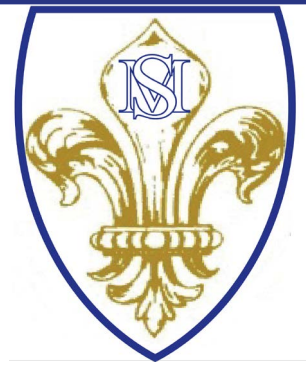


St Mary's News



7th October 2022

Wow what a busy fortnight we've had! As I type the newsletter, the glorious autumnal sunshine is flooding into the office and we are beginning to see the change in seasons – the days are getting shorter, the air is becoming cooler and the leaves are showing in their full technicolour glory! I can not believe half term is just a fortnight away and a sixth of the school year will have passed.

Over the last fortnight we've dipped into lessons to look at learning and what joy we've seen – from counting 3 objects for Daddy Bear in Nursery, finding 1 more in Reception, drawing self portraits in year 1, year 2 have been working hard on their reading, year 3's maths is whizzing along, year 4 and 5 – your musical skills have delighted the main corridor and year 6 have been grappling with equivalent fractions! Well done everyone.

Black History Month

October sees the start of Black History month and whilst Black History cannot, should not and is not confined to a month, it is an opportunity for us to widen our knowledge and learn. Each class has chosen a significant figure from Black History to focus their learning:

Nursery Trish Cooke – author

Reception George Washington Carver – agricultural scientist

Year 1 Amanda Quarley – Illustrator

Year 2 Mae Carol Jemison – Astronaut

Year 3 Kamala Harris – US Vice President

Year 4 Benjamin Banneker – inventor + engineer

Year 5 Gladys West – mathematician

Year 6 Emma Amos – Artist

This will culminate in a finale on 21st October 2022 where we will have our St Mary's Carnival – Miss Beauchamp and Mrs Rodrigues will write with more detail in due course.



Harvest

Last Friday saw us welcome Mrs Terry from Thurrock foodbank into school to talk to the children about our Harvest Appeal. As a Catholic Christian community we are called to “love thy neighbour” and to “open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need”. Thurrock foodbank provided 7622 emergency food parcels during 2021-22 and if we can continue to support their work that would be wonderful.

The foodbank is particularly collecting:

- tinned fish
- tinned potatoes
- tinned meat
- tinned fruit
- jams and spreads
- tinned tomatoes
- mashed potato
- dried noodles
- long life fruit juice/squash
- biscuits

If you are able to donate an item, please ensure your items are with us by Monday 10th October 2022. Thank you.

Please also remember that we are foodbank voucher provider, if you feel you need support in this way please contact us in the utmost confidence.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Last Friday also saw us celebrate our second Macmillan Coffee morning – we raised just over £100 which is wonderful, and will be donated directly to Macmillan – thank you for your generosity. The children loved their cakes and a big thank you goes to Mrs Puttnam in the school kitchen for her mammoth baking efforts.



Pupil Leadership

This fortnight has also seen the elections and selections of our Pupil leadership teams as follows:

School Council	Faith Council	Eco team
Lesedi and Scott Oriella and Kian Gabriel and Orlanda Liepa and Emmuanel Dorinda and Erin Lara, Demilade, Daisy and Kevin	Simina and Amarise Benjamin and Natasha Tia and Eduard Seun and Joelle Samuel Ob and Rebecca Hezekiah and Stella	Artur and Gabor Mainus and Kiki Ryan and Somadina Nabeelah and Craig Mara and Bobby Nicole and Amyia

Our house captain are as follows:

St George:	Akinwunmi and N'Meyah
St Andrew:	Luciano and Hezekiah
St David:	Amy and Addison
St Patrick:	Antonio and Wiktoria

And finally...

Head boy:	Demilade
Head girl:	Lara
Deputy head boy:	Kevin
Deputy head girl:	Daisy

Y6 applications for their roles of responsibility were excellent and we know they will rise to the occasion and represent us beautifully.

Upcoming dates:

21st October	St Mary's Carnival
3rd November	Parent Phonics Workshop (YR, Y1 + Y2)
8th and 9th November	Parents' Evening

The next fortnight looks equally as busy with a whole manner of wonderful learning and experiences. We look forward to welcoming our Governors as well as Mrs Seymour (CESL of our Trust) and Mr Emecheta (Chair of the Trustees) on 14th October as we have another Governor Focus day – please say hello when you see them.

Have a wonderful weekend.

With best wishes,



Mrs V L McBrown
Headteacher



Create in me, O Lord,
the heart of a servant,
loving, kind and joyful
to the needs of others.
Help us to be charitable
and to glorify your holy name
through Christ our Lord
Amen