

Newsletter

Issue 23

6th March 2020

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4EU

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>



Key Dates w/c: 9th March 2020
CANCELLED -10th Mar: Yr 6 to BT Adastral Park-
13th Mar: Yr 6 Class Mass 2.30pm
13th Mar: Travelling Books

Tweet of the Week



"May we allow ourselves to be reconciled, in order to live as beloved children, as forgiven and healed sinners, as wayfarers with him at our side."

[Pope Francis \(@Pontifex\)](#)

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

Polite Reminder to all Parents

Please could we ask all parents to be considerate of the local residents when using the communal areas. Some children were seen trampling on the flowers in the St Mary's Estate. Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

Parents Evening – Sign-up Sheets

The sign-up sheets for parents evening will be available in the school hall from Monday 9th March at 8.30am. If for any reason you are unable to come into school on that Monday to book an appointment please contact the school office and they will try to assist you.

Travelling Books

Travelling Books will be arriving at school on Friday 13th March and will be here until Thursday 19th March. Books will be available to purchase every day after school.

Bags2School

Please can we remind you all that all bags2school are brought back to us by Tuesday 10th March 2020 ready for collection. Many thanks

Updating Contact Details

Please could all parents notify the office as soon as you change your address or any of your telephone numbers or emergency contact numbers. We need to make sure that we hold the correct information for each child.

Lent Collection Tins in the Classrooms

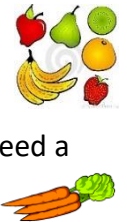
After a very successful collection last year, the Fundraising Committee would like to put their Lent Collection Tins into the classrooms again. These tins are for all the money you would have been spending on treats but because you have given something up for Lent the money can be donated to Cafod instead!

As an extra incentive, the class that raises the most money will be able to negotiate a special treat with their class teacher. Perhaps an extra slot of sport of your choice, additional time on the computers or a really messy art session. You give something up for Lent, you donate, your class wins and YOU decide on the reward!

As ever, thank you parents and carers for your support in this collection effort.
Miss Mudd and the Fundraising Committee

Lunch boxes and morning snacks: Due to allergies please do not include any nut items in lunch boxes, including Chocolate/Nutella spread sandwiches.

Please ensure that your child does not bring sweets to school in their lunchboxes. Thank you. At break-time Years R, 1 and 2 children are offered a piece of fresh fruit, and therefore do not need a snack. For years 3-6, if you would like your child to have a snack, please provide them with fresh fruit or vegetables to eat. Please also ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school every day. Thank you for your co-operation.



Forthcoming trips

Where applicable, we would be grateful if trips could be paid for before the due date specified on the parentmail information. Payment is permission for your child to take part. Thank you.

10th Mar: BT Adastral Park – Year 6 CANCELLED

27th Mar: Felixstowe trip – Year 1

2nd Apr: Museum of East Anglian Life – Year 4

Suffolk School Games Basketball County Finals:

After winning the Ipswich event and successful in the Play-Offs the team took part in the County Finals. We started with a 29-2 win in our first group game against St Christopher's and then followed that up with a 21-2 win against Kedington. A great start with 2 dominant displays securing our spot in the semi finals. In the semi final we came up against Clifford Road and cruised to a 17-1 win. Our opponents in the final were Finborough, a private school from Stowmarket. A very evenly contested game that we were losing 11-9 at half time but in the second half the team showed great character, passion and determination to end up winning 18-13. Basketball County Champions for a second year in a row and our second County win in all sports this school year. A truly incredible achievement from our small school, well done to all involved, everyone is incredibly proud of you all!!



IPSSA Small Schools Boys Football League:

The Oaks B 0-4 St Mary's. The boys tightened their grip on top spot in the league, moving 2 points clear with this important win. After a difficult first half we went in 1-0 up at the break, finding it difficult to breakdown a well organised defence. In the second half the boys upped their game and work rate to full effect, pushing on to score a further 3 goals with some great attacking football. Well done boys, great win.



Suffolk Libraries:

Suffolk Libraries will soon be launching our next Children's Month campaign! This will launch next month on **International Children's Book Day** on **2 April** and run throughout the month.

Children's Month will celebrate everything the library service has to offer children of all ages, promote our many children's activities and services as well as highlight the wide range of children's books on offer.

This year, any child that signs-up for a library card until the end of April will be entered into a special prize draw with a chance to **win a free iPad** – a great chance to discover our extensive eLibrary services as well! Sign-ups can be done online via our website or at any of our 44 branches across the county.

To help encourage greater use of libraries by children and families, Suffolk Libraries **removed overdue charges for children's books** last year from 1 April.

Please circulate to all who would be interested in exploring what Suffolk Libraries has to offer. We look forward to seeing you at one of our libraries in the future.

For more information visit www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/childrens-month/

Coronavirus Advice

Please see newsletter attachment for more information.

A UK wide information campaign has now been launched to provide practical advice and guidance on how to protect yourself from infection. As we would always advise to help stop the spread of viruses such as flu during the winter, you should;

- always carry tissues and use them to catch coughs and sneezes, and bin the tissue;
- wash hands with soap and water, or use sanitiser gel, to kill germs.

PTA News

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to those who completed the Friends of St Mary's PTA parent questionnaire, we had an amazing 79 responses. We really appreciate the time taken - it's given us a great insight into what the school community are thinking. Here's a summary of the answers are attached with this newsletter.

Mother's Day Hampers

We have two fantastic hampers to raffle for Mother's Day, stuffed full of pampering treats and goodies. Tickets have been sent home with the children this week. Very best of luck to everyone.



Amazon Smile fundraising -

The PTA have just signed up to Amazon Smile. This is a cash back scheme specifically for Amazon accounts and raises money for the school while you shop.

It costs you nothing, and if you use Amazon please do set this up. There are a couple of initial steps and then it should be zero effort after that and each purchase will raise money for the school.

Here's how:

1. Go to Smile.amazon.co.uk
2. Log in as normal to your Amazon.
3. Search for St Mary's Parent and Teachers Association. Once selected this will stay as your nominated charity.
4. Shop as normal through the link Smile.amazon.co.uk.

That's it!

You can't use Amazon Smile with the Amazon App on the iPhone. However, the good news is that you can set up a shortcut to the Amazon Smile website which gives a near identical experience to the app. It's very quick and easy to do.

1. If you have the Amazon App installed you should remove it. To do this, tap and hold the app icon until it starts to jiggle. Tap the cross at the top left of the icon and confirm that you want to delete it. Don't worry, this will not delete your Amazon account or any of your settings.

2. Open Amazon smile on safari.

3. Tap the 'share' button at the bottom of the screen (looks like this):
4. Tap the 'Add to Home Screen' icon. You may need to swipe to the left to see this.
5. You will now have an Amazon Smile icon on your home screen which you can use in exactly the same way you used the Amazon App.

Thanks very much from the FOSM PTA team

PTA dates for your diary

Non-uniform days:

Friday 3rd April: 'Chocs for Socks' day. Children wear their uniform but are encouraged to wear silly or mismatched socks, the brighter the better, in exchange for a kind donation of chocolate/sweets for the Summer fair tombola.

Friday 19th June: Non-uniform day. Children wear own clothes in exchange for a kind donation of a bottle of something for the summer fair tombola.

Friday 3rd July: Summer fair

Dates for your Diary

Spring Term 2020

- 13th Mar: Year 6 Class Mass 2.30pm
17th Mar: Parents evening 3.30-6pm
19th Mar: Parents evening 4.30-7pm
26th Mar: KS1 Lenten Service 9am (Parents welcome) – in school
27th Mar: Year 1 trip to Felixstowe
31st Mar: Year 6 Parish Mass 9.15am/Church
- 2nd Apr: Year 4 to Museum of East Anglian Life
3rd Apr: PTA Chocs for Socks day
3rd Apr: Easter Liturgy – Church 1.30pm (Parents welcome)
3rd Apr: Last day of term. **School ends at 2.45pm**
- 20th Apr: First day back to school
29th Apr: Beginning of Term Mass 2.30pm/Church
30th Apr: Year 3 Parish Mass 9.15am/Church

Term dates for 2019/20

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January to Friday 3rd April 2020

Half Term: 17th – 21st February 2020

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April to Friday 17th July 2020

Bank holiday - Friday 8th May – (school open as usual Monday 4th May)

Half Term: 25th - 29th May 2020

Term dates for 2020/21

Autumn Term 2020

Thursday 3rd September – Friday 18th December

Half term: 26th – 30th October

Staff Training Days: 1st & 2nd September

Spring Term 2021

Tuesday 5th January – Friday 26th March

Half term: 15th – 19th February

Staff Training day: 4th January

Summer Term 2021

Monday 12th April – Friday 16th July

Bank holiday: 3rd May

Half term: 31st May – 4th June

Staff Training days: 19th & 20th July (disaggregated)