Welcome to our newsletter. With the cold weather returning, it is clear that autumn is well under way. We hope that you have enjoyed the recent seasonal events and are wrapping up to stay warm: the Christmas festivities will be next!

**Psalm 86:8**

There is none like You, O Lord; nor are there any works like Your works

**Collective Worship**

In Collective Worship, we have been thinking about our three new school rules: be safe, be kind and be responsible. We have been discussing what being responsible means and how we can be responsible in school. We thought about how we can act responsibly during Halloween and Bonfire night to keep ourselves and others safe.
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Staying Safe Online

For KS2 Parents

Engage early.
Research shows that many children as young as six have access to smartphones or tablets. Just as you lay the foundation for dialogue and conversation offline with your children early, you should lay that foundation early online. Talk to them about technology, before they are on social media.

Identify and seize key moments.
For example, your child getting their first mobile phone is a good time to set ground rules. When your child is old enough to join Facebook and other social media, it’s a good time to talk about safe sharing. Your child getting their driving licence is a good time to discuss the importance of not texting and driving.

Trust yourself.
Typically, you can adopt the same parenting style for your child’s online activities as you use for their offline activities. If you find that your child responds best to a negotiated agreement, create a contract that you can both sign. Or maybe your child just needs to know the basic rules.

Remember to be safe when online.

Mr Maddams

For KS1 Parents

Internet safety checklist for helping children under 10 use the internet safely (part 2)

Put yourself in control
Install parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. Set up a user account for your child on the main device they use and make sure other accounts in the household are password-protected so that younger children can’t access them by accident.

Stay involved
Encourage them to use their tech devices in a communal area like the lounge or kitchen so you can keep an eye on how they’re using the internet and also share in their enjoyment.

Talk to siblings
It’s also a good idea to talk to any older children about what they’re doing online and what they show to younger children. Encourage them to be responsible and help keep their younger siblings safe.

Search safely
Use safe search engines such as Swiggle or Kids-search. You can save time by adding these to your ‘Favourites’. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines, as well as YouTube.

Check if it’s suitable
The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they’re suitable for your child. For example, the minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram.

Parenting tips for allowing your child to use social media (part 2)

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PTFA BOOK SALE SWAP

The PTFA are holding a children's book sale on the 8th November at 3:30pm. It would be lovely to see you all there. If you have any books you would like to donate, please drop them off in the hall on or before this date.

MUFTI DAY

This Friday 9th November, we will be having a mufti-day. On this day, instead of bringing in a monetary donation, the PTFA are asking for a donation of a prize for their tombola. If you have any prizes you wish to donate, please bring them in on this day and give them to your child’s teacher. Thank you.

Keep your eyes peeled for more PTFA news coming soon!
BEHAVIOUR AWARDS

Congratulations must go to the children who were picked as great role models for the school. These are:

Riley Molcher  Zoe Tamegger  Obinna Madichie  Tegan Lewis
Lily-May Beckley  Rihanna Smith  Jasmine Cahill  Mia Barnett
Kaydaim Hodgett  Sebastian Lee  Ethan Croft

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Well done to all the children below who were nominated by their class teachers to receive Achievement Awards. Please encourage your children to keep up the good work.

Harry Barnett  Fredryk Oliver  Sophia Lorentzen  Marcus Choroba
Maisey Mcalinden  Isabelle Shepherd  Toby Lorentzen  Kristina Olaru
Sienna Oliver  Rosie McNab  Matilda Babb  Brody Golding
Lucy Bloomfield  Daisy-Jai Amos  John-Paul Jackson  Emily Cooper
Caelan Buck  Daisy-May Golding  Aaliyah Masoud  Charlie Newlyn

Christiana Osuji

ATTENDANCE AWARD

This week we had some high attendance scores. We had three classes who achieved 93%, three classes who scored 97%, two classes who scored 98% and two classes who scored 99%. But the winning class was Hope class who had 100% of their class at school. Well done!
HOME ACHIEVEMENTS

It’s so wonderful to see children achieve outside of school as well as inside. Well done to the following children for their out of school achievements.

Lucas Waples—awarded his stage 4 swimming award
Brooke Knight—participating in her modern dancing exam
Joshua Swift—awarded a medal for winning with the Burton Latimer cricket team
Keziah Swift—awarded a trophy for joining in at football camp
Noah McNab—awarded his Level 1 swimming award
Rosie McNab—awarded her 20m swimming ward
Kylie Wooding—completing some fantastic artwork at home
John-Paul Jackson—making a Lego garage at home
Alfie Coles—awarded a football trophy for ‘Parent’s Best Player’
Jack Spencer—becoming a sixer at cubs and participating in a football match
Daniel—becoming a sixer at cubs

READING RAFFLE

This year, we have introduced the all new reading raffle. Each time your child reads, they will be given a raffle ticket. These raffle tickets will then be mixed with the other classes in the year group and one winner from each year group will be chosen in achievement worship on Fridays. Well done to this week’s winners!

Year 1—Carter Mclaven
Year 3—Ryan Bowater
Year 5—Abigail Innard

Year 2—Violet Draper
Year 4—Amelia Barrett
Year 6—Connor Jolley
Bulb Planting

Before half term, Key Stage 1 and EYFS had some exciting visitors from Kettering Borough Council’s Gardening Department. Sarah and Matthew were part of a team of 35 gardeners who plant flowers around the public gardens in Kettering. Sarah and Matthew told the children how their department plants over 10,000 bulbs every year. The children had the opportunity to explore, touch and smell a range of different bulbs, before they had a go at planting their own. Keep your eye out for the beautiful flowers that will soon bloom near the playground, all planted by the Key Stage 1 and EYFS children!

“The bulb feels wet” - Meadow

“I don’t like the smell” - Robbie

“It feels wet and squishy!” - Freya

“It looks like an onion” - Chas
READING AT ST. MARY’S

Reading is something that is very important to us at St. Mary’s. Here, you will now be able to find out about all of the reading activities in school, see the fortnightly reading leadership board for all classes, read a range of facts and information about reading and find ways that you can access different reading texts for your children.

We know that we work your children hard at school, so sometimes getting them to complete work or read when they get home is tricky. At St. Mary’s, we promote lots of different kinds of reading. We aim to give the children a range of reading experiences, to broaden their horizons and capture their interests. Below are a few examples of different ways to read with your child, going beyond just sitting and reading a book. Give them a try and have some fun with reading with your child!

Everyone reads differently, whether you like fairy tales, dinosaur stories, non-fiction texts or poetry. Why not give some of these different ways of reading a go?

- E-books and e-audio—try some of these for free https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl/library-page
- Magazines, comics and e-magazines
- Picture books—colourful fun for children of all ages!
- Use finger puppets or character masks to retell a story—children can easily make these at home with paper and lollypop sticks.
- Reading on an iPad—a range of texts can be read on an iPad. If you have a Kindle you can download the app for the iPad.
- Film clips and videos—comprehension activities can be based on a variety of film clips and videos. Check out https://www.literacyshed.com/ for inspiration.
- Encourage your child to make their own book that they can read to you.
- Read everything around you—whether it is a road sign or a recipe, instructions for a game or a shopping list, reading is everywhere!
World Food Day

Before half term, the whole school celebrated World Food Day. The day began with Class Worship, where the children were told about what World Food Day was and why we were celebrating it. Throughout the day, the children took part in a range of exciting, around-the-world themed activities. All of the children had an hour dance session with Miss Price, where they learnt how to greet each other in 6 different languages from around the world. They also learnt a range of different Bollywood dance moves that they put together to create their own dance. Finally, they learnt an African style dance to the song Waka Waka.

As well as the dancing, the children had the opportunity to taste food from around the world. From garlic bread to samosas and chicken tikka skewers to spring rolls, the children certainly had a feast. A huge thank you to Mrs Love for organising all of the food.
A trip to

This year, the School Council are on a mission to save the environment. They are doing this by looking at plastics and how they are recycled. Did you know, each year enough plastic is thrown away to circle the earth four times? Also, in the UK, only 45% of plastic bottles are recycled. Due to this increasing issue in our environment, the School Council have made it their mission to look at plastic usage in school and tackle ways to recycle materials better.

For the first part of their mission, the School Councillors and Mr Laughton took a trip to a local plastics company, RPC. RPC are one of Europe’s largest suppliers of plastic packaging, but they do so with sustainability in mind. The School Councillors went along to see what impact plastic has on the environment.

Can you make a small change today to make a BIG difference?
**123 Magic**

We will be facilitating this at our school again on 29th October, 8th November, 15th November and 22nd November. If you are interested please let Carol Lipscomb, Family Support Worker, know.

There are also a range of other 123 Magic courses being held across the county:

- Compass Academy on 11th, 18th October, 1st, 5th November at 1:00 – 3:15PM
- St Mary’s Primary, Kettering – 22nd, 29th January, 5th and 12th February 2019

**WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK**

Thank you to everyone who participated in Walk to School Week. The children said they enjoyed the challenge and felt healthier for it. Congratulations to Miss Price and Mr.Maddams’ classes who made the most improvement!

Mr.Maddams went from an average of 12 children walking to school to 20 children and Miss Price went from an average of 16 to an average of 23! Each class will chose their treat and celebrate over the next few weeks.

A huge well done must also go to Mrs Baker and Miss Weller’s classes who had almost the whole class walk to school before this challenge. They struggled to improve because they had such a high percentage already and so we felt they also needed a prize.

**SHOEBOX APPEAL**

A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children’s lives all over the world in Jesus’ name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child. Once again, St Mary’s will be participating in Operation Christmas Child. If you wish to fill in a shoebox for those less fortunate, please see Miss Weller for further details. We are asking for all shoeboxes to be in school by Friday 16th November 2018.

**CHILDREN IN NEED**

This year, we will be holding a multi-day to fundraise for Children in Need on Friday 16th November. Once again, the theme this year is ‘spotacular’. Feel free to go absolutely dotty and cover yourself in spots. Of course, there will be prizes for the most ‘spotacular’ outfit!

**PLAYGROUND**

Whilst we acknowledge that it is not always easy, can we please ask you to be mindful of the language and conversations that are being had on the playground. As we are a school that goes from EYFS to Year 6, there are young children around. Please can we also remind you that there should be no dogs on the playground. Thank you.

**TWITTER**

Please check out our St. Mary’s twitter account to see all of the exciting things happening at school! Visit @st_primary for any updates.
On Friday 14th December, we are asking you to join us in wearing your favourite festive knit for Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children. Anything you can contribute will go a long way, but with a donation of just £1, we will be saving children’s lives and creating a better future for children all over the world. Why not get everyone involved this year?

**YOU’LL SAVE LIVES**

A £2 donation could pay for the antibiotics to treat five children suffering from pneumonia, one of the biggest killers of children. Yep – every sweater really can make the world better. Now that’s wearing responsibly.

**THE POWER IN YOUR PULLOVER**

This is what it’s all about. Collect £2 for every jumper and help children not just survive, but to thrive. The more you raise, the more chance you’ll give children in the world’s toughest places to build a better future.

By putting on a Christmas jumper, whether it’s at work, at home, at school or down the pub. It’s all about getting everyone together in their daftest woolies whilst saving children and changing futures. Your jumper could help bring essential food, healthcare, education, and protection to millions of children around the world who are missing out.