



## St Mary's C of E Primary School & Nursery Newsletter – Issue 2 – 19/10/2023



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 Friendship:**

**'A friend loves at all times' Proverbs 17:1**

### October

20<sup>th</sup> End of Term 1  
30<sup>th</sup> Inset Day  
31<sup>st</sup> Start of Term 2



### November

1<sup>st</sup> PTA Year 1 and 2 cake sale (parents from Class 1 and 2 all cake donations welcome) - all years welcome to purchase delicious cakes.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nasal Flu Vaccinations  
14<sup>th</sup> Football match after school  
30<sup>th</sup> Christmas Disco

### December

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

## Some of our children who are being the BEST they can be.....

### Little Acorns:

**All** of Little Acorns for settling in so well.

**Nancy** For her excellent counting.

**Lillie-Mae** for playing an amazing game of snap.

**Teddy C** for Settling in so well.

**Brayden** for being so kind and helpful to his Nursery friends.

**Leo** for finishing his lunch.

### Little Oaks:

**All** of Little Oaks for a great start and settling well.

**Max** for always trying his best in his work and for being everyone's friend.

**Frankie** for amazing PE skills.

**George E** for resilience in all his work, especially with a broken collar bone.

**Harry** for being resilient and string in PE.

**Dougie S** for making huge progress in all areas of his learning.

### Class 1:

**Whole Class** for amazing transition and being a happy bunch.

**Onie** for always ready to learn and always giving 100%

**Saffia** for settling into Year 1 and St Mary's so well.

**Maisie** for always being ready for fab work and really reflective thoughts in RE

**Kelston** for trying really hard at everything and for always smiling.

**Lola B** for listening really well and answering lots of questions.



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### Class 2:

- Ayden** for his fantastic effort in maths.  
**Oliver** for fantastic independent use of adjectives in his writing.  
**Bailey** for excellent work counting in 5's in maths.  
**Noa** for fantastic use of similes and adjectives in her poem.  
**Layla** for being a fantastic role model and always ready to learn.  
**Clarke** for fantastic dedication in his reading.

### Class 3:

- Robin** for adapting to the new routines in Class 3.  
**Alfie** for his independence in netball club.  
**Neda** for her engaging and making more effort in her learning.  
**Eleanor** for her wonderful sound collector poem using onomatopoeia.  
**Jacob** for trying really hard with his maths learning.  
**Anna** for her bravery standing up in the Harvest Service.

### Class 4:

- Rio** for always being ready to learn and putting 100% effort into everything he does.  
**Lexi** for being a kind and supportive friend to everyone.  
**Jacob** for his fantastic newspaper report on a stolen car.  
**Sienna** for working hard in maths and working independently.  
**Felicity** for always being ready to learn and supporting her peers with their learning.  
**Willow** for persevering in maths and a good role model to the class.

### Class 5:

- Dennis** for his thoughtful contributions in class discussions.  
**Efa** for her incredible Buddhist wheel in her RE lesson.  
**Faith** for her increased confidence in maths.  
**Seb** for being a kind and caring class mate showcasing all of St Mary's values everyday.  
**Esme** for her impressive independent writing.

### Class 6:

- Archie** for a great attitude to learning and a really positive start in Class 6.  
**Tori** for her great planning in preparation to write her recount.  
**Luca** for his commitment to learning and always being ready to learn and on task.  
**Olivia** for her great use and understanding of simple compound and complex sentences in writing.  
**Niamh** for her resilience and perseverance in achieving her pen license.

### Other Achievers:

**Archie, Otis, Ayden and Eli** for taking part in a community litter pick event. Their efforts were spotted by a member of the local community who contacted the school to express their admiration when they spotted the boys 'cleaning up' the neighbourhood during the weekend.

**St Mary's Cross Country** team for their participation and determination at a multi school cross county event.

**100%**

**Jade, Erinn, Efa and Tommy B** for 100% attendance in the last academic year.

### Staff Changes

You may have noticed a new face in school this week.

Welcome to Mrs Jenkins who has been appointed as our new Office Administrator and Receptionist. We wish her all the best in her new post and look forward to welcoming her as a member of our school community



### Little Acorns



During our first term, Little Acorns have been learning all about themselves and each other in our topic 'I am Special'. Our new members of Little Acorns have settled in well, and the older children have been great at helping their new friends. We have spent time getting to know each other, building relationships, and learning the nursery promises and routines. We have particularly enjoyed spending time outside on the school field, performing our Harvest song '5 Little Apples' and engaging in circle times together. We are super proud of all of the children, what a great first term!



### Little Oaks

Reception Class have been enjoying the sun shine and learning in the wooded area outside our classroom. They have been acting out scenes from our story- 'Polar bear polar bear what can you hear?' and making the noises of all the different animals!

They have also been loving our music lessons where they are leaning to play steady beats or make noise patterns with their instruments. This ties in with our maths lessons linked to making patterns.

They have now learnt 20 phonemes in Little Wandle phonics lessons and are starting to read these in words and spot them in their phonics book that they bring home each week. Thank you for your continuing support with this. It has been a great term focusing on our 'This is me' topic! The children have settled so well and got to know their peers and the teaching staff quickly. They all are enjoying school and feel safe and settled in their new class.





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## Class 1

Class 1 had a visit from a firefighting crew and they even brought their fire engine. It was really exciting. We learnt all about what firefighters do and looked at the uniform they have to wear to protect. We looked at the equipment they carry on the fire truck and we were even able to have a go using the hose which was great fun. As they left, they flashed their blue lights and sounded the siren which was really loud!



## Class 2

Class 2 have been learning about living things and their habitats in science this term! They have explored different minibeasts that live in our local habitat and created graphs and charts to reflect the population of different minibeasts in different habitats.



## Class 3

Class 3 have been busy this term creating sculptures using modrock in DT and painting them with spices.

They have also been adding and subtracting 1, 10 and 100 using place value counter in maths and enjoyed mixing with other year groups to explore the meaning of Mutual Respect for British values day.





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### Class 3 (Cont.)



### Class 4

In Class 4 we have been learning about World War 2. As part of our learning in DT, we researched Anderson Shelters. We discovered how and when they were made and tested the water resistance of a range of different materials. The children completed these Anderson Shelters as part of their homework project and it's safe to say, they were all amazing!



### Class 5

Class 5 currently have the privilege of Mr. Nosworthy as their ukulele teacher every Tuesday. They have shown an exceptional amount of dedication and hard work towards mastering this new skill. Their progress has been remarkable, and they are now confidently learning new songs that they will showcase to the rest of the school next term. Well done, Class 5!





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## Class 6



Class 5 and 6 had a great time on their residential trip to Great Wood Outdoor centre. Our annual camp is a tradition that brings students together for three days of adventure, learning and creating lasting memories. Camp offers a wide range of activities designed to foster personal growth, teamwork and a deeper connection to the great outdoors.





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### Climbing Wall Challenge

A huge well done and thank you to everyone for making the sponsored climb event such a success!

Together we raised the most money ever in a charity fund raise at St Mary's epitomising the level of community support the school has. The climbing wall was donated for free from WOLT (Wiltshire Outdoor Learning – allowing us to maximise the money raised). The grand total raised was:

**£1458.42**

This amount has been shared between The Brain Tumour Charity, The Grand Appeal - Bristol Children's Hospital Charity and Delilah's family so they can enjoy some family time together after an incredibly challenging year.

We admire the collective generosity and heartfelt donations from our school community to support the strength and resilience shown by Delilah and her family through this difficult journey.

On behalf of Delilah and her family THANK YOU !

### Harvest Festival

The generous spirit of St Mary's community shone again with your overwhelming donations to the Somerley FoodBank for our Harvest Festivals.

It was wonderful to see so many parents attending and the pupils were outstanding in their performances, their speaking and listening skills.

We are delighted to let you know that together you donated a total of 75.44kgs of food and other products. This kind donation makes a significant difference to Somerley Foodbank and their ability to help those people in need in our local community.

On behalf of Somerley Foodbank THANK YOU !

### Inset Days

A reminder Monday 30<sup>th</sup> is an Inset day for all pupils. Term dates for the academic year are on our website.

We ask that parents to ensure that any holidays you are planning do not fall within term time. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, holidays in term time will not be authorised by the school and parents should expect Bath & North East Somerset Council to issue a fixed Penalty Notice fine for unauthorised holidays in term time.

**School is open for 190 days over the year, leaving 175 days for family activities and holidays.**

### Ready to Read- Week 1

At St Mary's we passionately believe that reading is vital to your child's all round development. It's also a fabulous way to relax, develop your child's your imagination and language skills, whilst learning about the world around them-with the added benefit of zero screen time!

Each week we will have our dedicated 'Ready to Read' section of the newsletter, where we will keep you abreast of lots of reading related activities and information.

For instance- we are almost ready to open our new and fully stocked school Library. The children will soon be able to come and choose a book to read for pleasure during break times.



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To kick off our Ready to Read section, check out this Blue Peter Book badge competition. The children could be the proud owners of a one off Blue Peter badge, designed by the illustrator, Quentin Blake- famous for bringing many characters in Roald Dahl's stories to life! Have a look at the link below and...

Keeeeeeep Reading!

[Blue Peter Book badge | Find out how to earn the Book BP badge - CBBC - BBC](#)



**Blue Peter - Apply for a Blue Peter Book badge**

Introducing the exciting new Book badge, designed by one of the UK's best known illustrators, Sir Quentin Blake; who you might know from bringing to life characters such as Roald Dahl's BFG and Matilda! To earn your badge, just share your love of books with us by answering the questions below! You can apply using our online form or by post.

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

### Cross Country

Pupils from Years 5 and 6 attended a local Cross Country event and participated with determination and relentless perseverance. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event and we can't wait for the next one!

Well done to all involved.



### Wild Project Trip

Class two enjoyed their trip to the Wild Place Project and should be commended for their knowledge, outstanding behaviour and interesting questions throughout the whole trip.







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## Bath Literacy Festival Trip

Pupil's from three different year groups enjoyed trips to the Bath Literacy Festival this term.



Classes 1 and 2 enjoyed seeing the author Sam Copeland in the Guildhall whilst Class 4 enjoyed 'Laugh Out Loud' with author Jenny Pearson.

Well done to everyone for impeccable behavior and enthusiasm at the events – some children even had the confidence to join authors on stage and answer questions.



## Early Bird Breakfast Club

St Mary's Breakfast Club has been a game changer for parents by providing a supervised environment for their children before school starts. Thank you for your positive comments following this initiative which has proven a success.

In order to accommodate parent's busy schedules and provide more flexibility, we have relaxed the 'Wednesday Cut Off' restrictions on Parent Pay – parents are now able to book a breakfast slot at ANY TIME on Parent pay right up to the last minute.

Early Bird Breakfast Club sessions start at 8am every day and includes breakfast and daily activities or a chance to complete homework.

Sessions cost £3.25 per day.

Children attending Breakfast Club this week have been celebrating **National Crumpet Week!**



## Childcare Vouchers

A reminder, Breakfast Club and some after school clubs may be paid using childcare vouchers and other employer childcare schemes – please contact the school office for more information.



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### Nasal Flu Vaccinations

The School Nursing Team will be onsite on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November to carry out annual flu vaccinations.

This is a simple, quick, painless nasal spray.

The vaccine can only be given with parental consent so we ask all parents to complete the online permission form at the link previously emailed to all parents.

<https://schoolimms.hcrgcaregroup.com/flu/2023/banes>

Please ensure you complete your child's consent **48 working hours** before your school session to ensure your child receives their vaccination.

A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme for primary aged children can be accessed at:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1165161/UKHSA-12652-protecting-your-child-against-flu-information-for-parents-and-carers.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1165161/UKHSA-12652-protecting-your-child-against-flu-information-for-parents-and-carers.pdf)

and includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate. The nasal spray vaccine contains a very small amount of purified porcine gelatine as an essential ingredient to keep it stable and able to work. For those who may not accept medicines or vaccines that contain porcine gelatine, a flu vaccine injection is available. Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccine in schools have had the immunisation.

If you have any queries, please contact the School Aged Immunisation Team on **0300 247 0082** or email us using [vcl.immunisations@nhs.net](mailto:vcl.immunisations@nhs.net)

### Cookery Club



Mrs Hazelton and Cookery Club meet every Monday and each week explore new and exciting recipes.

Pupils have been learning about different ingredients, techniques and flavours through their culinary adventures and delicious creations.

### Construction Club

Construction club has got off to a great start with many people attending – this is always one of our most popular clubs.

It's been exciting to have children from year 1 for the first time. All the children have enjoyed using their imagination and following instruction to build and create structures using Lego, Duplo, Connetix and much more!



**Construction Club (cont.)**



**PTA News**

Our wonderful PTA have been busy already this term preparing for upcoming events. This time of year is especially busy as they begin to think about the Christmas Fayre and raffle. The PTA plays a crucial role in enhancing the educational experience of our students. It serves as a platform for collaboration between parents, teachers, and school administrators, working together to create a supportive and enriching environment. Funds raised by PTA events are invested back in to the school for the benefit of ALL pupils.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP...**

Your active involvement in the PTA can make a significant difference in our school community and your level of involvement is dependent on your choice and availability. Whether you just wish to stay informed, carry out background admin tasks, be on hand to help set up & clear up at events, man stalls or even participate in the decision-making processes and organisation of various school activities ..... we need your help!

Please contact a member of the PTA or the School Office to find out how you can help.



**Time to get baking !**  
The first PTA cake sale of the year will be  
Wednesday **1<sup>st</sup> November** after school with  
donations made by Classes 1 and 2.  
AL year groups are invited to come along and buy a  
cake.

**Raise Funds When You Shop.**

“Raise Funds When You Shop” is a scheme that does not cost you extra money but enables shoppers to turn everyday shopping into funds for the PTA.

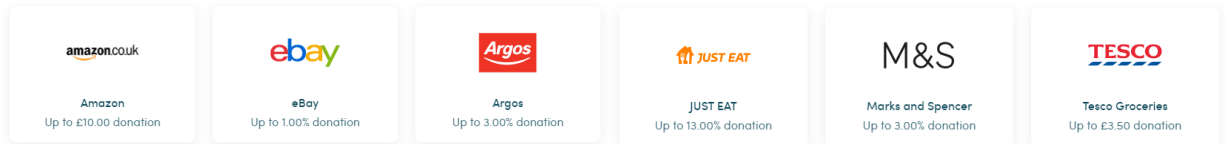
Top brands and high street names pay a commission to the PTA when you shop via the easyfunding website or app – over £600 has been raised so far via the scheme.

For further details please visit the link below or scan the **QR code:**

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarysprimarywrithlingtonpta/?searchSessionId=882a35bd-9c3d-43ae-9838-b51f2dc964a0>



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### Christmas Raffle

It's that time of year (well, almost)...and we need help approaching businesses to create an even bigger Christmas Raffle. Do you work somewhere that would donate a prize? No matter the size! Every prize helps us sell more tickets and ensure we continue to support the children in the coming year.

Please email [pta@stmaryswrithlington.co.uk](mailto:pta@stmaryswrithlington.co.uk) or let a PTA member know or the school office. Nearer the time we will ask for Hamper donations too.

### Remembrance Day and Poppies



Poppies and various other items will be on sale in school when we return from half term break in exchange for a donation to the Royal British Legion.

Children should bring their money into class and any adults who wish to donate can do so via the school office.

### Young Carers



Staff from BANES Carer's Centre have been working with Young Carers in our school.

The support they offer aims to help young carers to have the same life opportunities as their peers, feel supported and have good physical and emotional health.

They have carried out several tasks, one of them was to create a dream catcher which allowed them time to reflect and discuss their thoughts and



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### **Writhlington Action Group Litter Pick - Design A Poster Competition**

Writhlington Action Group are holding an 'Autumn Clean Up' on Sunday 26th November between 10am & 12pm. Litter picking equipment, funded by a grant from the Big Local, will be available at Writhlington Village Hall from 10 am.

WAG had a very successful 'Spring Clean' in the village earlier in the year with several children and their parents helping with the clean up.

**Pupils in a all year groups are invited to design a poster to promote this event over the half term break – there will be prizes for the best entries.**



### **Updated Contact Information**

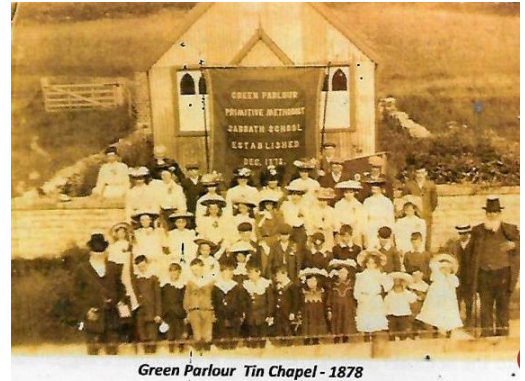
Are your contact details up to date?

Please remember to inform the school office if your contact details have changed or you wish to update your emergency contacts. If you are unsure who you have listed as an emergency contact for your child, please do not hesitate to enquire with the school office.

*Policies and Information The main school policies, including the complaints policy, admissions arrangements and privacy notices can be viewed on the school website. If there are any other policies that parents wish to view, or the minutes of Governors meetings, please contact the school office via email. Photograph consents can be changed at any point; please contact the school office should you wish to do so*



## *A moment in St Mary's History.....*



Green Parlour Tin Chapel - 1878

As many of you know, our current school building was built in 1901 but the school's history dates back much further from a time when lessons were held at Writhlington Primitive Methodist Chapel on Manor Road and prior to that the Green Parlour Tin Chapel, pictured here in 1878!

At the turn of the Century, local residents 'carried' the Tin Chapel down the road from Green Parlour to the site behind the Primitive Methodist Chapel and it remained in use until the 1980's. In fact, some members of our school community even remember attending Sunday School in the Tin Chapel !

Daily records dating back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century still exist and remain stored in archives. We have decided to share some of these records with you on our termly newsletters:

### **Oct 1902:**

*The managers of the school held their quarterly meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> October. School was visited by the Rev A Ramsay and J. G. Walton Esquire who tested the registers .*

*Work of the school has been according to time table. Rather thin attendance as a fresh case of mumps reported. Cold winds and weather resulted in several cases of illness and mumps was prevalent resulting in an epidemic lasting for the month of October and into November.*

*Commenced the gathering and starting exercises to all girls above Stand III.*

### **October 1937:**

*We are picking, digging up and selling the garden produce. Boys should not attend woodwork this week and girls should not attend cookery classes.*

### **September 1941:**

*Visit of Nurse Snowe to inspect the children's heads:*

*37 Writhlington Children inspected*

*28 Evacuees inspected*

*14 L.C.C evacuees inspected*

*17 Country Evacuees inspected*



**Community Notices:**

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

skills  
CONNECT

**Employment &  
Skills POD**

## Midsomer Norton Training & Jobs Fair

Come along to this **FREE** event to find out how we can support you through your employment journey.

Talk to local employers to find training opportunities and job openings.

**WEWORK**  
for Everyone

**FUTURE  
BRIGHT**

**Employment &  
Skills POD**

**Tuesday 24th October**

**Midsomer Norton Library**

**10am-2pm**

**FREE**

Find more details here.  
Book your free space or just drop in on the day

**WEST OF ENGLAND**  
Combined Authority

Bath & North East Somerset Council  
Improving People's Lives

**ACHIEVE IN  
B&NES**

The Employment and Skills Pod is funded and managed by the West of England Combined Authority, led by Metro Mayor Dan Norris, and delivered by Bath and North East Somerset Council in partnership with Skills Connect.

FREE  
CONCERT

VITAL ART PRESENTS

# MANUS NOBLE

TICKET SHOP

"Remarkably self-assured, Noble dispatched everything with refined technique, kissed by poetry." *The Times*

**WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER**  
 DRAGONFLY THEATRE, WRITHLINGTON SCHOOL, 6:00PM

TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/DRAGONFLYTHEATRE  
 MANUSNOBLE.COM