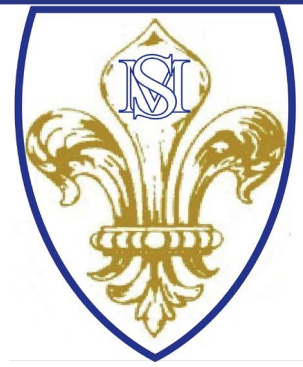


St Mary's News



11th November 2022



I'm not sure about you, but half term feels like a long time ago now!! So much has been going on and November seems to be flying by. Last week we enjoyed welcoming the children back to school and this week we've loved welcoming parents and carers to meet their child's teacher to discuss their learning and progress. Thank you so much for attending these meetings, they really are a valuable tool in us working together to support your child make the best possible progress.

Building Updates

You will have noticed that the scaffolding has gone – hurray! Over the summer we had some of the roofing repaired and replaced and like all good building projects it slightly overran. We are delighted for the project to now be complete, to our have our building back and of course ensuring we are watertight and energy efficient into the future.

Parent Phonics Meeting

Last Thursday we held our Parent Phonics meeting where Mrs Smith and Miss England led our parents in learning how we teach phonics and how parents can help at home. Whilst nothing can replace seeing these ladies in action for yourself, all of the information is on the school website, on the class pages for Reception, Year 1 and 2. A huge thank you to Mrs Smith and Miss England for leading this session.

St Mary's Carnival

All I can say is wow! St Mary's certainly know how to party! Our Carnival last Friday was the finale to our Black History Month where the children were able to showcase their learning and heritage. It was simply amazing to see all of our children in either their traditional dress, colours of their flags or simply the flags themselves artfully draped.

A huge thank you to the parents who came in to support us, sharing their knowledge and artefacts about where they were from. A special thank you to Miss Beauchamp, Miss England, Mrs Allam, Mrs Rodrigues and everyone involved in the whole month and then pulling the finale together.





Visitors

This fortnight we've welcomed Mr Binnell, our education adviser and Mrs Horton, our Primary Link Adviser from Brentwood Diocese. Both were impressed with the learning they saw and the children they spoke to. Mrs Horton was particularly complimentary about the growth we've had as a school over the last 12 months – a huge credit and well done to us all.

School photos

A message from Tempest our photographers – Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for free delivery back to school is Sunday 20th November 2022. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

Christmas Cards for school.

A reminder that your order and payment must be returned to school by midday on 15th November. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept late orders.

Remembrance Day

Today we celebrated Remembrance Day with Year 6 leading us in remembrance. All of the children respected the silence beautifully and placed their class poppy crosses at the foot of the cross along with our school wreath. A group of children will also represent St Mary's on Remembrance Sunday at the war memorial in Civic Square where we will share those poppy crosses with our community. Please see the beautiful prayer, written by Eromose, at the end of our newsletter as this fortnight's prayer of reflection



Upcoming dates:

18th November	Children in Need. Children to wear either spotted or striped outfits to school
24th November	Years 5 & 6 attending the Walk Online Roadshow
1st December	Ukulele Concert to parents at 9.15am
7th December	Rock Steady Concert to Parents at 9.15am
7th December	Choir to Lakeside to sing Christmas Carols
8th December	Reception & Nursery Nativity Performance - 10am and 2.30pm
12th December	Community Singalong hosted by the school's choir
13th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Performances (10am & 2.30pm)
13th December	Year 5 Carol Service in the Church at 3.30pm
16th December	Christmas Dinner and Wear a Christmas Jumper Day
16th December	School Disco - Times for each year group to follow
19th December	Class parties
20th December	School closes at 2pm for the Christmas Holiday
5th January 2023	School resumes

Have a wonderful weekend



Mrs V L McBrown
Headteacher



Lord Jesus you said peace I leave with you.
Loving God have mercy on me and your people.
Almighty and eternal God
Everlasting God
We remember those whom you've gathered from the storm
of war.
Bless us in your service and help us to follow Jesus Christ.
Amen.