

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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www.stmaryscatholicprimary.northants.sch.uk



Dear Parents and children,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. I do hope you all had a lovely Bank Holiday weekend. This week I have been liaising with you following our Prime Minister's statement on Sunday 10th May. Mr Johnson said that as part of Step Two, which would happen at the earliest from June 1st, primary pupils **may return** in stages starting with Reception, Year One and Year Six pupils. His statement was heavily caveated and conditional. During this week, further guidance has been released. We are in the process of examining this information and comparing it to action planning already made to ensure that any agreed wider-opening is as safe as we can make it for children and staff. A related Gov.UK guidance document for parents can be viewed by [clicking here](#). My thanks to you for your patience as I work towards a solution for staff, children and their families to return to school safely. Once risk assessments and procedures are complete the directors of our Trust will examine these to ensure compliance for a safe return. Whilst we are planning for this, until we have final confirmation from the directors and the Government, we cannot be certain a return at this time will take place. We will keep you informed as updates arise.

Take care and keep in touch

Warmest Regards

Mrs K Yuen

Home Learning Week 7 activities

Next week's focus is on the Food. On the Learning plan you will see a range of activities to promote thinking, including where different foods originate from, what makes a healthy meal, opportunities to cook etc...



Remember BBC Bitesize Lessons

Many parents are now making thorough use of the BBC Bitesize lessons for a 'daily input' also – please do explore these. Each day there are 3 lessons tailored to your child's age.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

Ways to keep in touch and receive information

Important Notice

Please remember to download the School Gateway APP. This is our main way of communicating with you

Schoolgateway



Email us on:

admin@stmaryscatholicprimary.northants.sch.uk

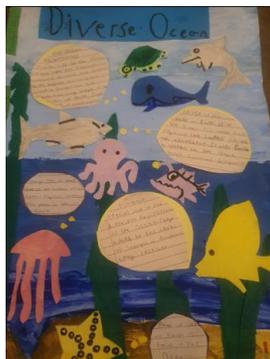
Send Your Good News

Stories to:

admin@stmaryscatholicprimary.northants.sch.uk

We would love to hear from you and possibly a photo too so we can put it in future editions.

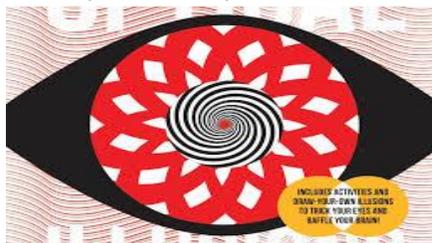
News From the community



Science Competition Winner

Congratulations to Alex Dagg- Marks for this brilliant Diverse Ocean Poster.

He has won a copy of the book 'Optical Illusions' the winner of the Royal Society Book Prize.



We had 9 entries for the Science Poster Competition. Everyone who entered will receive a certificate and a prize.

A big well done to all our entrants. So many wonderful ideas and creative learning. Thank you for all your efforts.

Our group in school have been doing some outdoor art based on Andy Goldsworthy. See what they have been up to:



You could have a go at home too!



You can find more detail here
<https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher-day/>



Message from our School Chaplain

I stood looking across the fields this morning wondering what I could say to you. The scene was incredible, the sun had recently risen, everywhere was sparkling in the early morning frost which was melting away and the pure beauty of nature was breath-taking! Somehow, in that moment, I was transported back in time to thinking about my Grandad. He was a coalminer all of his life and a man of great faith. He would come up from a day working down in the darkest depths of the earth, lean against the farm gate at the top of the pit and wonder at the beauty of nature in the scene before him as I was doing today. He would look up and quietly say to himself or to anyone who was listening ... 'Count how many shades of green you can see and tell me there is not a God'. Although I seem to have been really busy during these days of lockdown, the pace is different and my observations of the world have become sharper. This morning I wondered at the sun and the frost, yesterday I bumped into three very friendly llamas as I walked. They were not roaming around the countryside freely but did come and give me a lovely welcome at the fence! I noticed how strange they looked and yet how endearing! Again, I paused for a minute to see so many different birds visiting the birdfeeder on my neighbour's fence – robins, starlings, sparrows, wood pigeons, blackbirds, crows, blue tits...to name but a few! Look around, breathe in the beauty and soak it up. Often, we simply rush through our days without really seeing or appreciating the simple things in life. So maybe take a little time to notice the detail and make these the special moments of your day. **It is so good for you!** There are many things for us to worry about at this time, so every now and again, come away from your everyday worries and let God take care of you and your families too!





The 2020 Great Bug Hunt

Run every year since 2005 by the ASE in partnership with the Royal Entomological Society, the ever popular Great Bug Hunt competition was created to take science learning out of the Primary classroom and into the great outdoors. Clearly, because of the restrictions we are now living under, it might mean you, as bug hunters need to get a bit creative - but creativity is what the Great Bug Hunt is all about.

The challenge is pretty simple - get your primary-age children to a safe outside space, equip them with magnifying glasses (you can download an app for that) and notepads, and point them at the nearest hedges, flower beds, trees, long grass, logs, stones, rocks (well, you get the picture)... and let them explore and report back what they find.

Please be sure, however, to follow government advice stay 2 metres away from people not in your household and do not put yourself or others at risk.

Your entries might be a wall poster, a report, a video or even a podcast or poem! My ambition is simply to enthuse you explore the natural world on your doorstep.

The competition is divided up into four categories: Ages 4-5, 5-7, 7-9 and 9-11 The school of the winning pupils in each category, selected by a panel of experts from both the ASE and Royal Entomological Society, will receive a bundle of insect exploration-related prizes, while the overall winner can select a day in the Autumn term when the team from the RES will join them for a hands-on "Insect Day", bringing along an assortment of insect life that we can guarantee won't be found underneath a log by the school pond.

Your entries will be displayed on the School website and a prize will be given for the best school entry, along with certificates for all those who enter the competition.

To enter, please send your entries to admin@stmaryscatholicprimary.northants.sch.uk

By Friday 5th June to allow time to collate the entries for the National Competition entry.

Good Luck Everyone

Mrs. J. Blincow

For a little inspiration, take a look at some images from last year.

<http://www.schoolscience.co.uk/documentdownload.axd?documentresourceid=295>

