NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM
WEEK 7

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ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

OUR VISION: GOOD GROUND GROWS WELL

Click here for upcoming dates or check your Class Dojo events

UPDATE FROM MRS HALE

What a busy and brilliant first half-term we have had at St Mary's! From getting out into our local community to celebrating inspiring individuals during Black History Month, the children have been learning, growing and putting our school values into action in so many ways. As part of our work around Black History Month, our youngest children discovered Frank Bailey, a pioneering Black firefighter, while KS1 learned about Floella Benjamin and her work in children's television and championing children's rights. KS2 explored the life of Walter Tull, who broke barriers as a professional footballer and British Army officer. Their stories sparked thoughtful conversations about fairness and courage as well as our school values of Perseverance and Respect.

We have also been showing our values of Love and Service in our local community through litter picking and visiting the Norwood Green care home. Our regular parent workshops have continued to help families support children's learning at home, and we have recently completed our Ofsted inspection. A huge thank you to all our parents and carers for your support throughout this process. We look forward to sharing the report with you in the coming weeks.

We are so proud of all the children have achieved this half-term, both in their learning and in the kindness they show to others.

We hope all our families enjoy a well-deserved half-term break, with time to relax, recharge and make some lovely memories together!

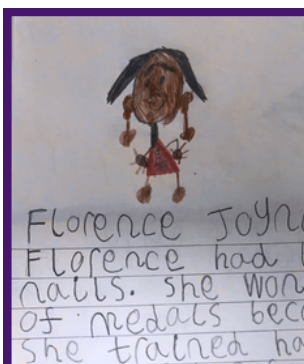
Mrs Hale

Nursery learn about Frank Bailey



Survey

We are looking to understand more about what our families value most about St Mary's. Please click on or scan the QR code to let us know your thoughts. Thank you for your support!



Year 1 writing for Black History Month

Thank you so much for giving to our school community!

amazon wishlist

ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS!

1	Chestnut	97%
2	Grey Willow	95%
3	Elm	95%

How we have grown this week!



Sapling

Saplings explored Five Little Ducks and shared what makes them special. In maths, they created patterns, practised counting and compared groups. In RE, they discussed their wider community.

Ash

This week, Ash Class had lots of fun building towers and exploring different ways to measure in maths. In literacy, the children loved bringing our story to life by pretending to be teachers! We are delighted to see their confidence growing as they recognise initial sounds and begin blending CVC words in phonics.

Beech

Beech Class learned about Florence Joyner and wrote descriptive sentences using similes and alliteration. They explored the e_e sound in phonics and began learning about addition and fact families.

Chestnut

Chestnut Class explored Floella Benjamin's life and her book Coming to England for Black History Month. They began learning addition in maths and improved their teddy chairs in DT.

Damson

Damson had a fantastic day celebrating Stone Age Day! We created Stone Age models and jewellery, made our own cave paintings and had a go at knapping stone to create spearheads. During Guided Reading, we also enjoyed finishing our class book, Planet Omar.

Elm

We have been learning what area is, counting with square and making shapes. We wrote our balanced argument on whether 'Should school uniform should be compulsory?' We analysed the data we collected in the forest.

Field Maple

This week we finished writing our own narrative poem in the style of the Highwayman. In Science, we explored what gravity is and if the weight or mass of an object affects the rate at which it falls. In RE, we discussed how the daily life of a Christian reflects prayer and pilgrimage.

Grey Willow

Grey Willow Class explored America in Geography and completed persuasive speeches in English. For Black History Month, they researched Walter Tull and celebrated his inspiring achievements as a pioneering footballer.

Thought for the week

> Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' *Matthew 22:37–39*

In this Bible passage, Jesus reminds us that love is at the heart of everything we do. Loving God means showing kindness, gratitude and care in our everyday lives. Loving our neighbour means treating others with the same respect, patience and understanding that we would want for ourselves.

At Holy Trinity, we encourage our children to put these words into action through the little things they do each day. Whether it is helping a friend who is struggling, including someone in a game, offering a kind word or showing forgiveness, every act of love makes a difference.

As we enjoy our half-term break, let us remember that love is not just something we say, but something we show through our actions. When we care for one another, we help our families, school and wider community to grow and flourish.

Something to pray

Dear Lord,

Thank you for teaching us the importance of love.
Help us to love you with all our hearts, minds and souls, and to show that love through our words and actions.
Guide us to be kind, patient and thoughtful towards others, treating everyone with the care and respect we would wish for ourselves.
During this half term, help us to spread happiness, offer friendship and show love to those around us.
May our school community continue to be a place where everyone feels valued, loved and able to flourish.

Amen