



St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy

November - Newsletter

Email: office@smp.nelcmail.co.uk and Telephone: 01472 357982
School Website: <https://www.saintmarysprimarygrimsby.co.uk/>

Dear Parents/carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you all staff and well.

In November, we particularly remember those who have died. We would like to invite you to join us in reflective prayer to remember members of our families and community who have died. As we step into November, the days grow shorter and the air turns crisp, inviting us into a season of reflection and remembrance. At St Mary's Catholic Primary School, this month began with a whole school Celebration of the Word on the solemnity of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day — two important occasions in the Church's calendar that remind us of the communion of saints and the hope. In our worship, our pupils learnt about the life of the recently canonised Saint Carlo Acutis, drawing inspiration from his courage, compassion, and unwavering faith. Saint Carlo Acutis' life story helps us reflect on how we, too, can live out our values in everyday life — showing kindness, seeking justice, and walking humbly with God. As we journey through this month together, we hold in prayer all those who have gone before us, and we give thanks for the light of Christ that guides us through every season.



If you can, find a quiet time and a peaceful place to spend a few moments with God be that at home or elsewhere, please do so.

Light a candle in memory of your loved one and sit for a few moments remembering the special times you shared. We thank you God for the precious life you gave us. In our sadness, help us to remember the life they lived and the happiness they brought to so many. God our Father, we ask that you hear our prayers and bring us consolation. As we remember our loved ones who have died, we pray that they will have received the promise of eternal life and that they are with you, experiencing your love in Heaven.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord,

And let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace,

Amen

We will be saying prayers as a school community throughout November. We invite you to share the name of the person you are praying for, if you would like to by e-mailing school.

If your child would like to draw a candle to pray for someone close, please take a picture and send to school through e-mail or Class Dojo. CAFOD have launched an opportunity to light a virtual candle and pray for those who have died, asking for a small donation to remember those in the poorest areas of the world. <https://cafod.org.uk/>

There are several key dates for the diary in this newsletter so please make sure you make a note of them.

Kind regards

Mr Joseph O'Connor



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DATES FOR THE DIARY

(More important dates/times to be added please keep checking Class Dojo)

Monday 10th November

We're kicking off Anti-Bullying Week with Odd Socks Day

Tuesday 11th November

Special History Assembly for Remembrance Day that starts at 10.45am for the children only.

Wednesday 12th November

Year 5 & 6 indoor Athletics competition at Clee Academy

Friday 14th November

Children in Need

(Students can dress in spotty clothes, yellow outfits, or anything Pudsey-themed for the day! Please donate a £1)

Tuesday 18th November

SEND reviews start.

Thursday 20th November

Occupational therapist to visit school for PINS project.

- Internet Safety for Year 6 at Centre 4 in Grimsby

Monday 24th November

SEND reviews continue

- Flu Vaccination
- Enterprise Week for all classes.

Thursday 27th November

Wreath workshop for parents

Friday 28th November

Blessing of the Wreath

- Year 5 and Year 6 maths challenge at Franklin College
- KS1 and KS2 Panathlon at Clee Fields.

Monday 1st December

Larder Production Jack and The Beans Stalk for all the School

Thursday 4th December

Catch up Flu Jabs

Friday 5th December

Swimming lessons to start for

Years 5 & 6

Thursday 11th December

ADHD Pins training for all staff

Monday 15th December

EYFS Nativity to all the school only

Tuesday 16th December

EYFS Nativity to parents and carers

- Year 1 Performance

- Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 17th December

Years 2 and 3 Nativity for parents and carers.

Thursday 18th December

Carol service in school for parents and carers with a special performance from Years 4, 5 and 6

- Christmas Party Day for all school

Friday 19th December

End of year assembly for parents

Prayers and carols around the crib in school for children only

***TIMES MAY ALTER SLIGHTLY**





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INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

BREAKFAST CLUB

Please book breakfast club via Arbor App. This runs from 7.45am and children have breakfast and join in on some fun activities with their friends.

PERMISSIONS TO TAKE HOME AND MEDICAL FORMS

Please can all information be kept updated. It is parents/carers responsibility to keep all information updated for your child/children. Especially any new medical information this can be seen on the Arbor App and you can request changes and updates on there.

UNIFORM

If you require any uniform, please contact Uniform Direct on 01472 347800. Address is 54 Victoria Street, Grimsby DN31 1BL. We do have a small amount of used/new uniform for £1 an item available.

LUNCHES

Please order lunches via Arbor.

FORMS

Please can parents/carers fill and update the Pupil Consent Form. If you haven't received a copy, please ask the office.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

<https://www.saintmarysprimarygrimsby.co.uk/> please visit the school website for all updated information on the school.



Attendance

We would like to thank you all again for your continued support with keeping our attendance figures above the National Average for the first half term of the year. There were 79 children who had 100% attendance (not missed one minute of learning time) and another 77 children who had over 97% attendance.

We are currently 96.2% for compulsory aged children and the national average is 95.4%

This term we will be advising you if your child's attendance is low. If your child's attendance is below 90% then a letter will state what we need from you to authorise any further absences. If your child's attendance is between 90% and 95% your will also receive a letter, so you are aware we are monitoring their attendance.

As always, we are here to help in any way we can to try and help improve your child's attendance so please inform us of any problems.



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DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY

We are so excited to announce that we are now officially a partner of **DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY FOR OUR COMMUNITY!** If you have a child under 5 or know someone who does, use the QR code to sign up - they do not have to be a pupil of St Mary's to sign up, it is any child in the area under 5. If you have any issues, please pop in and get a paper form from the office or speak to Miss Willis.





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CATHOLIC LIFE & MISSION

During the next few weeks, Mrs Tuff and Mr Wright will be interviewing for the roles of Mini-Vinnies and the Chaplaincy team. We will inform you of the outcomes in due course.



At the end of the term, we celebrated a lovely harvest celebration led by the Chaplaincy team. It was lovely to welcome Fr Robbie to join us and to see many parents and carers in attendance. We thank you for all the donations of food to support The Rock Foundation. This week they visited school and gifted us a beautiful plaque to show gratitude for all the generous donations.



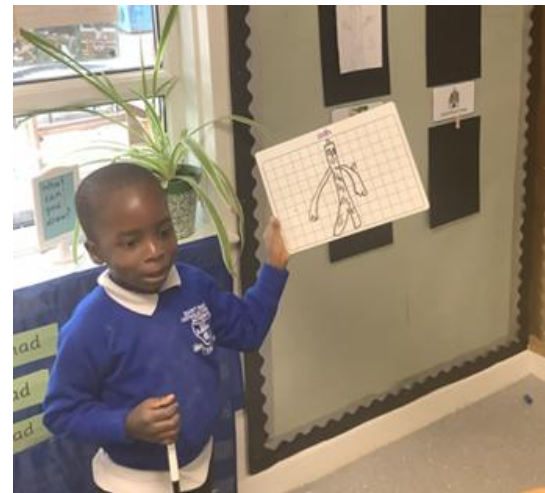


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In **RECEPTION** we started "Drawing Club" in our literacy sessions. Children will learn new vocabulary with actions to help them remember these new words. We will draw characters and settings then explore what adventures our characters can go on. This will inspire children to want to tell and write stories. Here are a few photos of our first session exploring at the book "Stick Man"



Year 1 has started Advent term 2 with a super attitude to work and all are trying hard to follow out tick behaviours. In Maths we have been learning about part whole models to help us adding two groups. We have done lots of practical work using different manipulatives to support our learning. In Literacy we have been learning about fact-files. We have been learning lots of facts about foxes and have been writing our own sentences about where foxes live, what they eat and what they look like. We have been matching key words to sentences and have begun to record our own sentences using rainbow grammar.





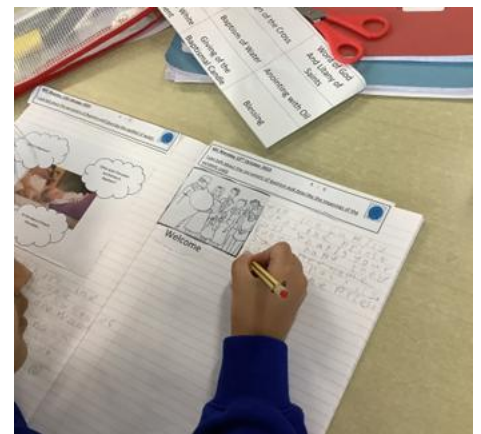
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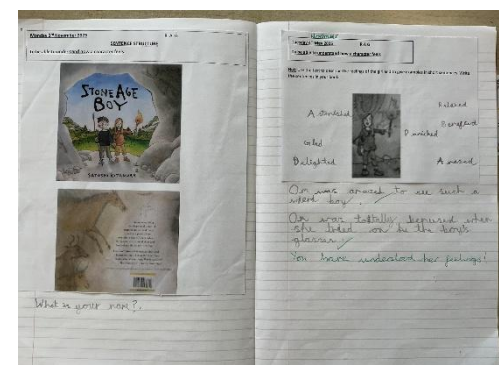
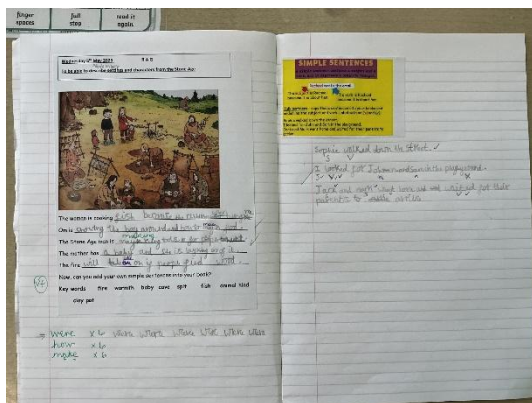
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In RE **Year 2** children have been learning about Creation and Covenant. We began by learning the two parts of the Bible, the Old and New Testaments and the difference in stories we read in both. We retold the story of Noah and the Ark and how God kept his promise to not flood the earth again. We explored the link between this Bible story and the special sacrament of Baptism, discussing how the water washes away our sins and brings us new life.

In reading skills, we read the book *The Day the Crayons Quit* answering many questions using the VIPERS skills (vocabulary, inference prediction, explain, retrieve and sequencing and summarizing).



In English, **Year 3** have been exploring ways to describe characters in a story by looking at sentence structures which include more complex sentences. We have looked at conjunctions and embedded clauses. We have described how characters could be feeling by looking at how they appear in the story.





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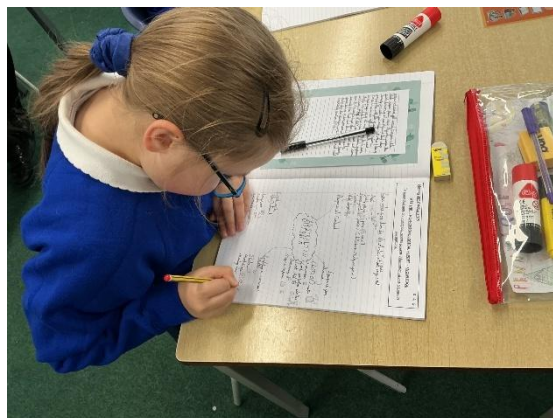
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Year 4 began their new topic for Design and Technology first looking at different products and their packaging. They identified the type of packaging, the storage instructions and whether it was a use by or best before date and understood the difference between the two. They also discussed if storage conditions needed to change once a product was opened. After this they completed an activity looking at different types of preservation methods; when and where they originated and how they worked.



Year 5 have been really enjoying planning and starting to write their non-chronological report about surviving in the Australian Outback. We created a mind map to plan out what we will include in each of the four sections, including pictures to help us understand what we are writing about more clearly. We can't wait to share our finished product with you!





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Year 6 graduated at University of Hull, after they had spent a week of researching career opportunities. They acted out a trailer scene that we had practised at The Hull Truck theatre.

