



NEWSLETTER
February 2019
SUNDAY 17th FEBRUARY- 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Safeguarding Statement: This school takes notice of and adheres to all the national and local policies and guidance in regard to Safeguarding Children and Young People.

Lead Safeguarding Person Junior School: Mrs. G Owens and **Nursery & Infant School:** Mrs. M Quinn.

Safeguarding Deputy: Mrs. S Hulme **Safeguarding Governor:** Mr. T Richmond

Although the sharing of photographs with family and friends is a great thing to do, please be reminded of the schools safeguarding procedures and refrain from taking pictures at school events. Thank you for your support regarding this as we all need to work together to look after our pupils.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, best wishes to one and all for a pleasant half term next week, hoping that you may get a lie in and some relaxation time together.

This week has seen much activity-the Infant School Choir were performing at St Andrews Church in Cheam, which was a lovely moment for the school and families to be very proud of.

Another proud moment was year 6 Top of the Form Team winning a place in the next round of the completion. We hope their success continues.

Thank you to everyone staff, pupils and parents for working together in PAR meetings this week. This is a busy time and one when involving the children is really most useful and encourages them to take responsibility for their own learning. We have had much positive feedback about the reviewed format.

Please be reminded that all children need to be supervised by parents within all of the school grounds, adhering to signage and that walking through the grounds of St Philomena's high school, directly around their building is not permitted.



Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Development

Infants

This half term Reception classes spent time with Mrs. Norbury to explore the Our Father, using props and actions to help understand some of the old-fashioned language.

Once again, we welcomed Sutton Schoolwork into our assembly to retell the story of Zacchaeus. Year 1 went to Mass at Holy Cross, thank you to all the parents who joined us.

Juniors

In this half term's chaplaincy session, Year 4 explored our life's journey. Holding stones we reflected on our own journeys - how sometimes life feels like plain sailing whilst, at other times, it feels like we are in stormy waters - and how Jesus is always with us.

Chaplaincy Team members have been generously giving of their free time to open the Chapel at lunchtime on the days when Mrs. Norbury is not in school. As a result, many pupils have been able to spend time in quiet prayer and reflection.

A group of Faith in Action pupils met recently with Mary Harvey, from Southward Catholic Youth Service and shared with her their thoughts and journals. Mary was very impressed with both the amount of action and the depth of reflection she saw.



Table Talk

Table Talk suggests a topic of conversation for your family to discuss at a mealtime together. Some of these topics might take even longer. Topic for this week - **Would you rather live in a democracy or a dictatorship where Father Christmas is the dictator?**

NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

News from Nursery

Ladybird Class have had such an exciting time this half term with our "Fairy tales" topic. We have enjoyed listening to and re-telling a selection of fairy tales. We planted a magic bean and watched it starting to grow. We worked together and explored different materials to build houses for our toys in the Nursery. Inspired by the story of "The Gingerbread Man" we made our own gingerbread men out of playdough. Just like in the story, our Gingerbread Man escaped from the Nursery. Thank you for all your continued support during this half term.

News from Reception

Our children have had a super time during our topic 'Dinosaurs'. We had a visit from, Tina the T-Rex' and had a dinosaur party linked to our topic 'Celebrating' in RE and made salt dough fossils. This half term the children took part in a mindfulness session and a virtual PE competition with the results being submitted with 8 other schools in the borough, we are looking forward to hearing the round 2 results. During 'Mathuary' the children have learnt how to use a bar model to add and subtract single digit number as well as solve problems. During our daily math's meetings, we practised singing the days of the week song and months of the year as well as explain, prove and show how we got to the answer in a variety of concepts. Our new topic is called 'Fairytale' we will be using traditional tales such as Jack and the Beanstalk and The Gingerbread Man to support our learning in Literacy. In math's we will focus on concepts for shape, space and measure such as 3D shape, length and height.

News from Year 1

We started our topic "Bright Lights, Big City" with a virtual bus tour of London with Paddington Bear. We enjoyed writing stories using our texts with Paddington Bear and adventures around London with Katie. We have worked on our word problems during MATHUARY and welcomed our parents into the classroom for workshops.



For our RE topic on special people, we went to Mass at Holy Cross Church and spoke to some of the people in the parish who have special jobs. We then had a visit from Deacon Paul who talked about his special role in the church.

We ended our topic with a visit from a London taxi. Many thanks to Chris Malik for taking the time to talk to the children about driving around London and for letting the children enjoy "a ride" in the taxi.



News from Year 2

We have enjoyed singing and dancing our way through the topic "Beat, Band, Boogie". We began our topic by making our own instruments, which we used to play music along with songs from the film "Sing". The children worked hard at home prior to this topic by researching about an artist and creating amazing posters!

This term has been a busy and fun term. In English, we focused on the book "Giraffes can't dance". The children showed their creativity by changing the ending of the story and creating their own newspaper report. As a contrasting genre, we researched facts about giraffes, which the children found very interesting. We watched real life footage of giraffes and learnt a wide range of facts. From this, the children produced a non-chronological report.

In Math's we have been focusing on multiplication, division and money. To link with our English and learning of habitats in Science, we used toy animals to introduce our times tables and sharing. We have been using an array and bar model to help solve worded problems.

Year 2 finished this fun topic with a performance. Each class learnt and performed a song to celebrate "Beat, Band, Boogie"

Congratulations to these pupils:

Star of the week - week ending 15th February - Bee Class - Brody W, Elephant Class - Cerys M, Penguin Class - Amelia L, Reindeer Class - Thomas T, Giraffe Class - Elliot C, Cheetah Class - Jack Y, Meerkat Class - Amran S, Horse Class - Amarchi, Owl Class - Amelia C Well done!



JUNIOR SCHOOL

News from Year 3

2,4,6,8 what do we appreciate? MATHUARY! We have been swallowed up by maths this term. Graphs in science, tally charts in geography you name it we have tried to learn it! Most recently, we have been spending money, and thinking about value and change - so get us to help you with the food shop.

We have also been writing our own myths, thinking about our descriptive language to entertain the reader. Ask us to make a simile or metaphor about you. Mrs. Richardson is awesome like a unicorn, Mr. Pratsis is a God and Miss de Valmency is clever as a whip!

Our trip to Carshalton High Street developed our geographical skills; we were surprised by the amount of commercial land use. On your next trip to Carshalton, see if you can note the different land uses.

News from Year 4

It has been 'food for thought' in Year 4 this half term... 'Fortunately the Milk' sent us on our first adventure as we followed 'Dad's' crazy journey into strange lands, while he strived to bring the milk home. We imagined ourselves as all sorts of characters as we wrote impressive formal and informal letters, not to mention a diary entry, recounting all the weird and wonderful events from Neil Gaiman's inspiring book.

Exploring the journey of our food through the digestive system in Science was brought alive with a loaf of bread, orange juice, water and a pair of tights! This realistic demonstration of the intestines allowed us to see how the body takes what it needs and dispels of the rest... not for the faint-hearted but great fun!

We looked forward to DT day when we made our healthy pasta and couscous salads, bringing together ingredients and flavours that we have tasted and approved. We even came up with a name and packaging design for our salads on the day, aimed at our target market. We hope you enjoyed tasting them at home!

It has been rewarding to have welcomed parents into the school these past few weeks to share our learning in Math's and RE.

Our Math's workshops were an opportunity to show how comfortable we have become with visual props and methods to help us solve multiplication and division problems.

Meanwhile, finishing our RE topic of 'Community' with a child-led service gave us the chance to share our thoughts and reflections on being part of a wider family.

Thank you for joining us on our journey.

News from Year 5

Year 5 settled in quickly and have shown maturity and renewed focus to their work after the Christmas break. Our main focus in English has been persuasive writing, looking at the work of Anthony Horowitz. The children had to imagine they were spies and create their own spy gadget, which they created a persuasive poster for!

As part of our focus during Mathuary, the children have been using the bar model method as a way to visualise number stories. It is great to see children understanding concepts at greater depth. The children have enjoyed basketball in PE and in computing which has been linked with Art we have looked at the work of Bridget Riley and tessellations. Please take a look at some of our tessellations created using Inkscape software during our Computing lessons.

In PSHE we have thinking about keeping safe. We had a visit from the NSPCC and Steve Welding delivered an E safety talk was insightful and hopefully the children have spoken to you about it. Finally, the children were fortunate enough to watch the performance of "Beauty and the Beast" at St Philomena's to round off the half term.

News from Year 6

8, 6, 4, 2...we love Mathuary too! We have been enjoying our whole school approach to focusing on math's throughout January and this will continue this into February. Each morning we have been immersing ourselves in math's problems to solve as we unpack and get ourselves ready for the day. We have been lucky enough to have some parents join us in class for some bar modelling workshops; parents have been suitably challenged as they have been working through problems alongside their children.

We have also been learning about the Holocaust through our PSHE, RE and English learning this half term as it was Holocaust Memorial Day. The day centered around the theme 'Torn from Home.' Together, in groups, we wrote and read emotive poetry from different people's perspectives who were affected by the tragic effects. Through our learning, we discussed and understood that the Holocaust was a major event in history, and as devastating as it was, should never be forgotten. Thank you for all the parents and carers that came to support our memorial service where we remembered all the people that lost their lives through genocide and we hope and pray that we can all work towards a better future for all in our world.

We have been intrigued by our latest core text of 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman in our English lessons. We have been exploring the varied characters and using the unusual occurrences in the look to write for an array of purposes. Ask us about who we think the mysterious character Dr Kalmenius be....?

Music -

KS1 Big Sing - On Thursday 14th February some of the Year 2 Choir performed at Sutton Music Service KS1 Big Sing 'Adventures under the sea' at St. Andrew's Church, North Cheam. The concert featured a massed choir from 4 schools singing songs like the 'Yellow Submarine' to 'How far I'll go' from Moana. Thanks to all the choir for your participation and for parents for supporting this event.

Mrs. N. Roberts

Awards & Achievements

St Mary's Awards - Spring 1

3 Mulberry - Faye S **3 Willow** - Gethin T **3 Hawthorn** - Stella Z
4 Ash - Emily P **4 Poplar** - Demelza M **4 Rowan** - Viviana C
5 Birch - Bobby B **5 Elm** - Caitlin T **5 Sycamore** - Bailey Boyd
6 Chestnut - Molly F **6 Copper Beech** - Eleanor M **6 Oak** - Olivia C

Congratulations and well done to all!

Top of the Form

On Thursday 14th February, St Mary's got through to the quarterfinals of the Sutton Rotary's Top of the Form quiz competition. Our tough oppositions were Kingswood Primary School. The fantastic quiz team consists of: Orla, Gabriel, Tom, George and Harriet in year 6. It was a tense game but St. Mary's were leading in every round! The children certainly did St. Mary's proud and were fantastic representatives of our school. Some of the questions were extremely puzzling, the adults watching were on the edge of their seats as the team powered through answering the most bizarre questions with such confidence! We even took Mary Bear as a mascot along for extra support as well as our supporting adults! We look forwards to our quarterfinal round against Dorchester Primary School.

PSHE
Association

 stars
2018 Gold level accreditation

PSHE

At the Infant School, we have been learning about our health and well-being. The children have taken part in several lessons that helped them to learn ways to stay healthy such as meditation, healthy eating and physical exercise. Towards the end of the term, we moved onto learning about ways to stay safe in and outside of school. We had an assembly delivered by Sutton Police who discussed and modelled top tips to stay safe outside of school. It is important for children to see Police as a friendly and approachable member of our community who is there to help us.

E-Safety - <https://parentzone.org.uk/parents>



Need some more support in keeping your child safe online? Have a look at ParentZone which is designed to help parents facing challenges in this digital age.

Here are some great E-Safety links -

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<http://www.thinkyouknow.co.uk/>

<http://www.internetmatters.org/>

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/>

<http://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.common sense media.org/>

Red Nose Day - 12th March

Children can wear one purchased accessory with their normal uniform

BOTCHA AWARDS

The BOTCHA Awards were very successful, with dozens of awards being given out and the children very much enjoying themselves.