

St Mary's

Church of England Primary School



Newsletter No. 19

13th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you all safe and well. We are well into the summer term now and it's been wonderful to slowly experience more of what school routines were like pre-pandemic. **So, what's been happening in school? LOTS!**

SATs:

A huge well done to Year 6 who completed their SATs this week - the first class to do so since 2019! We were so impressed with their excellent attitudes and we are really proud of how hard they have worked. Thank you also to all of the other children for showing great consideration and for working so quietly during the assessments.

Year 2 will be completing the KS1 SATs over the next couple of weeks. Good luck Year 2!



YR: Scientific observations

Reception have been very excited as they watch the slow and miraculous transformation from caterpillar to butterfly in class. The class caterpillars have been a great source of interest as the children develop their understanding of the words as part of the reception curriculum.

Y3 Road Safety Awareness:

As part of our commitment to safeguarding and supporting the children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe, Y3 had a fantastic workshop this week. They explored the Green Cross Code, passenger etiquette and safe scooting!



Y2 at East Barnet School:

Last week, Y2 took part in a sports festival up at East Barnet School, led by student sports leaders and PE staff members. The children had a wonderful time developing and learning new skills. It was great to see so many ex-St. Mary's pupils leading the activities too. We have a long standing relationship with EBS and look forward to more inter-school events and shared experiences.

Y1: Kew Gardens

To further enrich the children's science learning about 'Amazing Plants', Y1 took a trip to Kew Gardens this week to look at plants that grow in different conditions. Some of these plants were spectacular!



Scooters:

Scooting to school is not only good exercise, but it's also a really speedy and eco-friendly way of getting to school. Some parents have asked about the reintroduction of scooter parking. If your child scoots to school in the morning and you would like for them to leave their scooter here, **they** may park their scooter behind the hut on the left hand side of the playground. **Scooter parking opens on Monday 16th**. NO BIKES PLEASE...There will be a sign to direct the children to the parking area. Please note that we cannot take responsibility for scooters parked on site and parents will make the choice to use the scooter parking area with this in mind. We ask that you:

- Name your child's scooter
- Make your child's scooter look distinctive so that it looks unique and can't be mistaken for someone else's!
- Collect your scooter each day and don't leave it behind after school

School Council is back!

We are delighted that we have been able to reintroduce school council once again. The last time we were able to operate was in March 2020! In line with our commitment to British Values, the children have once again demonstrated their understanding of democracy and have voted for members of their class following their manifestos detailing why they should be elected. At this stage in the year, we have given children in Y1 an opportunity to join the council too – typically, it would be made up of children in Y2-Y6.



Our elected school council members for the remainder of the academic year are:

Year 1: James and Sienna M

Year 2: Ava and Ben

Year 3: Lucas and Sumeyyah

Year 4: Jamie and Matilda T

Year 5: Giulia and Osman

Year 6: Hannah, Katy and Samuel – we have 3 class reps in Y6. The Y6 children will be taking it in turns to be council secretary at each meeting so that they can prepare and distribute minutes of the meetings to all classes.

The first school council meeting is next week 😊

Celebrating our love for reading... Our School lending library is also back!

During the peak of the pandemic, our risk assessment meant that we were unable to loan out books from the school library. We have now begun a 3-week cycle enabling Y1-Y6 to visit the library and borrow a book of their choice to enjoy at home. Thank you to Mrs. Charalambous who has taken on the role of school librarian. The children's teachers will remind the children when it's their class week for a visit to the library.

Staff news:

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to our caretaker Mr. Georgiou today. Elia, who joined us at the start of this academic year will be taking on a similar role in a school closer to home. We are very grateful to him for his service to the school and he goes with our love and prayers as he embarks on a new chapter in a new school. We have already advertised this vacancy, including on our [school website](#).

Our focus value for this half term is 'service'. This week, we have been thinking about the skills, gifts and qualities we have and how we might use them to serve others. Here are a few examples from the children:



I am good at helping people to get along so they can have a happier day – Mibhar in Y5

I love to sing, maybe one day I'll be on TV, and that will cheer lots of people up! – Annabelle Y3

I can play a calming tune on my saxophone to make people feel calm – Daniel E Y4

I am really good at smiling, so if people are feeling down I can cheer them up – Juanita Y4

I am good at football so I can share this and teach others to play too! – Kyriakos Y1

I love acting and I think people will enjoy this and it will make them smile – Amelie Y5

I really like maths and I could help other with their maths if they need help – George Y1

Wish lists:

Just a reminder that our Amazon Wish List can be accessed [here](#). The link to our wish list at the Children's Book Shop in Muswell Hill can be found here: <https://www.childrensbookshoplondon.com/wishlists>. If your child has a birthday coming up, donating a book is a lovely way to celebrate!

We'd like to introduce **a new wish list** with the focus on supplementing **playground equipment** for the children.

Over time our equipment gets damaged or lost. This new wish list includes a mixture of carefully chosen equipment to promote the children's physical activity as well as some items for children who prefer to be less active at playtime. Some of the items include large card games, footballs, hula hoops, giant dominoes, French skipping ropes and more!

We decided to set this up in consultation with the Friends following feedback from the children.

New and improved school equipment was a general theme of the school council manifestos, so they are already leading change in the school!



Please note that if you'd like to donate an item, it will go into **your child's** class equipment box. [The playground equipment wish list can be accessed here](#). Thank you in advance!

May Day Reminders:

Preparations for May Day are going very well and we are looking forward to our celebration on **Friday 27th May**. [See previous newsletter for details of what the children should wear](#). May Day usually finishes at around 3.30pm.

If your child will be going home for lunch:

- Please be at the Church Hill Road gate at 11.25am. The children will be dismissed from class at 11.30am. Please collect them from the usual places.
- They should return via the Church Hill Road gate **at 1.15pm** dressed for the occasion.
- Staff will be at the gate to let the children through at this time.
- **We ask that adults wait until all of children come in** before being invited to join us as our audience.

If your child is staying at school for lunch:

- Please send a change of clothes/shoes in a plastic bag for them to wear for the event.

If the weather should be wet, the crowning ceremony will take place in the school hall, and in this case we only have room to accommodate those actually taking part in the ceremony and their invited guests.

Fingers crossed for good weather!

Dates for your diary:

We have 2 non uniform days planned to help with donations for the Summer Fayre on 25th June

- **Thursday 19th May: Non Uniform Day** – Please donate **any children's unused toys**
- **Thursday 26th May: Non Uniform Day** – Please donate **bottles for the tombola**

The Friends will share further details in their newsletter early next week.



Prayers:

Many of the children take time to write prayers at our whole school reflection area. Some of the children have requested for their prayers to be shared...

*Dear God,
Please bless all the people
who are having bad
times.*

Amen

Isabel Y4

*Dear God,
I hope that the war in Ukraine stops and that you will
provide, and help put a roof over the heads of those that
need it.*

Amen

Chimaranma Y4

*Dear God,
Thank you for being good
to us. Please help to keep
people safe around the
world.*

Amen

Ellie Y4

*Dear God,
Thank you for our lovely
world. I hope that all around
the world, people show respect
to others.*

Amen

Ava Y2

*Dear God,
Thank you for our
world and all of the
animals.*

Amen

Livi Y2

From all of us at St Mary's primary school, stay safe, stay well and our love and prayers are with you as always.

**Maria Constantinou
Headteacher**

