

November 2020

St. Mary's CofE Primary School

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Upcoming Events

December 4

Nativity Performance
permission deadline

December 9

Christmas Dinner Day

December 11

Christmas cards to be posted by
the end of the day

What a busy November it has been. Now we start looking forward to the Christmas period. As you would expect, this year it will be a different Christmas to the one we would normally have in school. However, we will be doing everything we can to make sure that the magic of the season continues and as always, your support will be very much appreciated.

Remembrance Day



Remembrance Day was observed brilliantly by everyone in school. Not only did we raise lots of money for the British Legion Poppy Appeal, we also decorated lots of pebbles which have made a beautiful display in school.

Kindness

We are focusing on 'Kindness' in school and as part of our Friday Praise Assembly, we have been recognizing those children who have been spotted by teachers and other children, for being kind to someone else. Well done to everyone who has already been rewarded for their kindness.

Important Announcement

Please make sure that you complete one of the booking forms, which are available from the school office, if you would like to book any sessions in our Before and After School Clubs (BASC).





Christmas Arrangements (so far...)

You will have received information last week about our initial arrangements for Christmas this year.

Please make sure that you return your permission for your child(ren) to be included in the recording of the Christmas Nativity & Carols. This **MUST** be returned by **Friday 4th December**.

Christmas Dinner Day – **Wednesday 9th December**. Children may wear a Christmas jumper on this day instead of their school jumper if they would like to. Children need to wear the rest of their school uniform. There **won't** be any PE sessions on this day and so no PE kits will be needed if it is your normal PE day.



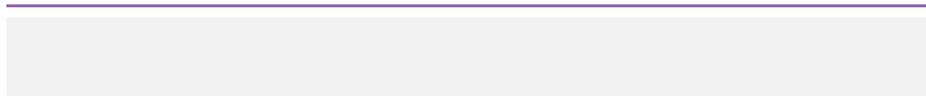
Christmas Cards – these can be posted in the school postbox as normal. We do not want any children giving out their cards before or after school as we want to make sure all cards are quarantined for the right amount of time before they are shared. **Children must post any cards they wish to send by Friday 11th December.** Cards will then be given out in the final week of term.

Children In Need



Thank you for your support again this year with the Children In Need Appeal. We appreciate all of the contributions to the online Just Giving page.

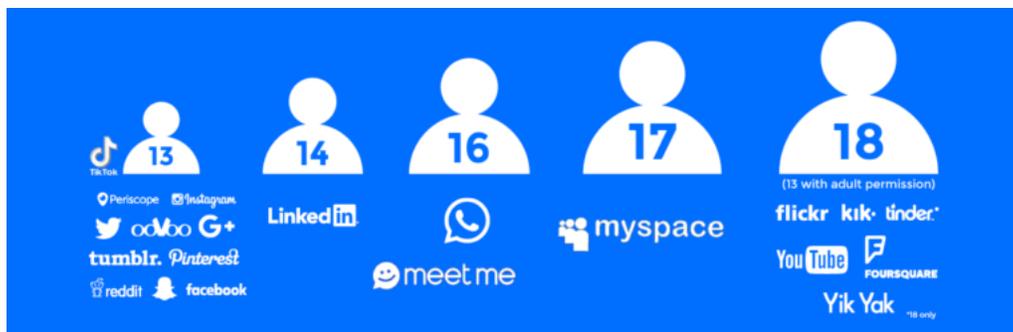
We managed to raise over £230 which is fantastic.



Social Media

We are always aware that children have access to a wide range of media in their lives, including social media. Some children have access to their own mobile phones which is very important, especially for the older children who have permission to walk home by themselves. As part of our ongoing work in school, we work with the children to learn about online safety and how to keep themselves safe when working or playing online.

It is very important for everyone to be aware of the regulations. Below is a chart to remind you of the age restrictions for some popular social media sites, including WhatsApp, Instagram, FaceBook. Twitter and TikTok.



E- Safety - On the NSPCC website there is a section whereby you can talk to your child about keeping them safe online and the steps you can take to set up parental controls.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Cycling/Scootering



It is great to see so many children and their families cycling and scootering to school, but please can I ask that, when entering and leaving the school and on the school playground, bikes and scooters are pushed.

When cycling or scootering it is very important that a helmet is worn.

Advent Quiz

If you haven't yet tried the Advent quiz on the Google Classroom page why not give it a go and see if you can identify all of the locations in the 10 photos.

Term Dates

This term ends on Friday 18th December and school re-opens again on Monday 4th January 2021.

To see the term dates for the rest of this academic year as well as for the next school year (2021-22), see the school website.

<https://stmarys-brixton.devon.sch.uk/parent-zone/calendar/>

More Important News

Plastic Lids



Thank you for all of the coloured plastic lids that you have sent in to school. We have collected hundreds!

The 'Plastic Police' our Eco Group, are in the process of

sorting all of the lids after quarantining them. The plan will be to convert the winning design into the final picture which will be placed on a wall in the school to help remind us all to make sure that we reduce, reuse and recycle our waste, especially the plastic waste that is so damaging to our environment.

Application for a Primary Place 2021

Please remember that applications for primary places are open and need to be submitted by 15th January 2021. You need to apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissiononline to have the best opportunity of gaining your child's chosen place.

Thank you for your continued support with everything that we do at St. Mary's.

Regards,

Adrian Clements

Head of School

Rights Respecting



Article 29 (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Christian Value

Our Christian Value for the coming half term is...

Perseverance

Galatians 6:9

'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.'

'The Lost Sheep' is a great story in the Bible that helps to illustrate the value of perseverance.