



**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 1st March 2024**

**Headteacher's Update**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wonder whether you, like us, sometimes hear the phrase, 'It's not fair!' from one of your children? Well, all week, we have been considering the concept of fairness and have been exploring what that looks like. Alongside this, we have been looking at Fair Trade – so you might find your child looking for the logo on some of the products in the supermarkets. As Easter approaches and shelves get filled with mini eggs, we were all delighted to discover that Cadbury's is one of many companies that support Fair Trade – and that is the only reason why I buy chocolate in lorry-loads!

I was lucky enough to pop in on the PTFA meeting this week and to hear of some of the lovely things that are being planned for the children. I am so grateful to all the parents who support the PTFA, no matter how big or how small the contribution. You all make such wonderful and lasting memories for the children and really do enrich the curriculum with the activities and equipment that you provide for them.

Speaking of enriching the curriculum, the Year 6 children had a great time at The Battle of Britain Memorial on Tuesday; this is a monument to aircrew who flew in the Battle of Britain and it's sited on the White Cliffs at Capel-le-Ferne. The sun shone on the boys and girls as they had a tour of the planes, met Bob the dog, enjoyed a virtual flight and dressed up in pilot gear and World War Two uniforms.

We also wanted to let you know that once again, St Mary's has participated in the RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch, which takes place every year in January and February. During some of the Forest School sessions, the children have been identifying a variety of birds, making bird feeders and using binoculars to make a record of the birds they've seen. This has been a great way to encourage a wider understanding of 'Life on Land' and the relevance of 'Climate Change' - just 2 of our Sustainable Development Goals. We are so grateful to Mrs Judd and all the staff that help to make these sessions happen as the children absolutely love them.

Have a great weekend,

Amanda



### Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

Thank you for all the people that make us happy. Thank you for the smiles they give and please look after our Mummies.

Amen

Year 2 child (From Worship today)

  
**WORLD BOOK DAY**  
**PYJAMA PARTY**  
**THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2024**  
 CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO COME TO SCHOOL WEARING PYJAMAS AND BRING IN THEIR FAVOURITE BOOK FOR OUR WORLD BOOK DAY PYJAMA PARTY!  
 (CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO WEAR COSTUMES IF THEY WOULD LIKE)

**COMIC RELIEF RED NOSE DAY**  
**Red Nose Day**  
**Friday 15th March**  
 Children are welcome to wear a red top to school instead of their usual school jumper or cardigan.  
 Red noses are very welcome.  
 Mrs Harrison will be collecting donations at the school gate at the beginning and end of the school day.

**World Book Day Competition – A Story Book in a Box**

We are giving the children the opportunity to win a selection of prizes by entering our World Book Day themed competition – ‘A Story Book in a Box!’ Children are invited to recreate a scene from a story of their choice inside a shoe or cereal box, creatively designing their favourite setting or scene. Can we please ask that these are brought in on World Book Day (at the latest) so they can be judged on the day and prizes awarded. This is an optional competition, however we cannot wait to see your entries!

We are very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day, which could not happen without the support of parents and carers - thank you.

We hope the children enjoy spending their World Book Day voucher, which will be sent out on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March.



## Reading Volunteers

We are looking for Parents/Carers to come in to school to support the children in developing their reading skills.

Listening to a child read is important for many reasons and plays a crucial role in their overall literacy development.

If you have some time to spare and would like to help, please contact the class teacher or speak to Mrs. Harrison.

Thank you

## Can you help us?

If you have any pre-loved, good condition waterproofs that your child has grown out of, we would love to have them for use in our Forest School.

We are looking for puddle suits, waterproof coats and trousers. The ones we have are being used daily at the moment and are wearing out.

Thank you in advance.