

St Mary's Weekly

'Every Child Flourishing'



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Friday 18th March

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

It has been a very busy and amazing week at St Mary's. Our year 5 children enjoyed a lovely trip to the National Space Centre yesterday, which was fantastic to see. There are special moments in schools that just make you realise why we do what we do and yesterday was one of those moments. To see the smiles on their faces, the buzz in the classroom in the morning as they prepared for their first trip in over 2 years, is something that is a reminder that we must continue to strive to always create these wonderful memories and experiences for our children. The feedback from both staff in school and at the Space Centre, was overwhelmingly positive and the children were such a credit to the school and themselves.

On Wednesday, we had several visitors in school to look at phonics, curriculum and just the wider ethos of school and the provision we offer. The day was spent observing lessons, talking about learning with our children and discussions with our staffing team around what we have implemented since September and our plans moving forward. I just want to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful staff for their continuous hard work and the children for their incredible attitude to learning. Feedback from the day included 'Leaders have a secure understanding of where phonics is, and the decision making has allowed for rapid progress in KS1' and 'teachers high expectations ensure children make strong progress'. There are, of course, many next steps for us to take away as a school and we will, as always, share our new ideas and structures in school with you all. It was a real pleasure to watch the children discuss their learning with our visitors and I was blown away with the quality of their learning recall.

And of course, today was Red Nose Day and a day full of red in school. Thank you so much for the donations made.

Safeguarding

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Leads straight away.

The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leaders at St Mary's:

- Mr Spencer
- Mr White
- Mrs Brook
- Mrs Goodyear
- Miss Gulliver

Our Safeguarding Governor is Lynn Greenfield.

Safeguarding Message:

A reminder that if your child is absent from school, you must pass this information on through our main reception on 01226 206422 first thing in the morning.

School Aims and Values:

Our school aim:

'Every Child Flourishing'

Our aim at St Mary's is for every child to flourish. We strive to create the conditions for staff flourishing, for family flourishing and for community flourishing so that the children of St Mary's are well rounded with individual areas of expertise and choices open to them for the next phase of their education.

Our school core expectations:

Be Ready

Be Respectful

Be Safe

Year 6 Residential 22-23

We are currently in the process of organising our Year 6 residential for next year. As soon as we have this sorted, we will ensure all information is passed on to our current Year 5 families. I know the disruption of COVID meant that our Year 5 children missed out on their previous residential so we cannot wait to finally get this organised.

Cake Sale

Yesterday on Twitter, we shared the total made from the bake sale by Maisy and George. This was then donated to two separate charities. I am so proud of the children we have at St Mary's and the willingness to go above and beyond in supporting charities. Thank you both for your wonderfully kind donations.

Questionnaires

Since September, I have always made it my aim to be transparent about St Mary's, our journey as a school and communicate as effectively as possible what we want to achieve together, working with our families. Part of our ongoing review means we will be asking for parent/carer views regarding different aspects of school. This is something we want to become a regular feature at St Mary's, in order to ensure your voice is continually heard and acted upon. Miss Bell has been conducting similar questionnaires with our children on a regular basis to ensure all of our pupils have their voices heard. Mrs Brook has also started this process with some of our families and this will be expanded out to everyone in the coming weeks.

Twitter:

For more information and to see what we have been getting up to, please follow us on Twitter @stmarysbarnsley. This is the best way to keep up to date with everything happening in our school. We will be sharing the amazing events within school on here daily.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr White