St Mary's C of E Junior School Newsletter

Care. Believe. Succeed.

'All things are possible for one who believes.'

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND DIOCESE OF ST ALBANS

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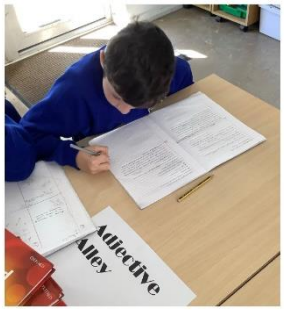
Curriculum & Enrichment

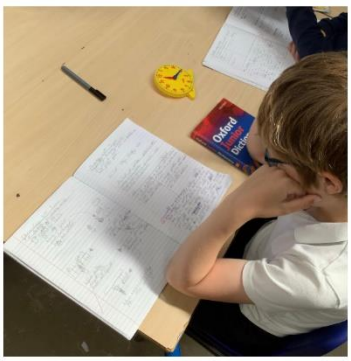
RE

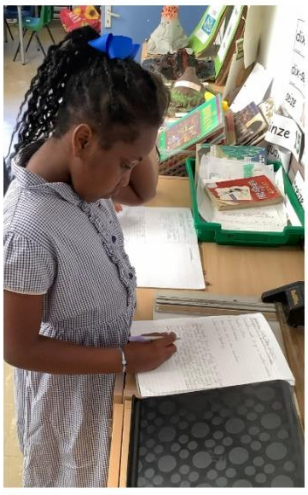
Throughout the year, the children in St Mary's have been privileged to have members of a range of different religions to come to our school and talk to the children so that they can gain a deeper understanding of a variety of beliefs and practices from first-hand knowledge. During the course of the year, we have had visits from people of the Jewish, Hindu, Sikh and Christian faith. At the start of June, Rev Phillipa Maddox visited Year 6 to lead a session as part of our 'Ultimate questions' unit. In this session, the children had some great discussions about many questions humans have pondered over since the beginning of time. These were questions about the purpose of life, the reason for suffering, the creation of the universe, and the existence of God. The children were able to explore and share their own thoughts on these topics. In addition, Rev Phillipa shared and explained her beliefs as a Christian. It was great to see the Year 6 children respond to such profound topics in such a thoughtful, mature, and understanding way.

English – Writing

Year 4 children have been focusing on developing and improving their writing. Last week, they were moving around different stations to edit and improve their written work using fronted adverbials and commas.







St Mary's Infant & Junior Schools' Family Summer Picnic Fundraising Event

Friday 12th July 3.30pm-6.30pm

All money raised at the Juniors will help us with funds needed to replace our playground equipment structures for all children to enjoy.

Can you help?

We really need as many Junior School parents as possible to help us with the following:

- **Manning stalls**
- **Helping to set up or clear away**

If you are able to help, even for a short amount of time, please message Mrs Britton direct through Class Dojo.

Pupil Parliament Charity Fundraising

The GREAT ST MARY'S CAKE OFF! Wednesday 10th July

Please see the attached poster for further details.

Sporting Successes

Year 6 Olympic Legacy

On Friday14th June, our entire Year 6 went to KTS to participate in an Olympic Games style day. Every child played in a team sport against 18 other schools.
It was lovely to hear from staff from other schools how impressed they were with our Sportsmanship, respect and honesty. We are very proud of every one of the Year 6's.
We came home with lots of medals too! Our Sports reporters and Dancers did a great job in their field, whilst our Boccia team finished with a Bronze medal each.
We were successful in Dodgeball again and came away with silver medals. We went one better in two sports; Handball and Rounders. GOLD for St Marys!
To get such a large haul of medals against 18 other schools shows just how talented and hard-working our children are.
What a fantastic day!

FRENCH CAFÉ

On 25th June, we will be celebrating The Paris Olympics and having our French Café. The children will be learning about Paris and some related Olympic facts and completing tasks in their classes. In addition, all children will get the opportunity to come to our French Café and purchase items using their brilliant French. Children will be able to choose two food items and one drink, in exchange for £3.50 (or £2.65 free school meals) **paid in advance via Arbor.** Please remember to sign your child up, so that they can share in this wonderful opportunity to be submersed in an authentic French experience.

Merci!

Mrs Di Noia

ST MARY'S SPORTS DAY Tuesday 2nd July 2024

Dear Parents,

Sports Day is fast approaching and, this year, we have even more activities for our children to take part in. We have over 50 competitive races and after last year's success, the Sports Carousel will continue comprising of 7 different events. While the scores are being added up at the end, we will also have adult sprints and tug of war events.

All of our children are issued a house colour at the beginning of Year 3, and they compete for this team right up until their final week in Year 6. The reigning Sports Day champions are Blue House, and they will be hoping to fend off competition from the Green, Red & Yellow/White Houses.

Year 3 and 4 will be racing on the track for the first hour whilst Year 5 and 6 are doing the carousel activities at the side of the field. They will then swap activities around 2pm. Please feel free to either sit beside on the track on the allocated seats to watch your children race, or move up to the Carousel side of the field where children will be taking part in 5 minute activities as a team. You can move along the coned spectator area freely to not miss any action.

Year 6 Pupil Parliament will be circulating with fundraising buckets for our chosen charity this year – Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. Please bring your loose change and feel free to make a donation during this event.

Guidance ahead of the day

Arrive from 1.00pm for 1:15pm start.
Children are to come into school wearing a coloured t-shirt to match their house colour (no replica football shirts please). If your child cannot find the appropriate coloured t-shirt, they can wear their PE kit.
YELLOW team are urged to wear WHITE instead so they're not swarmed by flies.
Spectators are invited to come and watch this fun filled afternoon of sport from the seating areas on the school field right next to our athletics track (there is a field layout attached.)
The 1st race will begin at 1:15pm, and we aim to announce the winning team around 3:15pm.
In order for Sports Day to run smoothly, we ask that parents help us by following a few rules;

* Parents are asked not to interact with their children by handing them drinks, jumpers etc during afternoon.

* Parents take full responsibility for pre-schoolers throughout the events. We ask that you keep toddlers with you at all times and do not allow them to run around the field amongst the children.

*** Any photographs/videos must only be taken of YOUR OWN CHILD and, in line with our Code Of Conduct, we ask that you do not post these online, particularly via social media.**

* At the end, Year 6 will help to return all spectators chairs back into the school. Any help with taking equipment back into school would be much appreciated.

PARENT OPEN SESSION -Monday 8th July 3.30-5pm

After school on this day, parents are warmly invited to come into school with their child to look at their child's work and explore the rest of the school. Herts Catering will be offering food samples, to allow parents to see what is on offer as part of school meals choices.

Key dates for next term:

Frid 7th June – Year 5 swimming lessons start
Weds 19th – Frid 21st June – Year 4 Cuffley Camp Residential
Weds 26th June – District Sports event
Tues 2nd July (pm) – Sports Day
Monday 8th July -Open session for parents
Friday 12th July – Summer Picnic 3.30 – 6.30pm
Monday 15th July – End of year reports to parents
Frid 19th July – End of term 1pm

Attachments with this newsletter:

- St Mary's Summer Picnic poster
- Pupil Parliament 'Great St Mary's Cake Off' poster.
- Sports Day pamphlet.

Diary dates

Summer Term 2024

TRANSITION DAY: Thursday 11th July 2024
INSET DAY: Monday 22nd July 2024
INSET DAY: Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2 September 2024 to Friday 20th December 2024
Autumn Half Term: 28th October 2024 to 1st November 2024
Christmas Break: Monday 23rd December 2024 to Monday 6th January 2025
INSET DAY: Monday 2nd September 2024
INSET DAY: Friday 25th October 2024
OCCASTIONAL DAY: Friday 29th November 2024