

# ST MARY'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

## NEWSLETTER – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021

### SCHOOL NEWS

This half term seems to have flown by quickly and the children have been completing some assessments this week to demonstrate the progress they have made so far this year. Everyone is now ready for a restful break!

We would like to wish Miss Iga and her fiancé our congratulations and best wishes for a very happy wedding day as they are getting married this weekend. We hope they have a lovely time and enjoy their special celebrations with friends and family.

Mrs Townsend will be taking a break from St Mary's after half term as she prepares for maternity leave and the arrival of her new baby. We will be welcoming Miss Begum to school as she takes over the role of PPA and interventions teacher during Mrs Townsend's absence.

### COVID CASES

There have only been a few covid cases amongst the pupils over the last month, but unfortunately we had to make the decision to close the Y3 class for two days this week, after a rapid rise in cases within a short space of time. Hopefully, everyone affected by the closure will return fit and well after half term. Please continue to watch for any symptoms in your children over the next week. If they start with symptoms, please either book a PCR test for confirmation, isolating whilst waiting for the result, or isolate your child for ten days from the onset of symptoms. Luckily, results are being returned quickly at this stage so you shouldn't have to wait long for a result.

### ART COMPETITION

We have had some beautiful art work created for our art competition and the winners are revealed below! These pupils really tried to spread the message about looking after creation within their artwork which will be displayed in school. Each winner will receive a prize for their hard work. Well done and congratulations to:

Nursery – Eddie Johnson

Year 1 – Becky Alves Okafor

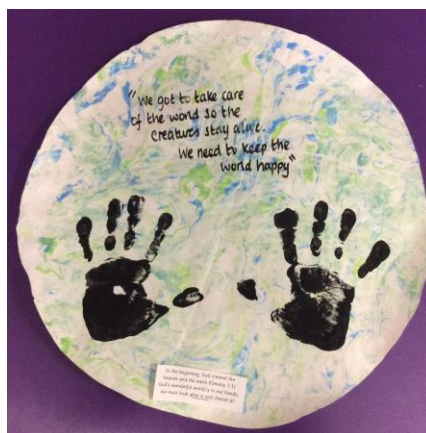
Year 4 – Junior Ticehurst

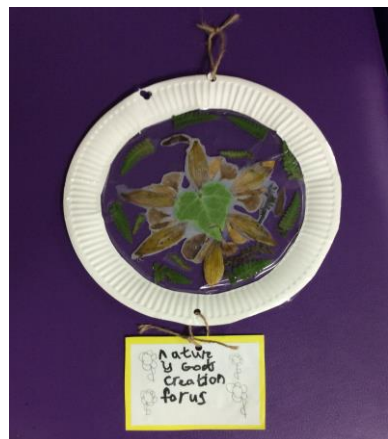
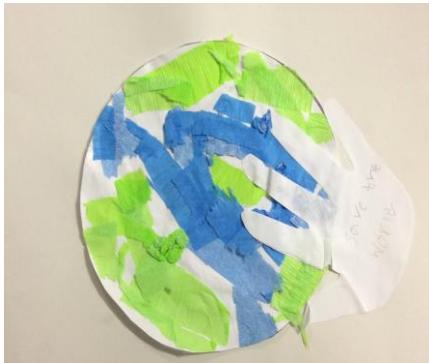
Year 6 – Alexis Murfitt

Reception – Lucas Hanson

Year 3 – Bailey-Rae Edge

Year 5 – Dylan Milner-O'Hare





## RECEPTION NEWS

Reception had a fantastic day last Friday exploring the school forest area as part of their learning around the theme of Autumn. Whilst up there, the children collected autumn treasures, made dens, played hide and seek and learnt about different elements of the nature. Reception will continue to visit the forest fortnightly after half-term for Forest Fridays as part of our new 'Forest Schools' learning to complete various projects in the great outdoors, we are very excited!

## MULTI-FAITH WEEK

When we return after half-term, we will be having a Multi-Faith Week in school. As we are focusing on developing a love of books and reading for pleasure here at St Mary's, each class will be learning about special people, characters, books and stories from a particular religion. Children will take part in some fun and interesting activities based on different religions including Buddhism, Sikhism, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism.

## **MENTAL HEALTH CHAMPIONS**

This week we appointed Mental Health Champions from Year 5 – Millie Thomas, Alfie Kendall and Josef Fielding. All three children attended training at the Valley Leadership Academy hosted by an Athlete Mentor, from the Sports Trust, called Neil Denz. Denz is an ex European and World Champion in skateboarding and dance, and through his expertise Millie, Alfie and Josef have become equipped with the knowledge of how to develop mental health strategies here at school.

Mental health and well-being has always been a priority at St Mary's and we are eager to develop this further. Our Mental Health Champions have a crucial role in supporting our pupils to raise awareness of mental health and the stigma attached to it as well as teaching others about coping strategies and introducing habit and lifestyle changes in order keep ourselves mentally healthy. Quote of the day from Denz: "Small daily habits lead to long term growth."





Watch for further information soon about our Y6 prefects and their new roles, our librarians, Eco-Warriors, Sports Leaders and School Council members!

## **ORIENTEERING OVER HALF TERM**

Pendle Forest Orienteers have teamed up with the Valley Leadership Academy and Rawtenstall Market to put on a number of free events over half term. From Saturday 23rd until Monday 1st November there will be three Halloween Trails around Rawtenstall all starting and finishing from Rawtenstall Market. Please see attached information regarding these activities and how to get involved in orienteering.

## **OCTOBER HALF TERM**

School closes for October half-term today, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 at 3.20 pm. Our After School Club, Busy Kids, will be available until 5.15 pm on this day. We hope you have a fun and enjoyable half-term and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

<p><b>WEEKLY AWARDS</b></p> <p><b>STAR OF THE WEEK</b></p> <p>Nursery – Lewis Halstead  Reception – Amelia Gritt  Year 1 – Harvey Openshaw  Year 2 – Theo Haselden  Year 3 – Eva Johnson  Year 4 – Evelyn Diggin  Year 5 – Josef Fielding-Murray  Year 6J - Dylan Lord  Year 6K - Aiden Thomas</p>																	
<p><b>ATTENDANCE</b></p> <p>Here are our attendance figures for this week. The winning class will receive £10 for class treats.</p> <table data-bbox="150 748 718 1055"> <tr> <td>Reception</td> <td>89.0 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 1</td> <td>87.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 2</td> <td>89.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 3</td> <td>72.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 4</td> <td>93.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 5</td> <td>94.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 6J (Mrs Jackson)</td> <td>87.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Year 6K (Mrs Knowles)</b></td> <td><b>96.3% (Winner)</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Weekly Overall School Attendance is 88.9%</b></p>	Reception	89.0 %	Year 1	87.5%	Year 2	89.4%	Year 3	72.5%	Year 4	93.2%	Year 5	94.8%	Year 6J (Mrs Jackson)	87.7%	<b>Year 6K (Mrs Knowles)</b>	<b>96.3% (Winner)</b>	
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<p><b>BIBLE QUOTE OF THE WEEK</b></p> <p>We have been thinking about how we can serve others through being humble, kind and helpful.</p> <p><i>"Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others."</i></p> <p>Philippians 2:4</p>																	