



# St. Mary's Buzzin' Bulletin

Termly Newsletter

16th March



***Friendship Compassion Service Forgiveness***

## **Principal Comments**

Dear Parents,

With the challenges the world is facing right now, we can all be excused for feeling a little bit low. No matter who I talk to in and outside of education, people comment how busy they are and how tired they are feeling. I wonder why this is, what we can do and how much of this feeling can be linked to post lockdown working?

In school when things are really busy, there is one thing that I can do that is guaranteed to re-energise me. I go for a long walk around the school, visit lessons and speak to the children. Last week, I taught in Years 2, 4 and 6. It has been delightful and so nice to connect with the children in the classroom. They are always so happy and energetic, often telling me about their learning but also random things too - whose party they are going to, what their new pet is going to be called and what they are looking forward to doing at the weekend. Sometimes the children just randomly tell me how old their parents are or just throw their arms around my legs or try and fist bump me. It shows me just how happy the children are but also reminds me to look at what is now - the present. If we can find a few minutes each day to think about things we are grateful for, we can remind ourselves of all the small things and caring people that make a huge difference in our lives. These are the important things to think about. What are you grateful for?

I know my team here work amazingly hard for the children and community but we are also very blessed to have the ongoing community support from yourselves that we do. Our values of friendship and service regularly shine through our community. I want to thank you for your support with the Ukraine appeals and the peace prayers that are being made at the gate. Just this morning, friendship and compassion have stood out to me. I saw a few parents spending a few minutes in reflection and tying a prayer on the gate, several children walking into school giggling and smiling with each other and parents offering to help each other out with small issues. Then, in our Worship, a child came in with a prayer for peace she wanted to read out. It was so thoughtful and reflected the meaning of Friendship to others so well.

This week we are looking at the Commonwealth as it is Commonwealth Day. The children will be learning a little bit about the Commonwealth and what it is and why it was formed. We will share some of this learning on our Facebook page.

We will be having our parent consultations at the end of this term, with appointment letters being sent soon. In the main, we will try and keep them online as it seems to work so much better. However, if you would like a face to face meeting, these will be available. Please also book a time to come and meet with me should you need to. I am always keen to hear how we are doing and where we can further develop.

Thank you all again for your ongoing support.

Warmest wishes.

Trevor North, NPQH  
Principal

## Fund Raising

After hearing about the good work that the Christian charity 'The Rainbow Centre' do in her RE lessons, Edith wanted to do something to help raise money for them. She decided to do a garage sale and sell some of her old toys. She raised a staggering £104.00. What a wonderful thing to do and follows our school value of Compassion by thinking of others.



Gracie in Adventurers Class emptied her piggy bank (held jointly with her little brother Archie) to give to the Ukraine appeal. The bag was so heavy that Gracie struggled to carry the big bag of coins to school. Such a kind and compassionate gesture.

Well done Edith, Gracie and Archie. We are super proud of you all!

## PE Kit Order Form

Please pick up a copy of this form from the school office if you would like to order new PE Kit.

### PE Kit Order Form

Please complete this form to order PE kit ensuring that you have paid in full on ParentPay for the items you require. Orders will be placed with the supplier 3 times a year providing payment has been received.

**T-Shirt with School logo** – Please indicate quantity and size required.

Child sizes - £3.50					Adult sizes - £4.00		
3/4	5/6	7/8	9/10	11/13	S	M	L

Amount paid on ParentPay £ \_\_\_\_\_

Date paid \_\_\_\_\_

**Hooded Sweatshirt with school logo** – Please indicate quantity and size required.

Child sizes - £10.00						Adult sizes - £12.00		
3/4	5/6	7/8	9/10	11/12	13 years	S	M	L

Amount paid on ParentPay £ \_\_\_\_\_

Date paid \_\_\_\_\_

**Jogging Bottoms** – Please indicate quantity and size required.

Child sizes - £8.00					Adult sizes £2.00		
3/4	5/6	7/8	9/10	11/13	S	M	L

*(Plain navy jogging bottoms from other clothing retailers would be acceptable)*

Amount paid on ParentPay £ \_\_\_\_\_

Date paid \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name	
Class	
Signature of Parent/Carer	

## Easter Holidays

You may well be aware that in June of this year, the country will be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. The May Bank Holiday weekend will be moved to Thursday 2nd June and an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3rd June will see a four-day weekend to celebrate Her Majesty, The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - the first time any British monarch has reached this historic milestone.

This is great news for us all but this also falls within our half term holiday. This means that the staff and children will not benefit from this entitlement. Given that the Easter holiday is on the horizon, we feel that the best way to ensure staff are able to receive this additional entitlement and limit the impact on operations of the school is to extend the Easter holiday by one day. Our Easter break will run from Monday 11th April to Tuesday 19th April inclusive. This means that the children will return to school on Wednesday 20th April. The exception to this is the Nursery, we have to provide a set amount of days for the children in the Nursery and therefore, the Nursery will be open to children on that day.

## Prayers for Ukraine

Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Ukraine. We have been tying yellow and blue ribbons to our school gate and taken a moment to reflect and say a prayer. So far, our appeal has raised over £700.00 Thank you for your support.



### Year 3 Home Learning

As part of their home learning last term, the children were asked to make Roman shields that they had designed in school. We were totally overwhelmed with the amount of hard work and dedication that went into making each and every one of them. We are sure you will agree that they all look amazing.



### Rock Kidz On Tour

In the first week of Term 4, the whole school rocked with Si and Jonathan from Rock Kidz. Si and Jonathan talked about how we are all unique and how different we all look. Children and staff thoroughly enjoyed their session with the Rock Kidz crew, the school was buzzing with positivity and it was fantastic to see and hear the children enjoying themselves and having such an amazing time. As always, the children's costumes were brilliant, thank you for helping us make this such a wonderful experience for the children.



### World Book Day

The children have had a wonderful day today celebrating reading on World Book Day. The Book Swap was a huge success and thanks to your generosity, every child went home with a new book. The children looked amazing in their costumes. Thank you.



## International Work

A busy two months for our International Work with the Global Councillors completing their work about the Chinese New Year and having fun trying to use chopsticks!



Y6 have been learning about 'what it's like to be a Moslem' and asked our partner school in Jordan some questions about it, which to the delight of Y6 they answered.

During Term 1, Forest School and Y4 were taking part in the RSPB's Great School Bird Watch, some great work completed as well as bird watching.



The Global Councillors extended their work linked to SDG 3 Well Being, by creating 'Well being people in English and French at the request of partner, College Pilote in Soussse, Tunisia.

On two separate occasions, Years 4 & 5 have had lively Zoom meetings with their partner, Heritage School in Moldova. Both schools shared their work on SDG3, where they learnt about eating healthily, Chicken Soup and Water Melon being their favourite. Years 4 & 5 talked about the wellbeing word clouds they'd made and their 'wellbeing' jars. A wonderful opportunity to share the collaborative learning between schools.



This week, classes across the school are learning about the 54 countries of the Commonwealth. Y3 have had an exciting 'Commonwealth Games' afternoon. Our partner in Bangladesh has already sent us photos of the Commonwealth Flags that their students have made and we are expecting work in from DAV Ludhiana, India.