



Believe Enjoy Strive Succeed



Principal Comments

This term has been jam packed with some great learning opportunities already. We are only in week three and our Facebook page and website are already bursting with images of very happy pupils engaged in exciting learning opportunities. We've had a successful Spelling Bee, an interschool maths competition, a visit to the council offices, first aid training in Forest School, a super hero dress up day for the youngest pupils and many more adventurous lessons. Book week was a real success too. With so many children dressed with our theme of Mary Poppins, the well planned curriculum events all week really took hold. From measuring spoons of sugar, making recipes, mocktails, jumping in chalk artwork to understanding the significance of the Suffragette movement and international Women's day, the children were really engaged in an extraordinary learning journey. The team here love creative thinking and shaping learning activities in a way that inspires and motivates our pupils, which in a world of computers and social media, can be quite a challenge!

I'd like to thank all those parents who came to see the work the pupils have created too. They are so proud of their efforts and the chance to share this openly with the school community makes for a real sense of occasion. We were a few short of a crowd this term but I hope that we can all come together more on events like this to give our children that sense of exhibition and importance their learning should generate for all of us.

As a church school with strong Christian values, we are thinking deeply about the meaning of the Easter story. In the last week of this term, we will be engaging in a range of meaningful learning experiences to embed our understanding through Easter week. This will also provide another chance for you to come in and explore the children's work. Please do make time to come in and share in this with your children.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Mr. T. North, NPQH

Parking

Our children attend a very safe school and a safe passage to school is equally important. Recently, I have had to ask several of our community not to park on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the gates. It is disappointing to still be asking this despite two years of reminders, as well as having to hear some of the aggressive tones used in response to polite requests but I am determined to ensure your children arrive safely to school. Firstly, this is illegal and continued ignorance of this law puts our pupils and your children's safety in jeopardy. Just last week, I have had two near misses brought to my attention, which is two too many.

There are many free spaces along Wear Bay Crescent and other surrounding roads, which are only a 2-minute walk from school. Is saving these 2 minutes through illegal parking and causing unnecessary restrictions to pathways worth the long-term guilt of causing an accident and harming a child?

There is hope! Our school council are shaping up to be quite the campaigners. They are working alongside the police, our wonderful PTA and the local community support team to eradicate this unsafe parking practise. Watch out!

Walking to school

It would be great if we could see more children walking to school. Not only does it help to keep your child healthy but it's also good for the environment and provides some exercise before learning which can increase attention. Furthermore, by accompanying your children, you too can also enjoy the same health benefits.

Traffic

Please be mindful that the Tram Road crossing will be closing from 17th March for two weeks to both cars and pedestrians. Pedestrians walking this way will be able to use the small path, which crosses the railway line approximately 100m down Tram Road.

International Work

During Term 2, our Year 1 staff, children and Global Councillors were working on an e-Twinning World Christmas card project with over 35 schools in 30 different countries. They have just received the e-Twinning Quality Label for their work.

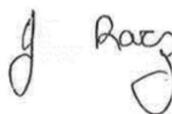
Since the visit to our partner school DAV in Ludhiana, India last year, we have been working with schools across the world on our zero waste project, which involves most of the UN's SDG's (Sustainable Development Goals). We have just learnt this month we have been awarded the e-Twinning Quality Label for this project, which is ongoing. Please remember to send in any old felt pens, biros for recycling. Thank you.

eTwinning Pupil Quality Label

has been awarded with the eTwinning Quality Label as a pupil for the project

»CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE« (by traditional mail)

25.02.2019



Jane Racz
National Support
Service United Kingdom

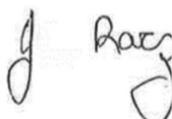


eTwinning Pupil Quality Label

has been awarded with the eTwinning Quality Label as a pupil for the project

Zero Waste

04.03.2019



Jane Racz
National Support
Service United Kingdom



Herald Cup Matches

Game against Christ Church

St. Mary's began the defence of their Herald Cup title with an away fixture against Christ Church, striving to become the first team to win the competition for three successive years. The game started in a scrappy manner, with the tight pitch and bobbly surface making it difficult for either team to play flowing football. St. Mary's began to grow into the game, with Cody picking the ball up and driving at the heart of the Christ Church defence. However, he often found himself surrounded by two or three defenders. Christ Church were playing to their strengths, using the long throw to make life difficult, with the wind swirling around. Harry had to be alert in goal, along with Jai, George and Finley in defence to keep the score goalless. We began to see more of the ball in midfield and St. Mary's came agonisingly close to opening the scoring when the ball flashed across the goal (some parents thought the ball may have actually crossed the line) but the score remained 0-0. With five minutes left until half time, St. Mary's failed to clear the ball, which allowed Christ Church to open the scoring from close range.

This spurred the boys into life and they responded just before half-time, with Tom scoring his very first goal for St. Mary's from close range. Against the wind and up the slope, this was a fairly promising scoreline. As the second half progressed, St. Mary's began to turn up the pressure, with our players being encouraged to have as many shots as possible. Cody went close on several occasions, although the small goals seemed to affect his range. Chances kept coming but we were unable to take them. As time ebbed away, there was still time for Christ Church to hit the bar from long range with a ferocious strike. However, the game was to finish a draw as the rain began to pour down. A valiant effort from the team in difficult conditions.

Game against Folkestone Primary Academy

On a sunny afternoon and with a point to prove after our 1-1 draw the previous week, the team arrived at the Primary Academy.

The game started well for St. Mary's and the ball was almost immediately played out to the right wing, which ended with Cody burying the ball into the corner of the net. It was soon 2-0 after another flowing passing move down the right and Cody placed the ball past the keeper and into the opposite corner. Another goal in quick succession in similar fashion resulted in Cody bagging his hat trick. Down the other end, Tyler hadn't had much to do at all. Even though the Primary Academy broke through on a few occasions, great challenges from Charlie, Finley and George ensured the clean sheet remained intact. As the half wore on, the midfield battle ensued and it became a more scrappy affair. Some great work from Dan spreading the ball to Cody on the wing resulted in two simple tap-ins for Harry Wink. The score at half time was 5-0 to St. Mary's. Although the score was very positive, Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Cobb pointed out some 'technical tweaks' and asked the boys to try to play more of a passing game.

The second half began and there was a change in mood, the Primary Academy came at us in waves and were determined to get on the score sheet. But through a combination of some off the mark shooting and some more great interceptions from our defence, the score remained 5-0. The midfield then began to run the game and Dan and David interchanged some lovely one and two touch passes to create another goal for Cody - 6-0. The Primary Academy heads were beginning to drop and with that, Cody danced through the defence again (even though he had picked up an injury) and was fouled in the penalty box. Unselfishly, he let Dan take the kick which managed to wriggle under the goalie and made the score 7-0. As the game pushed into the latter stages, Dan drove from deep again and shot, which was saved by the keeper (to his frustration) but fell kindly to Harry. He duly obliged and put the ball into an empty net to complete his hat trick. From goalie to striker in a matter of days, he was showing his versatility. There was still time for another goal. After some great work from David down the right wing, he danced past a few defenders and put in a lovely cross, where Tom was waiting to cap a hard working performance.

We would like to thank all of the parents who made it to the games and made the time to support the team. We really appreciate it.

Our next fixture is on Thursday 14th March away at Dymchurch Primary School.