

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



18th November 2022



**Odd socks to finish
our Anti-bullying
week at St Mary's**



Dear Parents

We have had a good week at St Mary's, we finished our Anti-bullying week by the children wearing odd socks today. The children have taken part in various activities throughout the week highlighting that everyone is different & different is good.

Thank you to everyone who supported our French Breakfast & a big thank you to the PTA who organised & ran the event. We had lots of happy parents & children enjoying their French breakfast.



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The PTA have been & are running various fun events to raise funds for new playground equipment.

The Halloween photo competition, French Breakfast, Christmas Shop – thank you to all the parents that are giving up their time to support St Mary's. Recently they have raised PTA

Christmas Cards raised £240.90

Non-uniform day raised £97.69

French Breakfast raised £193.72

All this money will go towards new playground equipment which costs in the region of £6-7,000.

Last Friday, the children took part in a Road Safety Assembly for 'Be Bright' Week – the children learnt how to be seen in the dark.



Medication for children at St Mary's

A recent audit of all medication kept in school has been undertaken to ensure what we have is supported by the relevant documentation.

Your child's health is of the utmost importance to us and if we have medication for your child, then it is essential that we have the correct permissions in place to administer the medication and have clear instructions as to when to administer it.

Permissions need to be updated annually, therefore, we will alert you if we need any further information for this current year. May I remind you to keep the office informed of any changes in your child's medical needs and that all medication must be taken to the office rather than given to class teachers so that it can be handled & stored correctly – many thanks.

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Food Donations

The Community Church who collected our Harvest food donations for their food bank sent a lovely letter to the children which was read out to them at our Assembly today. Their letter said:

Dear Children,

On behalf of the "Food Share" Food Bank and the families we are currently helping; we want to thank you most sincerely for the wonderful donation of your Harvest gifts. At Harvest time, when we thank God for his provision for us; we're delighted you have collected this food for those who are in need of a little extra help and we know those who receive your gifts will really appreciate them.

We have been very busy at the Food Bank this year and have been able to deliver to lots of different families and individuals in Dorchester and the villages nearby. We have been able to continue to help everyone that is referred to us because of the support from the local community and donations like yours.

It was lovely to be invited to your school to collect the food and to meet some of the Teachers; we were overwhelmed by the array of tins and packets you had collected and every item you have given us will help to make a difference this winter.

Goulds Garden Centre Christmas colouring competition

Goulds Garden Centre is inviting school children to enter their Christmas colouring competition, they have a chance of winning a £100 gift card for their school & the overall winner will also receive a £25 gift card to spend on themselves.

There are three age groups 2-5yrs, 6-8yrs & 9-12yrs. As well as the grand winner, they will pick a winner from each age group who will receive a £20 Gift card each.

Attached to the email is their competition flyer & the colouring sheet. Entries should be dropped into Goulds Garden Centre or emailed to them at marketinggc@gouldsstores.co.uk by 11/12/2022 to be in for a chance of winning.

All the pictures will be put on display at their exit in store, they will put the finalists on their Facebook page for their customers to help pick the winners.

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Event	Date
	Fri 25 th Nov
'Bling your Bike' – children to decorate their bikes & bring them into school – some prizes available for the best decorations	
Mon 28 th Nov	Individual school photos being taken (plus photos with other siblings at St Mary's)
Mon 5 th Dec	Flu Immunisation
Mon 5 th Dec	Christmas Stories evening – details to follow
Mon 12 th Dec	Donations for fundraising for Children's Society CCPS (caps for cash) Children to wear something they have created, anything silly or unusual on their head to school for one day for a small donation to CCSP (Children's Society)
Mon 12 th Dec	PTA Christmas Shop where children can buy Christmas presents – details to follow
Mon 12 th Dec	Carol Service – details to follow
Wed 14 th Dec	EYFS Christmas production – Haycorns & Reception Class – parents invited 10-10.30am – more information to follow

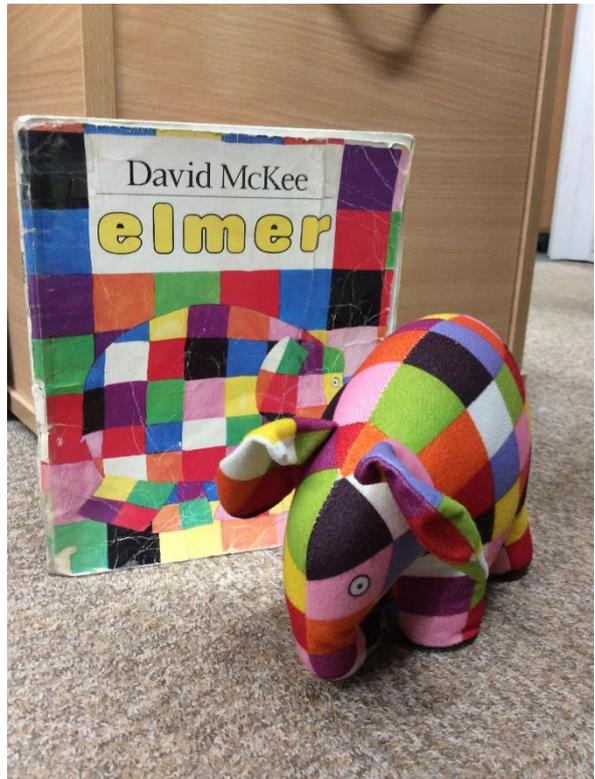
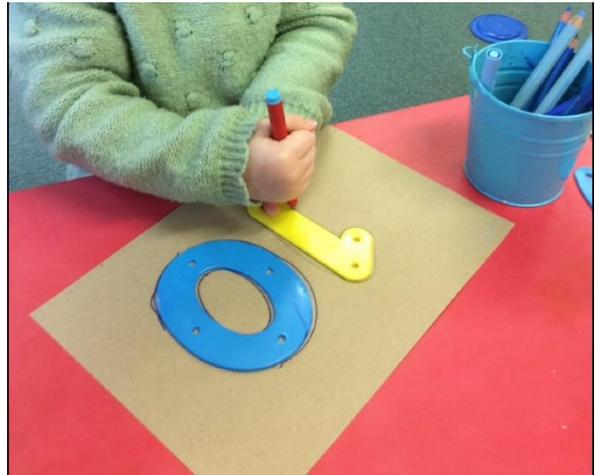


This week in Haycorns, the children made their own sandwiches, buttered the bread independently and filled them with cheese, cucumber or banana - the children were able to eat these sandwiches at snack time. Following on their theme of "including everyone" in their SEAL groups, they had lots of discussion about kind hands and words, and how we can help others. The children enjoyed listening to the story of Elmer by David Mckee, this also linked well with Anti-Bullying week.

The children's challenge this week was to look at numbers up to 10, which we do naturally throughout the day. Each day a child counts the children at circle time, and they have all spoken about their ages, finding different numbers and drawing around numerals at the craft table, we have also been encouraging the children to spot numbers out in the natural environment.



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This week's Kid's Corner comes from our Year 3 Class, letting us know what they have enjoyed learning & doing this week.

In science we are learning about food & diet

Alfie M

I really liked English because we were learning about poems

Ottie

I like RE because we've learnt some sayings of Jesus like "I am the light of the World"

Alfie S

I've liked doing art & DT because we are designing a Roman villa

Arthur

This week's 'a lot of laughs' from Ara:

Doctor, Doctor, I've lost my memory!

When was that?

When was what?



Have a good weekend.

P. Fearn

Paula Fearn
Headteacher