

Newsletter

Issue 15

18th December 2020

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

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>



Tweet of the Week

"I ask God to inspire, in the hearts of all, respect for the life of our brothers, especially the most fragile and helpless, and to give strength to those who receive them and care for them, even when this demands heroic love."

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



Dear Parents and Carers,

Merry Christmas, thank you all so much for all of your generous cards and gifts we really are truly grateful to you all. I would like to say a huge well done to all the children, staff and PTA who have managed to pull together Christmas events and celebrations even in Covid restrictions. We have really missed welcoming you all into school but hope that you have enjoyed watching the children perform via google classroom.

My sincere thanks to the whole school community for your understanding, smiles, togetherness and unrelenting focus on doing the best for the children of St Mary's.

I wish you all a safe, peaceful Christmas. We look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year on Tuesday 05th January. Best wishes Mrs Berry.

Christmas Message from the Mini Vinnies of St Mary's

<https://youtu.be/IC5OVcNuST0>

[Mini Vinnies Christmas 2020](#)

The children from our Mini Vinnies group have created this video of Christmas cheer to share with the residents of Emily Bray House and the St. Mary's School community.

Congratulations to Miss Godbold

We would like to send Miss Godbold, our warmest congratulations and wish her all the best as she prepares to welcome a baby in the new year. Miss Godbold's last day at school will be Friday 08th January 2021.

Welcome to Mrs Hopegood

A warm welcome to Mrs Hopegood. Mrs Hopegood will be joining St Mary's to teach Year 5 from 05th January 2021.



Important, Track and Trace:

If your child receives a positive Covid test during the Christmas holidays please follow the procedure below.

Symptoms began on (or date of positive test if asymptomatic)	Between Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th December	Saturday 19 th December	Sunday 20 th December	Monday 21 st December – Monday 4 th January
Action Required	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact on Thursday 17 th and Friday 18 th December. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact on Friday 18 th December. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days	Unless testing was delayed following onset of symptoms (for example, delays caused by postal tests), pupil was not in setting and therefore there is no need to contact school.
	Please email admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.uk in the event of a confirmed case between the close of school on Friday 18th December and Thursday 24th December . This email will be checked daily until Thursday 24 th December.			
Parental Responsibility	Parents to notify close contact family and friends and follow advice as per NHS Covid-19 guidelines http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/			

The school email address, admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk, will be checked daily, up to and including 24th December.

In the event of any positive cases, we will inform parents/carers of children identified as close contacts (those within the class bubble) by Parentmail and clarify the isolation period required. Therefore, all parents/carers will need to ensure they check their Parentmail daily in case they are required to respond to track and trace.

If your child is required to isolate during the Christmas holiday and this means that they will not be able to return to school on Tuesday 05th January, please email the school office to make us aware.

Reception 2021/2022 – Application and SIF deadline is 15th January 2021

The application portal is now open with Suffolk County Council for parents to apply for their child's Reception class for children starting school in September 2021/2022.

We require a Supplementary Information Form that will need to be completed and returned to the office at school before the deadline 15th January 2021. Any SIF's received after this date will be dealt with as a late application.

Virtual Tour – For New Children applying for Reception Class 2021/2022

The virtual tour of the school is now available on St Mary's Facebook page and the school website for you to view. Also available is a video from the reception teacher Mrs Goodwin on the reception class page on the website.

Year 2 Letter from MP Tom Hunt

Year 2 received some very exciting post this week! As part of our Literacy work on the book 'Leaf' we have been learning about climate change and its impact on the Polar Bears living in the Arctic. The children felt so strongly about it, we decided we should write letters to our local MP, Mr Tom Hunt, asking people to use less electricity and water and to plant more trees.

Imagine our excitement when he replied to the children and told us he had passed our letters onto the Prime Minister! We are awaiting a response from Mr Johnson. Well done Year 2. Mrs Veitch

The 2 letters are attached with the newsletter.

Year 6 Trenches

We ended the term this week with a lot of history. We designed and made our very own WW1 trench system. The children amazed me with their focus, determination, creativity and team work. Well done Year 6!





CAFOD

Dear Parents,

As we approach this joyful time of year and the season of giving and receiving, I wonder if you could take a moment to consider CAFOD's latest campaign - World Gifts.

There are many different options, some smaller and some larger but all would make a real difference to the lives of those in receipt. You could purchase a gift for someone less fortunate from just £4 - a queen bee!

St. Mary's Primary school has raised funds for them in the past. Just last year, we bought some ducks! Unfortunately, fundraising isn't so easy for us this year.

So, my plea to you is this - if you are fortunate enough to have a little money to donate somewhere, please consider CAFOD and the amazing work that they are able to do.

Warm regards

Mrs McGhee Wallace

<https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

Online Safety Message from Mr Cook:

Please see attached the following safety message from Mr Cook

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/digital->

[xmas?utm_source=Parent+Zone+Newsletter&utm_campaign=df9abe0b87-](https://parentzone.org.uk/article/digital-xmas?utm_source=Parent+Zone+Newsletter&utm_campaign=df9abe0b87-)

[EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_allat17sept_uk_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1ee27d9000-df9abe0b87-179460533](https://parentzone.org.uk/article/digital-xmas?utm_source=Parent+Zone+Newsletter&utm_campaign=df9abe0b87-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_allat17sept_uk_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1ee27d9000-df9abe0b87-179460533)

[How to have the perfect digital family Christmas | Parent Zone](https://parentzone.org.uk/article/digital-xmas?utm_source=Parent+Zone+Newsletter&utm_campaign=df9abe0b87-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_allat17sept_uk_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1ee27d9000-df9abe0b87-179460533)

The internet has changed how we listen to music – but it hasn't changed the delight (or horror) of a cheesy Christmas song. Introducing your child to the festive classics is a must; after all, you had to suffer through Last Christmas often enough as kids, so they should too.. Plus, sitting down to create a playlist together can be lots of fun.

parentzone.org.uk

CAFOD
Just one world

Sports Clubs

Year 5 - Wednesday 06th and 13th January 8am

Year 3 – Wednesday 06th and 13th January 3.15pm

Year 4 – Thursday 07th and 14th January 8am

Year 6 – Friday 08th and 15th January 3.15pm

Netball

Year 5 – Wednesday 20th January, 03rd & 24th February and 10th March 3.15pm

Year 6 – Wednesday 27th January, 10th February and 03rd & 17th March 3.15pm

Table Tennis Tables

We are very lucky that our new sports equipment has arrived. Two table tennis tables. Here are some pictures of Year 6 testing them out for us.



Christmas Fun Day:

Thank you to everybody who organised, participated in, donated to and enjoyed our Christmas Fun Day. The feedback was that the children really had fun, which was always the main aim regardless of any fundraising. They guessed the name of the teddy, enjoyed lots of craft activities, laughed along with the online panto, received plenty of gifts from Santa (has anyone ever seen Santa Claus and Mr Cook in the same room at the same time?) and they even received a message from the North Pole confirming that Mrs Berry has indeed worked her way off the naughty list this year! With Christmas jumpers and a Christmas dinner it really set the festive season off to a great start.



Although the point was to do something nice for the children, we didn't want to pass up a fundraising opportunity and I'm delighted to say we had some extremely kind and generous donations, including a lovely parent asking for donations to the fundraiser instead of presents on her birthday! The total raised was a truly amazing £1120.

A large part of this was due to a parent applying for matched funding from their employer, so we'd like to thank Barclays Bank for their kind contribution. If we have any parents whose employers operate matched funding schemes, we'd love to hear from you – banks, building societies and similar often operate them and it is a very straightforward way of maximising our fundraising potential. Just let me know via the school office.

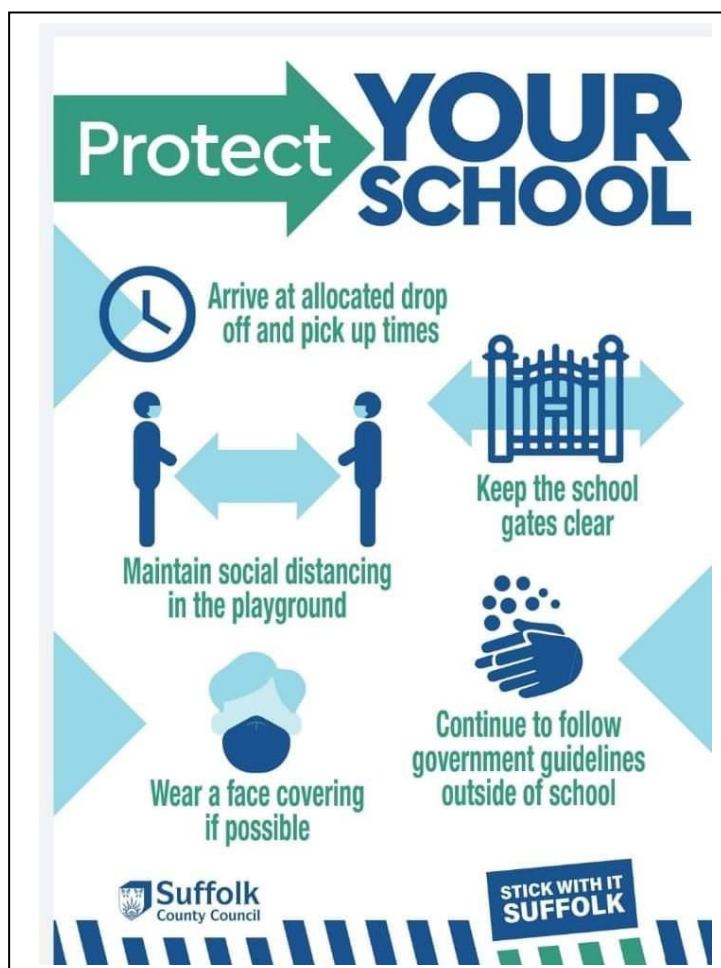
The funds raised will go towards the continuing outdoor refurbishment project. It's a huge undertaking but phase

2 of the project (to reinvigorate the lower Willow Garden) is well underway. The area has been cleared, and now we are reviewing quotes for landscaping and planting it to make best use of the space. The intention is that once this is done we will move on to the pond and outdoor classroom area as well.

Separately to this, we would also like to thank Farthings Funerals of Woodbridge Road Ipswich, for their very kind donation, which will go towards funding a statue of Our Lady in the planned grotto in the lower Willow Garden. We really appreciate the support of local businesses and look forward to creating a calming space for the children to reflect and learn.

Have a wonderful Christmas,

Marge Jessop and everyone in the Friends of Saint Mary's PTA



Dates for your Diary:

Term dates for 2021

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)

#YOUARENOTALONE



COVID-19 IS NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE.

SUFFOLK DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE - FREEPHONE 24/7 ON

0800 977 5690



SuffolkCollective
Suffolk partners and agencies
working together

ACT 

Anglia Care Trust
Support - Advice - Action