name.....

Class.....

Entries in by Friday 17th November

