



# St Mary's Primary School

Newsletter 5

9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Hello Yellow

As it is World Mental Health Day today, we have all been wearing yellow today to raise awareness of our mental health and well-being. We are so impressed with the effort and participation all the children have put in today.



We believe it is such an important matter, especially considering the circumstances over the last 6 months.

We have had some really great discussions about our mental health and well-being. We have explored what mental health is, the importance of good mental health and what we can do if we need support. The money raised from today will be going to Young Minds UK, which is a great charity solely focused on young people's mental health. Thank you for supporting this.



In Pippin class this week we have been continuing our English work by developing our own shared story. Reception have been having guided sessions where they have been verbally discussing the book, and Year 1 and 2 have been recording their work in their books. The quality of learning in the classroom has been fantastic, and that is down to the children's active participation this week. As a cross curricular focus, we have created our own caves for our own animal to hunt. We have seen homes for penguins, cheetahs, unicorns and even leopards. A lesson that really impressed Miss Chestney this week was when we looked at where our United Kingdom was located on a world map. All children left the lesson knowing where the UK was on a globe and we transferred our skills by locating the United Kingdom on a flat map of the world. They were then able to identify where we were on a map of the UK, and we even identified some key cities too.

In their Art lessons this week, Orchard class have been practising their oil pastel techniques. Some really impressive results were achieved and the children will use these techniques to complete some insect portraits in coming weeks. We look forward to sharing these with you soon. Orchard Class have continued to explore different versions of Little Red Riding Hood and have been focusing on setting. Children are looking forward to writing their own 'warning' tales over the next few weeks.



**Assessments**

Some children have today completed a screening process to assess any potential barriers to learning. Please be reassured that should the results show any potential issues, we will be in touch with parents to discuss next steps.

**Virtual Parents Evening**

We will be holding virtual parents' evenings next week. You can book a slot with your child's teacher from the options below by selecting the day and time slot that best suits you and contacting the office by phone or email with your preference. Your child's teacher will then call you during that time for a 5-10 minute conversation about your child's progress. If you are unavailable to speak to teachers during these times, please let us know and we will endeavour to arrange an alternative slot, but if you could make every effort to be available during these times, it would be much appreciated.

<b>Pippin Class</b> Miss Chestney	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30-4.30pm	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30-4.30pm
		4.30-5.30pm		4.30-5.30pm
<b>Orchard Class</b> Miss Smith and Mrs Gripper	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30-4.30pm	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30-4.30pm
		4.30-5.30pm		4.30-5.30pm

**Punctuality**

We are keen to make the very most of all the learning time in school especially under the circumstances at present. Therefore, please can I ask everyone to make every effort to arrive on time each morning in school so that children can have a calm start to the day and are ready to learn. We appreciate that difficulties do sometimes arise but we would value your support with this. If you would like to discuss any issues, please do contact me via the office or email [headofschool@stmarysthorncombe.co.uk](mailto:headofschool@stmarysthorncombe.co.uk)

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,  
Miss Smith