



Our school is a friendly and vibrant community, where all of God's children flourish and gain the knowledge, wisdom and skills needed to care about themselves, their community and their world.

Friday 13th October 2023

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we have been considering the whole subject of kindness and have been looking for opportunities to do kind things for one another. Children all over the school have been lending pencils to one another, helping friends with their worries, looking for children in the playground who are alone and inviting them into their games and sharing jokes when someone is a bit sad.

I am so proud of these small acts of kindness and am always blown away by how caring and thoughtful the children are.

From time to time, I try to pop into the Nursery to see the work that is going on in there. Last week, I caught the children being very creative and making rockets from recycling materials. And then in Year 1, it was wonderful to discover that Mrs Cotton had been invited to share her own childhood experiences from growing up in the 1950s; she brought in some of her favourite toys and taught the children how to play some historical games.

Mrs Cotton appears to be omnipresent in St Mary's as I then walked into the Tigers' Classroom to find her hosting a Zoom Call, linking our lovely children with some Year 6 children at the Beacon. We are so lucky to have these collaborations where the children gain so much from meeting with children from other schools.

So, as Year 6 start to really think about their next school and their transition to Secondary, they had their first taste of what SATs will look like and have shown their resilience by tackling a lot of challenging questions this week. Year 3 have also been doing some rather impressive Maths as they continue their work on addition and subtraction.

There is a distinctly autumnal feel to KS1 and the classrooms and corridors are full of autumn pictures and wreathes as we all prepare to get ready for our Harvest Celebrations next week.

We are also really looking to seeing as many of you as possible at our Parent Meetings in the big KS2 Hall next week. Please walk straight down to the KS2 playground and enter the Hall through the playground doors. We'll be sticking to a tight schedule, so please make sure you are there in good time for your appointment.

Till then, have a great weekend and see you next week,
Amanda



Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

Thank you for the kindness that we have and that this school is a really kind place to be. Thank you for all the food you give us to eat. Thank you for our school and all the teachers that teach us. Please can you make us even kinder so that our school becomes even better.

Amen

Laker and Elena - Year 3



St Mary's Church of England Primary Academy

Have you chosen a school for September?

Before you do, come and see our wonderful school and all that we offer, including:

- A Huge Forest School
- Large Grounds and Space for Play
- Fun and Meaningful Learning
- Outstanding Reception Learning Environment

Please contact our school office to book in an individual tour of our school with our Head Teacher, Amanda Wolfram.

Contact Number: (01303) 251390

Friendship

Compassion

Service

Forgiveness

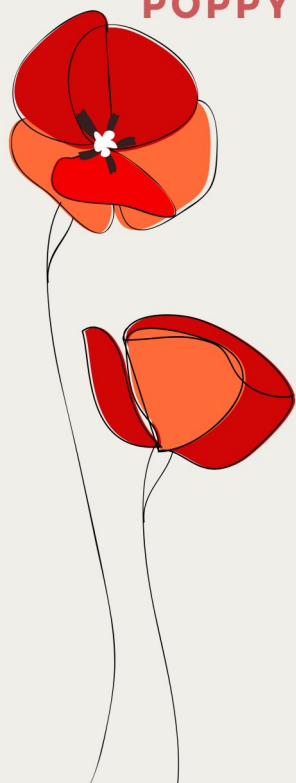


The school photographer will be in school on Thursday 19th October to take individual photos of the children. Further details to follow.

Parents Evening

Parents' Evenings are on Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th October. Please book your appointment using the Arbor App.

POPPY CRAFT WORKSHOP



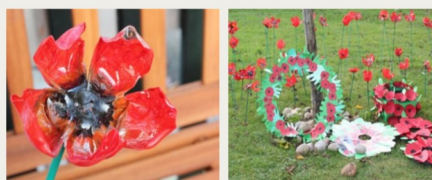
On Tuesday 31st October, we will be having a Poppy Craft workshop in the KS1 Infant Hall, 2.00pm to 3.00pm.

We will be making poppies for our Remembrance Service in the Worship Garden in November.

We will be using acrylic paint so we suggest bringing in some old clothes or protective clothing.

Places for this workshop are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

If you would like to come along and make poppies with your child, please register your interest with the school office or speak to Mrs Harrison.



HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

It's that time of year again when we celebrate Harvest and remember to be thankful for all that we have. Next week, we will be collecting food donations for the Rainbow Centre in Folkestone who run a Food Bank. If you would like to contribute to this, please can you place items in the collection containers in the school grounds, alternatively the children can take their items straight into class.

Currently, the Rainbow Centre is in urgent need of meals in a tin, tinned tomatoes, fruit juice, UHT milk, spreads, tinned meat, tinned fish, cooking sauces, snacks, gluten-free foods, ketchup, mayonnaise and BBQ sauce.

They currently have a surplus of baked beans and pasta, but would be grateful for tinned tomatoes, instant noodles and pasta in sauce as an alternative.

All contributions soon add up and make a huge difference to us being able to help those who are struggling to buy food at this time.

Thank you as always.

