



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - 3rd February 2023



Another busy week at St Mary's and as the weather is starting to become milder and the days are beginning to be less dark, it has been wonderful to see all the children enjoying their time outside and playing so beautifully together. As the weather does begin to change, we are starting to think about our Forest School provision. We are hoping to start introducing Forest School sessions for each class throughout the year to develop key skills such as resilience. We will let you know when it is your child's day so you can bring appropriate footwear.

In Robin class they have been learning about Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated in China as well as in this country. We have learnt that the colour red is a symbol of good luck and we wrote the meaning of good fortune in Chinese writing. In Wiggly Writers we have been practising our scissor skills to make lanterns. In our English lessons we wrote, 'I wish you good luck' using our phonics knowledge and using a word card for the word 'you'. We learnt that there are twelve years in the Chinese calendar and each are named after animals. We listened to a story called 'The Great Race' that tells us how the order of the animals came about. We learnt that the children in Robin Class were born in the year of the Rooster and the year of the Dog.

Rex our class dog has settled in and is being well looked after. He has been taken for walks every day and the children are making sure he has enough food and water.

Woodpeckers have started their new book and we are having a wonderful time learning about penguins. We have started to use and understand questions. In science we have learnt about what all animals need to survive and how that might be different for different animals.

Owl class are enjoying the unit of fractions in maths and they are showing great understanding. We have explored a range of magnets in science and looked at how they do not need to touch another object for it to move. We have continued to focus on Oracy within our class, the children are becoming more confident in their speaking and listening skills. They are able to use sentence starters and explain their thinking with more self-belief.

This week Kestrel class have been exploring electrical conductors and insulators. They tried different objects to see which ones completed the circuit. In computing they have been working on modifying a simple game using Scratch. In maths we have been exploring ways to divide using partitioning - their knowledge of times tables is proving very useful!

This week in Eagle's class we have been exploring figurative language, including metaphor, simile, personification and hyperbole. Our next writing topic is writing our own poems based upon Jackie Morris' poem, *I am Cat*. We have read the poem today and in groups we learnt a stanza each, which we performed to the rest of the class.

PE class days- **Spring term 2023**

- *Robin Class - Monday & Wednesday
- *Woodpecker Class - Monday & Tuesday
- *Owl class - Monday & Friday
- *Kestrel class - Thursday & Friday
- *Eagle class - Wednesday & Thursday

Ten Ten December

Please follow the link to the parent's newsletter.

<http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

Dates for your diary

8th February - Stockland Cross Country – parents to collect children at 3.15pm from school (parents have been informed of those taking part).

9th February – Netball team practice after school (parents have been informed of those taking part, ends at 4.30pm)

10th February - Last day of term

20th February - Children return to school

Thursday 9th February is the last Science club.

There will be no Gymnastics club on 8th Feb and 22nd Feb (resuming on 1st March)

St Mary's Values			
Living, loving and learning with God			
Safe	Trust	Achievement	Resilience
Forgiveness			
Respectful	Aim high		
Responsible	Have a go		
Caring	Curious		
Value each other	Self-belief		

Stars of the week!

Robin class - Theodore H
Woodpecker class - Alexander
Owl class - Sophie
Kestrel class - Caden
Eagle class - Darcy and Evie

Head teacher award - Arlo, Theodore H
Music award - Bridget
Sports award - Blake M and Jacob H

IXL Star of the week

Woodpecker class - Aurelia
Owl class - David
Kestrel class - Archie
Eagle class - Kitty

Homework

Robin

Please encourage reading and remember to write your comments in their learning journals.

Woodpecker:

IXL:
Maths
Year 1 E1-5
Year 2 I11-20

English
Year 1 N1-4
Year 2 K1-3

Owl:

IXL Homework
Maths:
Year 2: R 4-6
Year 3: CC 8-16

Homework

English:

Year 2: EE 1-3
Year 3: LL 1-3

Kestrel:

Practice all times tables up to 12 x 12.
IXL Maths A4 K4
IXL English C1 Z3
Reading at home to someone

Eagle:

Maths Y5: F 2-5
Maths Y6: N 9 - 12

English Y5: L 3, M 1
English Y6: L 3, M 1

Useful Links

The Catholic Children's Society support funding for essential household items.

[Grant Giving - Catholic Children's Society \(Plymouth\) \(ccsplymouth.org.uk\)](https://ccsplymouth.org.uk)

Devon County Financial Support and Advice

Help with household bills, energy costs and financial assistance

Do you need help with childcare costs? Please click the link below.

[The Government's Childcare Choices lists all the schemes available here](#)

Axminster Foodbank

Contact: Hanover House, Ex13 5Bj Chard Street, Axminster EX13 5DZ · 01297 32331

Sports News

Gymnastics Club

Thank you to Mrs Oxley who has been running a gymnastics club for KS2 this half term. She has been working with the children on gymnastics routines to compete in the Devon School Games Virtual Gymnastics Competition. Well done to the children who have been working really hard on their routines. Our entries will be sent to Mr Kevin Moran for judging and he will choose what he thinks are the best routines from East Devon to go through to the Devon Live Zoom Gymnastics Finals on Friday 10th March. Good luck to all our gymnastics.

Cross Country Running, Stockland

Good luck to our cross-country teams who will be competing at Stockland Cross Country races next Wednesday. We are pleased that so many children are keen to compete and give racing a go. It takes determination, teamwork and self-belief to compete and we are pleased that our children are showing these school games values by putting themselves forward.

Sports Clubs

Below are our sports clubs on offer. Why not encourage your child to give them a go and work towards the recommendation that children should be active for at least one hour a day.

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday
KS1 Multiskills Sports Club (£2) with Mr Murnane 3:30pm -4:30pm. Please contact Mr Murnane directly	Dance Club KS2 (free) with Mrs Oxley 3:30pm -4:30pm 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd March	Running Club with Mr Murnane (£1.50) 8am-8:45am Please contact Mr Murnane directly
Girls Football Club (free) for girls in years 3 to 6 with Mrs Burrough 3:30pm-4:30pm		KS2 Multiskills Sports Club with Mr Murnane 3:30pm-4:30pm Please contact Mr Murnane directly