



# St Mary's Church of England Primary School

**DREAM** with all your mind,  
**BELIEVE** with all your heart,  
**ACHIEVE** with all your might.

**Spring Term Newsletter**  
**March 2024**

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

It's hard to believe that Spring term will finish in two weeks. All of the children have been working hard on their learning and I have seen some excellent writing, maths work and artwork from all of the children across school. Walking around classrooms, I have been amazed by the children's fabulous attitudes and thirst for learning. They are all working successfully on their own, in pairs or in small groups: skills that will stand them in great stead as they move on through the school. There is a genuine warmth and enjoyment radiating from classrooms at St Mary's and it is so lovely to see and is always commented upon by any external visitors to school.

I know that there were lots of very proud parents and families this week at Parents' Evening. It was lovely to speak to you as usual. We know that you are as proud of the children as we are. If you have been asked to work with your child on their presentation, reading or any other aspect of their work please do so. The stronger the partnership between home and school is, the greater the benefit will be for your child.

Whilst this newsletter gives you a snapshot of the work that your child has been doing, please do follow us on X and Facebook and check regularly on our school website which is easy to navigate and updated regularly.

As the Summer term approaches and warmer weather appears on the horizon, it will be lovely to see the children returning to school in their summer uniform if they wish. Summer dresses are yellow or lilac and tailored shorts can be worn by boys or girls. Plain black school shoes **MUST** be worn on none PE days and leggings can only be worn as part of PE kit. White, black or grey socks are the only coloured socks permitted if they can be seen. **This is a link to the uniform policy**  
<https://www.stmarys.leics.sch.uk/school-uniform/>

*Continued.*

Just a reminder that SATs week for current Year 6 will take place in the week beginning 13th May 2024. Please ensure that your child attends regularly up to and after Easter so that they are well prepared and able to do their very best.

One of the highlights of this week has definitely been to take our Punctuality and Attendance winners to Argos to collect their gifts. Such happy and excited faces and demonstration of our Christian Values as expected.

We hope that you will join us for our Easter Service on Friday 22nd March at 1.30pm if you are able. We have really enjoyed welcoming so many of you into school this term for reading, Class Assemblies, lunch and Grandparents' Bingo. Please check out further dates on the newsletter.

Thank you as always for your generous support in our fundraising events. I hope that all of our mothers, both parents and staff, enjoy their gifts and a lovely, pampered and relaxing day on Sunday.

Best wishes



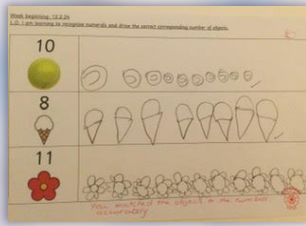
Headteacher



**We all have the right to feel safe all the time.**

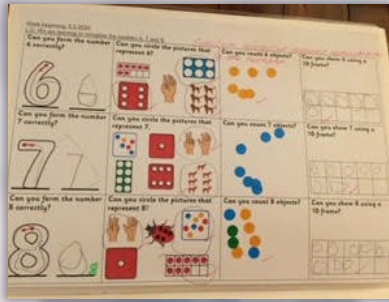
St Mary's Church of England Primary School Protective Behaviours Curriculum

# Foundation News



In maths, the children have been comparing the length and weight of objects. They have also been comparing numbers to say which has more or less and thinking about the composition of numbers.

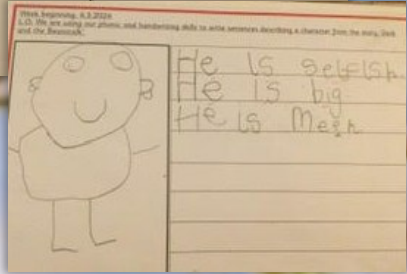
Pancake Day was great fun! Some excellent flipping skills were on show.



A great time was had by all the children at our princess and superhero day. The children looked fantastic in their costumes. Thank you for your support with this.



The children enjoyed applying their phonics knowledge to read and follow instructions to make a jam sandwich.



Our current topic is 'How does your garden grow?'. The children listened to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and have been writing sentences to describe the giant.

## Year 1 and 2 News



wednesday 20th primary  
 1.0 Towards instructions  
 How do you plant seeds?  
 You will need:  
 - seed  
 - soil  
 - a tray  
 - watering can  
 - labels  
 - plant pot  
 1. Fill the pot a planting mix  
 2. Leave the same soil in the plant pot  
 3. Then make a hole  
 4. Add the same seeds in the hole  
 5. Cover the seeds up  
 6. Finally water them  
 7. Don't forget to write a label!  
 We talked about how to water this  
 and how to use some connections

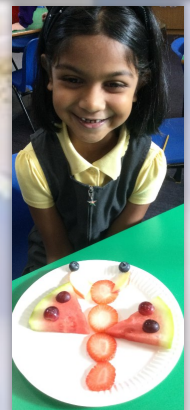
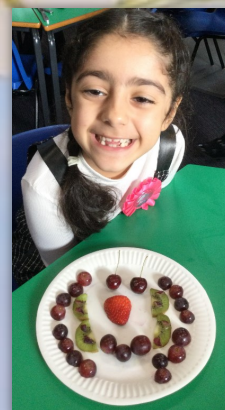
Year 1 and 2 have been very busy this term with fun activities and visitors. We started the term by reading Percy's Bumpy Ride and we planted some seeds. The children then wrote their own sets of instructions for Percy. We thought about other jobs Percy the Park Keeper would do and the children designed their own inventions to help Percy with different tasks. They included fantastic robots for picking up litter, painting the fences or planting seeds. The children then wrote a Percy story which included their invention.



We enjoyed a visit from Sarah, a paramedic who was visiting school to deliver a new defibrillator. She showed the children her response car and a lot of the equipment that she uses in her role. The children had lots of fantastic questions to ask Sarah about her job.



For our DT topic, the children had a great time designing and making their own fun fruit salads. We used a variety of fruits chosen by the children and most created patterns or pictures such as faces, butterflies or rainbows. They really enjoyed eating them too!



To lead up to our latest story book - The Way Home for Wolf - we did some research in groups and found some facts about wolves. The Year 5 children then came into our English lessons to help the children create a PowerPoint slide to display the facts they had found. It was great to see the older children working with our year group. They created some fantastic slides. Thank you Year 5, you were amazing!

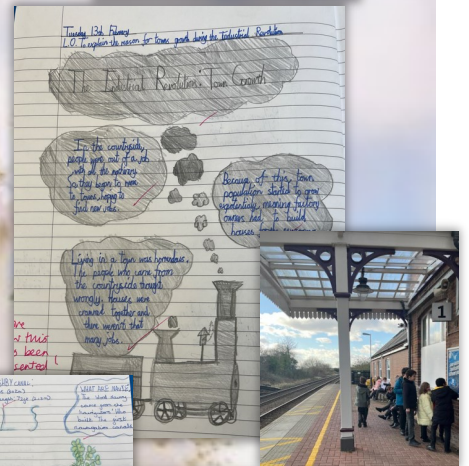


# Year 5 and 6 News

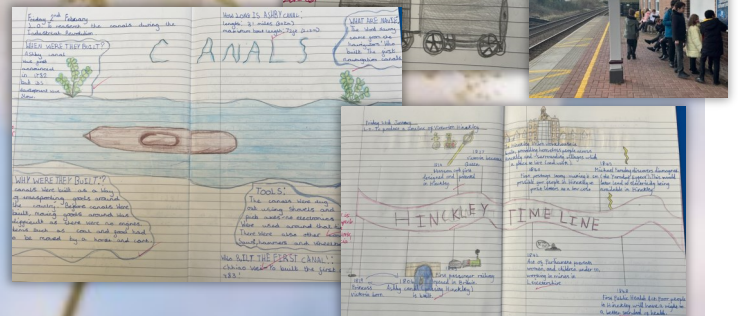
A Birmingham City football star visited St Mary's Primary School on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February and gave an inspiring talk about her passion for football. We enjoyed participating in an energetic circuit training session led by Martha. Questioning the star we discovered that she had played football from a young age to achieve 'PFA Player of the Year Award' and winning the WSL in her first season.



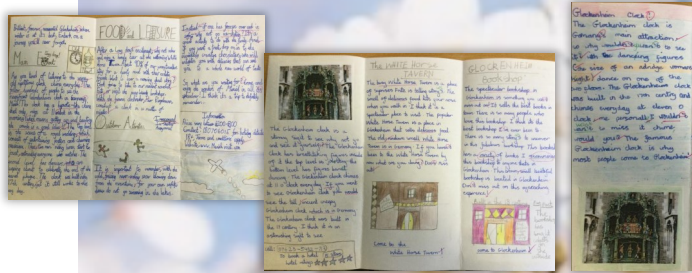
Shrove Tuesday was celebrated in style as all of Years 5/6 took part in a pancake race. We had such fun competing with each other and entertained passers-by who enjoyed watching us trying to toss a pancake up to 10 times as we ran to the finish line!



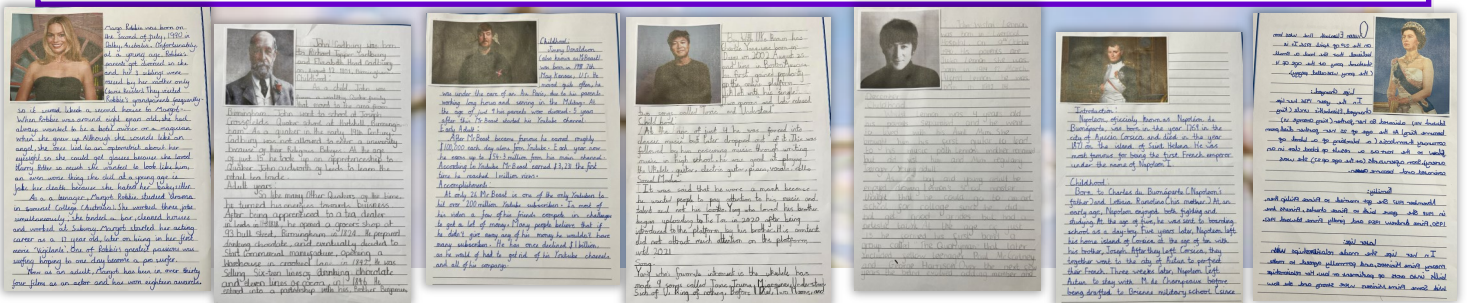
Over the past half term, we have looked at the impact of canal and rail transport systems on the town of Hinckley. We have looked at photos of the past and interpreted data demonstrating the growth of the town of Hinckley. We were amazed at how much history Hinckley has! Did you know that Hinckley was mentioned by Shakespeare in his play Henry IV?



As part of our study of Victorians, we have been using primary sources to discover the age of the architecture close to our school. Recently, we walked to Hinckley Train Station while taking in the Victorian signs and buildings along Queen's Road. Mrs Malin gave an informed talk about the living conditions of Hinckley town centre during the Victorian times



In English, we were asked to write a biography about a person we were interested in. We researched, planned, drafted, edited and produced a final piece. On reading, we informed our teachers about many interesting facts such as John Cadbury was educated at a Quaker school in Nuneaton.



## Parent/Carer Lunches

We were delighted to welcome parents and carers of Year 3/4/5/6 children to join us for lunch on two occasions this term. The event was well supported and we hope those attending enjoyed spending time with their children as part of our 'Food for Life Gold Award' application. Thank you!



## Attendance Prizes

Congratulations to all the children who were entered into the draw for excellent attendance and punctuality for this term. The winners, chosen out of a hat, were:

**Year F Bonnie**  
**Year 1/2 Aishani**  
**Year 3/4 Teddy**  
**Year 5/6 Bernard**

Mrs Ayres took the children to Argos to choose a well deserved prize on Friday 8th March. Well done everyone!





Castle Treats opened their doors to Years 5 and 6 on Friday 1st March. We were greeted by a Victorian lady who demonstrated how to weigh out sweets for us to buy. Some of us took the opportunity to immerse ourselves into the experience by dressing up as a Victorian child. Anyone fancy some liquorice?



On the 23rd February, grandparents were invited in to play a game or two of bingo with their grandchildren. This event was part of our 'Food for Life Gold Award', which we are well on our way to achieving.

The Head and Deputy boys and girls called the numbers and much fun and laughter was had by all. Thank you to all who came and supported this event.





Well done to our children from Years 2 to 6 for earning so many Doodle Stars on Doodle Maths!

The Doodle Maths stars for January are:

Year 2 - Lily-Mae

Year 3 - William

Year 4 - Yikai

Year 5 - Adrijus

Year 6 - Arshia

St Mary's Doodle Maths star of the month and earning over 1,700 Doodle stars! Nettie.

Maths group of the month - Mrs Talbot's group.

We look forward to finding out who will be the Doodle stars of the month for February!



## A message from our Governors

Dear Parents and Carers

When computers and technology impacted our lives I was not a fan! Today I relish it. Being able to keep in touch with my family and friends is wonderful.

I was introduced to X by a friend and now I am able to access lots of interesting information about the events in school. Lots of the day to day activities that your children tell you about can be seen via our social media. I enjoy the posts and reading about the fantastic things that are happening in school such as:-

An inspirational day with Martha Harris. So good that she is able to spend time and speak to your children. Then Grandparent's bingo !! Next time I may have to join you. It looked great fun. Year 6 helping the pupils in EYFS! Such a lovely way to learn and form friendships. I can't forget to mention our stars in Year 6 for coming second out of 2530 classes nationally in the Doodle maths challenge! Congratulations to all. I'm hoping to see for myself how Doodle maths is helping our pupils. There are so many wonderful photos as well. Please take a look if you are able as it really does illustrate the great work your children are doing.

As a school we have so many things to be grateful for.

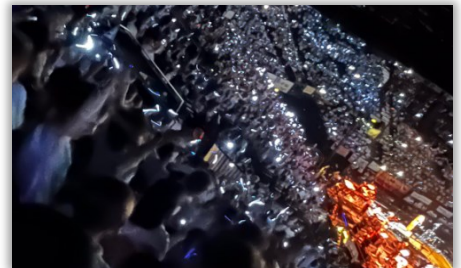
Finally I would like to advise that we have a new governor joining us. Mrs Jan Kirby has a long standing connection to Hinckley and the school and we are delighted to welcome her on board.

Judy Williams  
Chair of Governors



### Young Voices 2024

We took 26 children to be part of a 6000 strong choir at Young Voices in January. The event was held at Resorts World in Birmingham and was absolutely amazing! The children sang their hearts out and we were very proud of them. Well done everyone!





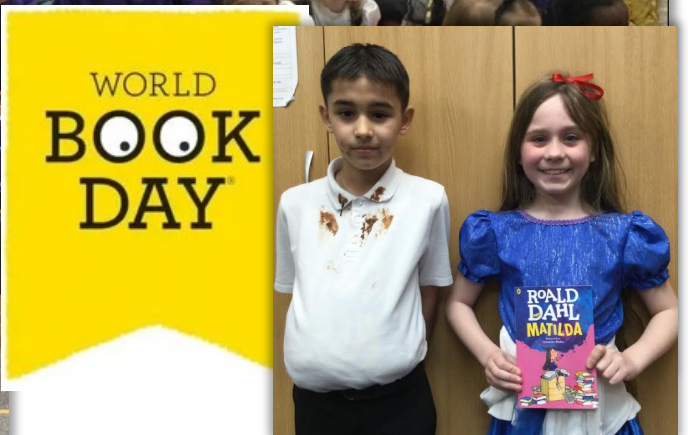
## Red Nose Sales

We have sold 50 red noses in support of Comic Relief this week - in record time! Thank you as always for your support, your generosity will be much appreciated by the charity.

## World Book Day 7th March

World Book Day supports children to read for pleasure by encouraging 6 behaviours:

1. Being read to regularly
2. Having books at home and school
3. Finding time to read
4. Having trusted help to find a book
5. Giving children a choice in what to read
6. Making reading FUN!



## Easter Raffle

Our fabulous raffle is back! Tickets are available from the school office at 50p each. The children love to see the eggs on display and are excited for the grand draw on 22nd March.



## Mother's Day Gift Sale

The children have really enjoyed being able to purchase a gift for the special lady in their life this week. The packs were made up by our Head/Deputy Boys and Girls and sold during break time for £1.00 each.



## Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
Monday 11th March	Rags2Riches4Schools collection
Wednesday 13th March	Franklin Class Assembly @ 09.10 in the Hall
Wednesday 13th March	Year 5 visit to The Hinckley School to see Matilda
Friday 15th March	Comic Relief—wear something sporty for a 50p donation
Monday 18th March	Easter Egg Competition closing date
Monday 18th March	Easter Disco (EYFS/KS1 4.30-5.30pm/KS2 5.45-7.15pm)
Tuesday 19th March	Sublime Science in school
Wednesday 20th March	Foundation and Year 6 - NHS Height and Weight Check
Thursday 21st March	Wonka the Musical @ 2.00pm
Friday 22nd March	Easter Service @1.30pm including Foundation Easter Bonnet Parade
Friday 22nd March	School closes for Easter holidays
Monday 8th April	School opens for Summer 1
Wednesday 10th April	Year 1 and 2 visit NWSLC
Wednesday 24th April	Teresa Class Assembly @ 09.10 in the Hall
Thursday 25th April	EYFS/KS1 Gold Award Assembly @ 09.10 in the Hall
Friday 26th April	KS2 Gold Award Assembly @ 09.10 in the Hall
Monday 6th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Wednesday 8th May	Picasso Class Assembly @ 09.10 in the Hall
Wednesday 15th - Friday 17th May	KS2 SATS
Monday 20th - Tuesday 21st May	Year 2 residential trip to Beaumanor Hall
Friday 24th May	School closes for half term break
Monday 3rd June	School opens for Summer 2
Wednesday 5th - Friday 7th June	Year 4, 5 and 6 residential trip to London
Wednesday 10th July	School closes for Summer holidays



We now have a Facebook page here at St Mary's so why not give us a follow or a like! [www.facebook.com/stmaryssecs](http://www.facebook.com/stmaryssecs)  
Thank you.

### Christian Values

The Christian Value we are focusing on next half term is Compassion.



### Disclaimer

You will notice that from time to time the school circulates information provided by outside groups, regarding the services they offer or about local events in the area. Whilst we are happy to circulate the information for these parties, in the interests of offering our parents a varied picture of what is available outside of school, we in no way endorse them. We therefore recommend that Parents/Carers should satisfy themselves that the group or event runs the necessary checks and precautions to safeguard themselves or their children before participating.

# HEALTHY TOGETHER NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 01



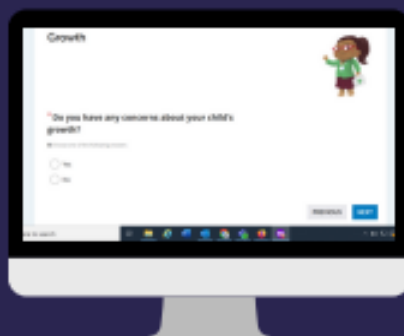
## WELCOME TO YOUR LATEST HEALTHY TOGETHER NEWSLETTER

Hello and welcome to the fourth edition of your newsletter from Healthy Together. Each term you will receive this information leaflet designed for parents/carers and school staff.

In this update, you can find out about the Reception digital health contact launching after Easter, ways you can speak to a health professional and access our new school nursing video.

## DIGITAL HEALTH CONTACT TO LAUNCH FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF CHILDREN IN RECEPTION

Following the Easter holidays, parents/carers of children in Reception will have access to a brand-new Digital Health Contact; an online questionnaire that covers various topics linked to your child's health and wellbeing.



The contact covers a variety of topics including:

- Growth
- Development
- Speech and language
- Toileting

On completing the contact, you will be presented with a personalised care plan full of advice and links to further support. You may also be contacted by the school nursing team for additional follow up support.

Be sure to look out for the letter from your child's school in the coming weeks which will include a QR code that you can scan to access the Reception Digital Health Contact.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT


### DISCOVER MORE ABOUT HOW OUR FEELINGS MAKE UP OUR CHARACTER

To help children learn more about what makes them who they are, we have developed a series of animations linked to [building their character](#).

The animations introduce new characters as different feelings, and explores how these come together to form our character and who we are.

Alongside the introductory animation, there are also ones covering [friendship](#), [resilience](#) and [self-esteem](#)



 [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE 'BUILDING YOUR CHARACTER' ANIMATION](#)

### CONTACT A SCHOOL NURSE BY TEXT MESSAGE

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust runs a dedicated, confidential and secure text messaging service called ChatHealth for parents/carers of children aged 0-11 in Leicestershire and Rutland, which enables you to get professional health advice and support.

Text a Public Health Nurse (School Nurse) on:

**07520 615 382**



### CONTACT A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL VIA THE HEALTHY TOGETHER HELPLINE

You can also call to speak to the Helpline's qualified health and administrative professionals who offer easy to access, safe and free advice, support and signposting.



**CALL 0300 300 3001**


Calls are answered from 9am – 4.30pm on weekdays, excluding bank holidays.

### VIEW NEW VIDEO EXPLORING SCHOOL NURSING SERVICE

We are delighted to share with you a brand-new introductory video to Healthy Together's school nursing service.



Featuring two members of the school nursing team, the video explores the different support available to you, how this support can be accessed and the additional services offered by the team during the school year.

 [CLICK HERE TO WATCH OUR SCHOOL NURSING VIDEO](#)

# JOSH

## FROM THE GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF

Will be talking about his time on Bake Off and how his love of gardening and his work as a Chemist have influenced his journey

**£15 A TICKET | THURSDAY 18TH APRIL 2024**

7:30pm start at Warning Zone Life Skills Centre with Interval and licenced bar



A fundraising event  
in aid of...

**Warning  
ZONE**...  
LIFE SKILLS CENTRE

Bring your own bake to share with everyone during the interval

Exciting raffle prizes including a signed copy by Josh of "The Great British Bake Off - Kitchen Classics" book, along with other Baking themed prizes.



**PLEASE PAY BY BACS:** HSBC BANK / **Account:** Warning Zone Limited / **Account Number:** 84299167 / **Sort Code:** 40-28-06 You can also pay by card - call us on 0116 2629739 Warning Zone - 30 Frog Island off North Bridge Place, Leicester LE3 5AG or e-mail **Richard** on: [opsmanager@warningzone.org.uk](mailto:opsmanager@warningzone.org.uk)

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1113659**

# St Mary's, Hinckley

everybody welcome

## **Monthly Family Drop-In for Children, Parents/Carers and Grandparents Welcome**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March  
3.30pm-4.45pm**

**St Mary's Church, Hinckley**

Drop in for drinks & biscuits  
children's craft activities  
Toys for younger children  
Donations welcome

Please book by  
Text/ email  
[bevfreetsome@hotmail.com](mailto:bevfreetsome@hotmail.com)  
07973830668





Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

3.30pm until 5pm

**St. Mary's Church Hall**

Come along and try basic food preparation and baking

Primary age group

Toys available for younger family members

£2 each child

Drinks and biscuits provided

**Children must be accompanied by an adult**

Essential booking by 14<sup>th</sup> March

limited spaces available

Please book via email or text

[bevfreetsome@hotmail.com](mailto:bevfreetsome@hotmail.com) 07973830668

# What's On At



## Hinckley Town Tennis Club



### Holiday Camps

Easter/May/Summer  
Half day or full day options

### 6 week course

£34.99 for 6 groups lessons  
Includes a free racket, balls  
and t-shirt

### Free Trials

We offer the first lesson  
**FREE OF CHARGE** for all  
ages and abilities

### Adult Beginners

Mondays 6:30pm-7:30pm  
Saturdays 1:30pm-2:30pm

Pickleball coming soon for all ages

More information @  
[www.allinclusivetennis.com](http://www.allinclusivetennis.com)