



St Mary's CE Primary Academy

Living, Learning and Growing Together

16th July 2021

Newsletter 37

Dear Parents and Carers,

After the excitement of the last few weeks, it has been a fairly calm and quiet week in school. Today, we have sent home the children's reports for you to read. We hope you enjoy celebrating their achievements and the progress they have made throughout this challenging year. If you have any questions about the report, please do not hesitate to contact the school to make an appointment to discuss its content with your child's class teacher.

Children in Orchard have been focusing heavily on their Historical theme of 'The Romans' this week and have enjoyed finding out all about Roman Entertainment through looking at sources from the past. A highlight was the opportunity to write and perform playscripts based upon this after looking at an example together. Next week, the children are looking forward to creating mosaics and undertaking some tasks based on Roman architecture as part of their activities to round off the end of term.

Year 3 children will be joining Orchard Class for a morning session next week as part of their transition to Key Stage 2 in September and we look forward to involving them in a Scavenger hunt with a Roman theme.

In Pippin Class, Reception have been consolidating subtraction this week in their maths lessons. They used a variety of materials and tens frames to solve their own "first, then, now" problems. In music, they have been using percussion instruments to create patterns of sound and then using these new skills to compose their own piece of music.

Request from Miss Chestney: Please could parents of children in Pippin class bring all their home reading books into school on Monday.



We are currently advertising places for September in our new nursery provision, Little Acorns. If you know anyone looking for a nursery place, please tell them about us! We have published a poster on the school website as well as our Facebook and Instagram pages—please do share this on social media if you are able to. Thank you!

IMPORTANT: ParentPay—parent letters, booking school meals and Breakfast/After School Club

All parents should now have received an email from ParentPay containing details of how to activate their ParentPay account. From September, we will be using ParentPay as a platform for you to order school lunches, book and pay for Breakfast and After School Club and school trips, as well as receive parent communications and letters—including newsletters! This will bring us alongside other schools in the MAT, all of whom already use ParentPay and find it convenient, reliable and easy to use.

Lunches will be provided from September by the Acorn MAT's in-house kitchen in Axminster and will cost £2.50 per meal (unless your child is in Key Stage One or you are in receipt of free school meals). Lunches must be ordered **14 days in advance online**. If you need to make changes to your orders or cancel them within the 2 week period, or order them at short notice (please only do this if unavoidable), you can contact the school office who can do this for you manually. However, please could we ask that you do get on to the system in good time to order your child's lunches ready for September to avoid a last-minute panic!

To book school lunches or wrap-around care, **please see the how-to guide** which has been published alongside this newsletter.

If you have any questions, or did not receive your ParentPay activation email, please let the office know as soon as possible so that Mrs Aspinall can get you up and running. Thank you!

Action Van

The Action Van will be visiting Thorncombe Village Hall during the summer holidays. Sessions are from 10am -12 noon on the following Wednesday mornings: 4th August, 11th August, 18th August, 25th August. Children of 6 years or over are eligible to join in and are fully funded this year, so sessions are free of charge to parents. Please call Vivienne on 0146030205 to book your children in. Forms are available at No 1 Tansee Hill.

Festival of Sport

You may wish to register with this online initiative to give you some extra activities to help keep your children busy and active over the summer holidays!

#GetUpGetActive by creating your own activity for The Festival of Sport. Inspired by Team GB's involvement at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, the weekend of 14/15 August will be a celebration of activity. To register and potentially receive an exclusive mystery pack, just visit:

<https://www.iamteamgb.com/get-involved> and choose 'Create Your Own Activity'. Hurry as the limited-edition packs are only available if you register by Sunday 18 July (or before if all the packs are snapped up).

Golden Apples

Congratulations to Norah and Henry who were awarded Golden Apples this week as part of our Positive Relationships and Behaviour code in school.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Kind Regards

Miss Smith and the team at St Mary's.

