

# St. Mary's Mail



Date: 12th January 2024

Bi- Weekly News from St.Mary's

Dates for the Diary

Welcome back to a rather chilly new year! We hope you had a fabulous Christmas and managed to spend some quality time with friends and family. It was a very busy end to the Autumn term but our team are well rested and ready for another exciting term at St Marys.  
*Bethan Scriven*

## Cake Sale

**Tuesday 16th January**  
**The Hub**

The KS2 Choir are holding a cake sale next Tuesday to support the cost of travel to Birmingham for the Young Voices event. Any donations of cakes, homemade or shop bought will be gratefully received. Then please come and join us at the end of the day in the Hub to purchase a cake.



## Year 6 Learning Life Skills

Our Year 6 children have already had a busy start to the term. Last Friday they visited the [Life Skills Centre](#) where they had the opportunity to take part in a variety of simulated activities. The activities show pupils that they should be taking personal responsibility for their own safety and help children learn how to assess risk and cope with difficult situations.



In addition to this, some year 6 children have started their Level 2 Bikeability training this week. At St Mary's we always make provision for all children to have this opportunity however this year we have only had enough interest to run one course. This is something to keep in mind as you approach year 6.



## Social Justice

This term the our whole school Global Theme is Social Justice. Children will be developing a commitment to social justice and equality.

In **KS1** children will be comparing life in an area of Uganda to their own locality. They will explore some of the characteristics of this African country as well as consider what it is like for a child attending school in a Ugandan town. The KS1 children will then look at what it was like to attend British schools in the Victorian era and will learn about the good work carried out by Mary Carpenter when establishing the Ragged schools.

In **LKS2** (Lower Key Stage two—Y3/4) children will be learning about how civilisation changed between early Stone Age and the Iron Age. They will develop an understanding of the move from a nomadic, hunter-gather life to the establishment of settlements and farming. They will then look at the lives of modern Inuit communities and compare life in a Tundra Biome to living in our locality.

In **UKS2** (Upper Key Stage 2-Y5/6) children will be learning about social reform in the Victorian era. Through their geography studies, they will consider how Yate changed during this time and look at the impact of the railway as well as learn more about local Victorian buildings such as the workhouse.

From learning from the past, our locality and life in other countries, the children will move on to considering how they can be changemakers for social justice. We will be sharing more on this in our future newsletters and on Class Dojo.

## Friends Meeting

**18th Jan 7:30pm The Lawns**

The Friends invite you to join them at their meeting on Thursday 18th January at the Lawns. Come along and meet like-minded parents.

16th Jan 2024	Cake Sale
18th Jan 2024 7.30pm	Friend's Meeting—The Lawn's Pub
22nd Jan 2024 3.30pm	Year 4 Greatwood Meeting
7th & 9th Feb 2024	KS1 African Drumming & Dancing Workshop
9th Feb 2024	End of Term 3
19th Feb 2024	Start of Term 4
15th Mar 2024	INSET day
13-16 May 2024	Y6 SATs
15-17 May 2024	Y4 Greatwood

## Census

On Thursday 18th January the schools are required to complete a census. As a result of this census we receive funding based on the number of Reception & KS1 children having a school lunch this day. Each meal taken gives nearly £500 worth of funding, if all children in Reception, year 1 & 2 order a meal on this day this would equate to just over £50,000 of funding for the school. Therefore it is imperative we have all our children booking a lunch on Thursday in order to maximise the funding for the school and your children. Could we please ask you to log onto School Food United and order an school lunch.

Thank you in advance for your support.

## Excel Daily

Well done to the following children who have recently received certificates :

Ellis J, Zachary W, Zac S, Grace C, Daniel L, William N, Bailey, Jessica J, Penny, Ralphie B, Dexter P, Bobby, Vinnie, Millie, Casey B, Jack D, Harrison B, Roma, Adalae, Lucie A, Jack S, Harper, James T, Evanna, Freya E,

Ezra, Matilda, Ezmae L, Koda, Ruby W, Rosie J, Madison T, Faye W, Jonah B, Michael C, Fletcher, Freddie W, Louis F, Poppy S, Edward C, Mollie M, Finley, Zachariah dN, Logan B, Henley & Archie J.

