



# St Mary's CE (A) Primary School

## News Review – Summer Term (2) 2021

*Living, Loving, Learning in God's Care*



Website: [www.st-marys-mucklestone.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys-mucklestone.staffs.sch.uk)

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### A busy half term...

Wow, what a busy half term it has been! The staff and children have been on a mission to focus each morning and work hard during English, Maths and Science lessons and then enjoy more creative and sporting afternoons. Everyone has succeeded in this challenge and I wanted to say a massive thank you to all of the staff for their hard work and continued dedication to the children as well as a huge well done to each and every child at St Mary's, who has been amazing in their attitude to learning and perseverance - I am so proud of you all. Thank you once again to the Governors for their determination and continual support in striving to make St Mary's a fantastic school.

Below is just a flavour of the what we have been up to!!!

### Sports Day

The Green Team enjoyed victory on sports day. However, all of the children enjoyed the beach themed obstacle races, egg and spoon and running races.

Premieractive also attended and organised team games when children were not involved in races. Dodgeball was the favourite game of the day!!! Sports carousel activities carried on into the afternoon. The long distance race and relay were a challenge but our sporty pupils stepped up and took it in their stride.

We missed our friends and families but we are looking forward to welcoming visitors next academic year to share our events and celebrations once again.



### Fitness Friday

Again, Premieractive visited school to lead our 'Fitness Friday' sessions. The children really enjoyed the range of team and individual sports they could experience, to beat personal bests and compete against each other. Archery was a real winner.

Due to the excellent quality of the sports provision and enjoyment for the pupils, we have booked six, 'Fitness Friday' sessions next academic year. Each half term pupils will experience a range of sports for a full day. We also look forward to them running a sporting club for the Autumn term after school. Ultimate Frisbee and Archery have been chosen following requests from the children.

As P.E. lead, Mr Cohen has been working on a local school sports competition. We will be inviting small local schools to join us for after school sporting events, in a mini league during the Autumn term. Watch out for more details.

### Forest School

Emma Lowe visited school and led the most wonderful forest school days. Almost all pupils said it was one of their favourite enrichment days. Children sat and chatted in hammocks, made clay art, created nature crowns and bird feeders, climbed trees, built dens and best of all toasted marshmallows and popcorn (and that was just the staff)! It was so much fun and the children gained so much from the risk taking, challenge, team building and decision making. We hope to offer more forest school opportunities next year. The staff will also be undertaking a twilight forest school training session – to enable teachers to lead some forest school type activities in site.

### Picnics

Most pupils have enjoyed the themed lunch days but most of all, eating outside. We have enjoyed a few picnics this term and the weather has been so kind to us. These are the memories the children often speak about and take with them. An additional thanks to Mrs Needham, our cook, who has worked hard to produce great meals and been flexible when we have made our requests to continue to stay safe within our bubbles at lunchtime but to make them as much fun as possible.

### Music Concert 'New Beginnings'

We were really disappointed to cancel our 'New Beginnings' music concert last week. The children put in so much hard work and rehearsal time. We have rescheduled the music concert for Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30 am. More details will follow. We hope to incorporate some aspects of our leavers as this was such an important part of our celebration.



### Science week

A fun but educational week exploring everything space. The children had fun but also acquired much new knowledge, skills and understanding within this aspect of science. The purposeful, practical and investigative activities stay with the children and they have asked if we can repeat this again in the next school year. We will certainly enjoy more themed days/weeks to enable children to delve deeper into subjects.

### Camp night

I think if Miss Rhodes and I were honest, we approached this event for our fabulous Year 6 with much apprehension and trepidation. However, the night was a massive success! We hope we made happy memories playing rounders, having a significant sized fire pit (Mrs Hill had one hand on the bucket of water most of the evening) making chocolate, gooey snacks, playing hide and seek in the dark – both inside and outside and sleeping under canvas in our beautiful school grounds. After 3 hours sleep, the Year 6 pupils pushed through the next school day and Miss Rhodes looked rather pale at 3.30pm after a long day. That said, we had an absolutely fantastic time, it was such a special evening -spending quality time with Year 6 and if any staff are brave enough- a definite event in the diary for years to come!



### Norton Park

A park, an empty cricket pitch, a goal post and a picnic. What more could Year 6 want? An event that cost very little but gave so much in return. Due to the restrictions, Year 6 missed out on many of our usual end of school activities and events. The children did not complain and although disappointed made the most of the things we could do. They were so well behaved, a credit to their parents and enjoyed the trip away from school (when everyone else was working hard in lessons) – which was the best part and a Year 6 privilege.

### Whole class violins

Class 2 have been able to enjoy a weekly, whole class violin session funded by Entrust Music. They have made super progress and shown lots of natural talent to play this string instrument. It is a real treat to hear them play as a whole class. We hope to continue for a few more weeks, to allow the pupils to complete their current performance unit. You will all be able to enjoy their performance in the 'New Beginnings' music concert in September. We will also be celebrating the 'Beam Music Awards' in our virtual celebration today - organised by Martin Jones to recognise and reward our amazing musical children.

### Teddy Bears' Picnic

If you go down in the woods today ..... Class 1 had a great teddy bears' picnic with Mrs Travers and Mrs Felix, to mark their final week together in school. Miss Redfern came along to spend time with the children too. Class 1 were so excited all day and really enjoyed the circle games. However, the best part was throwing teddy into the air on the field and watching a sea of toys rain down – to much squealing and amusement.

### Goodbye and Good Luck

It just leaves me to say 'goodbye and all the best' to our staff and pupil leavers. You may not be with us in September but you will always be part of our school.

I wish you all a very happy and healthy summer holiday. Cherish the family time and recharge your batteries ready to start again in September, with a new and exciting term of teaching and learning.

Very best wishes to you all.

Mrs Hill.