



# St Mary's C of E Primary School

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## Newsletter No. 7

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will know that we have had an Ofsted inspection at school this week; many thanks for taking the time to respond to their surveys and also for speaking to inspectors on the playground on Tuesday. Once the report is finalised, we will share this with you all. At this stage, we are not permitted to share the outcome of the inspection, other than to say that we are pleased with the outcome and very proud that the children really lived up to our school vision ☺

### Ducklings:

I'm sure the children have told you that we have welcomed 4 ducklings that have hatched this week since their arrival on Monday morning. This experience has ignited huge excitement and curiosity among the children (and staff!) and it's been wonderful to see the children learning so much from this experience.



The ducklings will be with us for another week and then they will be collected and taken back to the Incredible Eggs farm. We chose the Incredible Eggs company because of their responsible and ethical approach. You can find out more about this here <https://www.incredibleeggs.co.uk/>



### Y5 Sports Festival at East Barnet School:

Year 5 participated in a mini sports festival held at East Barnet School on Wednesday. They had a wonderful time! This is what Daniel L and Ollie told me:

*"Our trip was really exciting because the Y9 students got everything ready for us. Our first game was football, then relay races, basketball and then dodge ball. It was so much fun!"*

### Y4 Visit to the Environmental Centre:

Y4 have been studying animals in different habitats in Science. The visit gave the children a brilliant opportunity to explore pond life and how living objects survive and thrive in that habitat. Pond dipping, classification and lots of exploring fun was had by all!



## TALK TOGETHER about Forgiveness

Everyone makes mistakes, it's part of being human. Sometimes our mistakes hurt others and then we need to say sorry. Sometimes mistakes made by other people hurt us. When this happens we need to be able to **forgive**. **Forgiveness** can be difficult and costly but without it a new start is impossible.

Talk together about:

- A time when you needed to say sorry
- A time you didn't say sorry but wish you had
- A time when you had to **forgive** someone who had hurt or upset you
- How it feels when you are given a new start because someone has **forgiven** you

### Our focus value for this half term is forgiveness

In collective worship this week, we have looked at the life of Nelson Mandela. Despite his terrible treatment and imprisonment during apartheid in South Africa, he famously forgave those who mistreated him: "Courageous people do not fear forgiving for the sake of peace"

We have been exploring the following question:  
***What the world would be like without forgiveness?***

Here are some responses from children in different classes.

- *It would be terrible as society's key is forgiveness.*
- *There would be lots more war and lots of people disagreeing.*
- *You would always be angry and there will be disorder.*
- *Everyone will be lonely because people will do things and will hold a grudge forever even though the problem might have been really small.*
- *Nobody will be able to wipe the slate clean.*
- *The world would be an unhappy and sad place.*
- *The world would be disappointing because nobody would forgive.*
- *There would be lots of shouting.*
- *It won't be nice because if you don't forgive then people won't forgive you.*

### Road Safety:

We have had reports of some children not taking care crossing the roads around school, which is a big concern.

**Please remind the children of the importance of crossing safely.**

As part of our curriculum, we do cover road safety and additionally, Y5 and Y6 will be having a Transport for London session in school next Friday.



### Science Week:

Next week is Science week in school. We are looking forward to planting wildflower seeds in class garden plots, and lots of learning on the theme 'connections'. We will also be welcoming a group of parents who have Science based professions to speak to the children. We are hoping to inspire them to see how their Science learning now, can be applied to their future career choices! Many thanks in advance, to those parents/carers for their time.

### Sign Language Week:

Next week, we will be busy! Not only is it Science week, but we are also going to be learning some British Sign Language too. The Y5 and Y6 children in the school choir have already started to learn some. Click [here to view some excellent resources](#) for all children and families.

### Strike Action next week:

Please see separate letter sent earlier today confirming that **the NEU teacher strike will result in the closure of Reception, Year 2 and Year 5 next Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. All other children, including siblings of children in those classes, must be in school on this day.

### Coming up before the end of term: More details to follow

- Annual academic reports for Y1-Y6 shared mid-March (YR reports are published at the end of the school year)
- Consultations for all classes – end of term
- Lego workshops for all classes – 23<sup>rd</sup> March
- Wellbeing week – w/c 27<sup>th</sup> March

**COMING UP  
NEXT!**

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

**Maria Constantinou  
Headteacher**

