



St Mary's CE Primary Academy

Living, Learning and Growing Together

Newsletter 2

17th September 2021

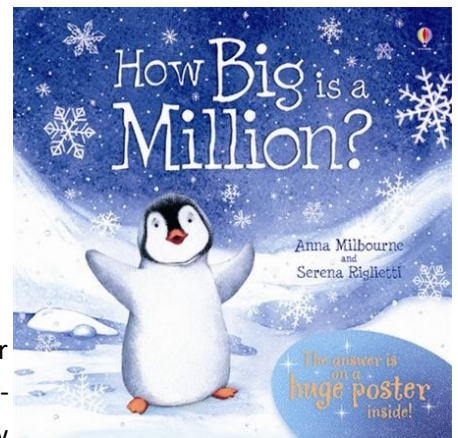
Dear Parents and Carers,

Children have continued to settle well into their routines this week and have embraced new learning with enthusiasm.

Within Orchard Class this week, children began learning about 'warning stories' which is the focus for this half term. Children also continued to learn about place value and Year 3 and 4 engaged in lots of practical tasks involving manipulatives to deepen their understanding of numbers. Year 5 and 6 explored numbers up to one million with some moving on to numbers up to ten million. Next week, we look forward to reading the book 'How big is a million?' with some children to support our thinking and understanding.

Pippin class have been learning about sculptures and the artist Antony Gormley this week. They have been using simple shapes to make sculptures of the human form. They modelled in different positions for each other and used pipe cleaners to represent each others' poses.

Miss Chestney would like to say a big well done to Pippin Class this week for their fantastic work in English. The children have been learning The Enormous Turnip, ready to innovate and invent their own stories in the next few weeks. The children thought of some great questions for Mr Turnip and he sent them a video answering the questions which the children enjoyed watching.



In Little Acorns this week, the children have continued to settle in well. They have enjoyed seeing their friends again, singing and dancing to nursery rhymes with Miss C and working with Mrs O'Mahony to join in with some Physical Activities and games.



KS2 Sports Club—Wednesday after school

Mr Jarad from Primary Sports is running a Multi Sports after-school programme this term for KS2 children after school on Wednesdays until 4.15pm. This is free of charge to parents and includes Multi Sports/Skills – The children will have the opportunity to take part in lots of games including dodgeball, netball and football among many others. The club will focus on skills such as Agility, Balance and Co-ordination, as well as elements of decision-making, teamwork and tactical awareness, but more importantly it will be based on FUN. Please let the office know if your child would like to take part!

Jeans for Genes

The children engaged with activities such as designing their own jeans and Miss Chestney led an assembly at the end of the day including a film featuring children who have been helped by the charity. In total £38.50 was raised—thank you for supporting Jeans for Genes!

RBA

Staff in Pippin Class will be shortly be starting the statutory Reception Baseline Assessments (RBA) next week, starting with the Communication, Language and Literacy part which will take approximately 10 minutes per child. If parents would like any further information regarding this assessment, please see: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1004560/2021_Information_for_parents_reception_baseline_assessment.pdf

COVID-19 Guidance

Government guidance has now been updated with regard to isolating if someone in your household has symptoms or a confirmed case of COVID-19. This now states that individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

they are fully vaccinated

they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months

they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial

they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.

If you wish to read the full guidance, please see the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance#summary>

Golden Apples

Congratulations to Lilly-May, Birdie and Eva who were awarded Golden Apples this week as part of our Positive Relationships and Behaviour code in school.

PFA AGM

A reminder that the PFA will be holding their AGM on Wednesday 22nd September in the Community Room at Thorncombe Village Hall at 2pm. All parents are warmly invited to attend, as well as other family members who would like to be involved in supporting our school and providing additional resources and events for our children. Thank you!



Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Kind Regards,

Miss Smith and the team at St Mary's.