



ST MARY'S CE FIRST ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO: 108 28.01.2022



"SHINE AS A LIGHT IN THE WORLD"

Matthew 5:16

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I'd like to begin with a big thank you to all our parents and staff who helped to make our remote parent's consultation evening so successful this week. Using new technology is often difficult at first but, overall, the evening ran well. We are so proud of all the children at St. Mary's and can see they are working hard to develop their academic skills. Please do remember that you can speak to your child's class teacher at any time either at the end of the school day, via Class Dojo or by arranging an appointment via the school office.

COVID-19

The guidance has once again changed as the pandemic continues to twist and turn. Facemasks are not required within the school building. However, should you wish to wear a face mask please continue to do so.

Please do continue to test as a family regularly using LFD tests. PCR tests are for those who are displaying symptoms, no matter how mild, consisting of; a new continuous cough; a high temperature; a loss or change to taste and/or smell. (Please see www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/ and www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/test-results/report-a-rapid-lateral-flow-test-result/ for further guidance.)

If your child receives a positive LFD or PCR test they will need to self-isolate. Please contact the school as quickly as possible via telephone or email. The day of receiving the positive test and/or symptoms begin is classed as Day 0. The five day isolation period begins on Day 1, the following day. On Day 5 and 6 your child can take a lateral flow test. If both are negative, and your child has no temperature, they can return to school from Day 6 onwards. (Please see www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/how-long-to-self-isolate/ for further guidance.)

Should anyone within your household test positive, we please ask that you keep us informed so we can support you in increased family testing.

Have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you all for another busy week on Monday.

Many Thanks,
Mrs N R Brennan

Year 3 had great fun using their bodies to represent different layers of the Rainforest. Can you spot the Emergent, Canopy, Understory and Forest floor layers by looking at the children's poses? Year 3 have also enjoyed creating lots of wonderful Rainforest artwork and completing homework projects linked to our exciting new topic.



STAR OF THE WEEK

Class	Pupil
Nursery	Archie
Reception	William
Year 1 & 2	Iris
Year 3	James
Year 4	Evie

A massive well done to all children for all their hard work this week. We are proud to call you a part of our St Mary's Family.



Reading Volunteers



A big thank you to all the parents who have already said they are able to come and volunteer to hear our children at St Mary's read. If you can spare half an hour a week to listen to our pupils read it will really help. Please speak to Mrs Johnson in the school office if you are interested.

Keeping Safe online



We have recently re-launched our IT Curriculum using Purple Mash which not only develops computing skills but also supports children in developing their knowledge and understanding of staying safe when online. Attached to this week's newsletter you will find a poster from National Safety Online with some reminders of keeping children safe online at home and at school. Should you ever have concerns about your child's online activity please do speak to their class teacher or Mrs Brennan who is safeguarding lead for the school.

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online, listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.



CHINESE NEW YEAR!



Chartwells

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CATERING

MAINS

Chinese Chicken with Noodles
Cantonese Veggie Rice
Broccoli
Sweetcorn

DESSERTS

Peking Chocolate Crispy Bar
Strawberry Yoghurt
Fresh Fruit

Thursday 3rd February

**DON'T FORGET! SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE FOR ALL PUPILS
IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2.**

**PLEASE SPEAK TO YOUR SCHOOL FOR MORE INFORMATION
SIGN UP TODAY!**

The Big House Holiday Club

At St. Andrew's Church, Church Street, Shifnal, TF11 9AB

February Half Term Holiday Club

To make your booking or enquire email:
bighouse@shifnalbenefice.org.uk
or phone/message Kelly on **07971518408**



For ages 4-11

Monday 21st to Friday 25th February 2022

Full day: 9am-3pm £25

Breakfast Club: 8am-9am £3

Extended Hours: 3pm-5pm £6

Staffed by fully qualified, pediatric first aid trained
teachers and childminders

St Mary's CE First Academy
Term Dates and Holidays 2022-2023
Dates are subject to change.

Spring Term 2022

Wednesday 2nd February - (PTA Event) All children to wear PE Kit 2 enjoy fun activities - Please send your child in with 2 coins in a sealed envelope.

Half term: Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February

Thursday 3rd March World book day Where's Wally - All children and staff to dress as Where's Wally characters these can be home made or brought.

Friday 18th March - Red Nose Day - come dressed as a Super Hero £1.00 donation for charity.

Term ends: Friday 8th April

Holiday: Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 17th April

Summer Term 2022

Inset Day: Monday 25th April

Term Starts: Tuesday 26th April

May Day: Monday 2nd May

Half term: Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June

Term ends: Thursday 21st July

Holiday: Friday 22nd July - Friday 2nd September

Autumn Term 2023

Inset Day: Monday 5th September

Term Starts: Tuesday 6th September

Holiday: Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

Term ends: Friday 16th December

Holiday: Monday 19th December - Monday 2nd January

Inset Days (School Closed to Pupils)

Monday 25th April 2022

Monday 5th September 2022