



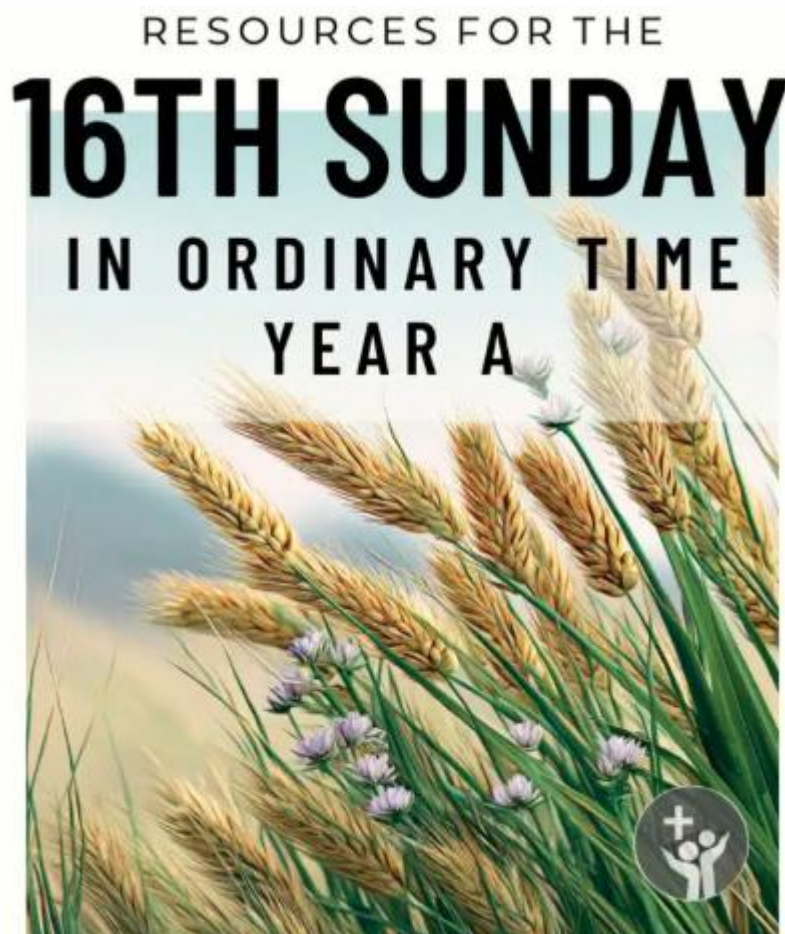
Farewell!

A bumper edition of the newsletter this week as we wrap up the end of the school year; it's a moment to reflect, to give thanks and to celebrate all we have achieved as a community. We say goodbye to several members of staff – Miss O'Sullivan is relocating to Leeds and continuing teaching, and Mrs Hyde and Mrs Willkes are retiring! Between Mrs Wilkes and Mrs Hyde, they have accumulated over 30 years of service to children at St Mary's and we thank them hugely. We wish all three ladies the very best in their future endeavours.

We also say goodbye to our Year 6 children and families – they have been an amazing bunch of children who I had the privilege and joy of teaching in Reception class. They have brought us fun, laughter and immense pride as they have journeyed through St Mary's; they will be greatly missed but have bright, shining futures ahead of them.

All that remains is for me to wish you all an amazing summer break and we look forward to seeing everyone in September!!

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – God's Patience and Mercy



The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A invites us to think about God's patience and care. The readings show us that God is powerful, but He is also gentle. He rules with justice, yet He gives time for change and forgiveness. This balance of strength and mercy is a theme throughout the readings.

In the first reading, we see how God's might is joined with kindness. In the psalm, we hear about His mercy and faithfulness. The second reading reminds us that the Spirit helps us when we cannot find the right words to pray. Each passage points to a God who listens, forgives, and guides. The Gospel brings these ideas together with parables about seeds, weeds, and yeast. The kingdom of God may look small at first, but it grows in hidden ways. The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A teaches us to trust in this growth and wait with hope.

Lord, thank You for Your endless patience and grace. You planted us as good seed in this world. As we grow alongside challenges and hardships, guard our hearts from bitterness. Help us to shine Your light, trust in Your ultimate harvest, and remain faithful until You return. Amen.

Mrs McBrown (Executive Headteacher)

Rock Steady Concert

On the 1st July we celebrated our children's musical talents with the fantastic Rock Steady Concert. The teachers were particularly impressed by how the children's musical abilities and confidence had grown so considerably in a relatively short space of time! Well done to all involved.

Excellence



We are normally ready to celebrate academic excellence a little earlier than the final week of term, but the delayed Year 6 results mean we're a little later than scheduled! a huge well done to all of the children across the whole school for their impressive academic attainment and progress this year. From our youngest children in Nursery and Reception to our eldest children they have achieved exceptionally well. We make no apologies for our drive for success; our ambition is that every child achieves their personal best in all they do. A huge well done to them all and to their class teachers who keep pushing them to be brilliant every single day!

Catering

In September we will have a new catering company – Edwards and Ward – who will be providing school dinners. There is a new and exciting menu which the children have helped to design and the children who were involved in the taste testing were very impressed with the quality of the food. For more information, please see the Edwards and Ward website [here](#) and look out for the new menu on the school website.



World Cup Day!

Whilst last night's result was very disappointing we enjoyed our World Cup day in school with the children wearing their football kits and team colours to celebrate. The boys played their competition in the morning to beat the heat and we saw some super skills on display! Well done to all and thank you to Mrs Nixon for organising us.

Citizen of the Year Award

Last week we visited Brentwood Cathedral for the Diocesan Citizen of the Year awards. Our nominee was Michael from Year 6 who continuously demonstrates the most amazing resilience. We are so incredibly proud of him and all has achieved. Well done Michael.

Last but not least...!



Music Festivals

Year 2 and Year 5 have taken part in the Infant and Junior Music Festivals respectively this week. The children performed brilliantly representing St Mary's beautifully. We were so proud of them all – a huge thank you to Miss O'Sullivan, Miss Kreuder and Miss Brooks Neil for preparing them so beautifully.