



# Academy News

St Mary Queen of Martyrs VC Academy takes seriously its responsibility to safeguarding all children and adults and has a rigorous procedure in place to do so. The Academy does not tolerate bullying and deals with all forms very seriously

## Note from our Head of School

**Parent Drop-ins** It was wonderful to welcome so many parents into school on Wednesday and Thursday this week: there was a buzz of excitement all around school. Thank you for such positive feedback. We are looking at how we can improve things even further and continue to provide as much information about supporting your children at home, particularly in Maths.

**Dads and Grandads in FS2** This was an exciting new event in our school calendar, created by Miss Read, and once again, we received extremely positive feedback about the experience. The support was fantastic and I know it was a huge success. Well done, Miss Read - I'm sure this will be repeated.

**Bags to School** The next collection will be on **Tuesday 6th November**. This provides an opportunity to raise funds for school and for you to have a clearout over the holidays. Please put unwanted clothing, shoes, bags and belts into a bag and send to school. Thank you.

**Head lice** Unfortunately we have had several reports of head lice across the school this week. It is annoying when children are constantly picking these up from their class mates. Please check your child this weekend and treat them immediately. The only way to rid the school of them is for everyone to be pro-active. If one family doesn't bother, the whole cycle is repeated.

**Girls Football team** The Y5/6 team played in a competition at St Mary's College last night and finished 2nd! They only lost one game and this was to the eventual winners, Francis Askew. Some start performances - well done girls.



Harvest Festival - This week marked the date of our annual harvest festival - we were overwhelmed by the generous donations of food brought into school by our families and staff. We managed to fill the whole of Miss Onn's car with bags of food! The staff at the Foodbank were incredibly grateful when she dropped it off. Minnie Vignes - The Mini Vinnies were also busy helping to collect & display our donations. Many thanks to all of you who dug deep for families in need!

## Attendance

School begins promptly at 8:50 am! If your child cannot attend school because they are too unwell please inform the office by 8:50 am on the first day of absence and **every day after until they return.**

**Well done to Miss Goodby and Mrs Foster's classes who received the best class attendance 99%**

**Overall school attendance for the week 96%**

Date	Event
24th	Mrs Allen's Class Stay & Pray 2:20 pm
25th	Mass at 9.10am FOS Disco - Book place on Parentpay
26th	School Closes for Half Term
5th Nov	School Re-opens
6th	Bags2School day
7th	Phase 2 Grandparents afternoon
8th	9:10 am Mass in school
9th	Anti Bullying Day - wear blue day

## Foundation Reading - Home Reading: SR-41%, AG-39%

Word of the Week: Author and Illustrator (please refer to when reading to your children) Rhyme of the Week: Old Macdonald. Reminder: The Hallowe'en Party after school on Thursday is for F2 children only; not for our Nursery children but don't feel left out as we are planning lovely activities around autumn and Hallowe'en for them. All the children have enjoyed making bread this week. They were so excited to eat it and loved the idea of making it for their visitors. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the dads and granddads who attended The Little Red Hen Bread and Butter session on Thursday - we were so pleased to welcome so many of you and seeing you join in with your children was heart-warming, please feel free to join in any future school activities. Next week for RE we will be



talking about Baptism. Please talk to your children about their own Baptism/Christening or about any that they may have attended.



### Phase 1 Home Reading: KA-55%, JF-93%, JH-89%

What a marvellous week! We have been painting our salt dough fossils as part of our 'dinosaurs' topic and we have also been learning about Mary Anning who was famous for discovering dinosaur fossils. In Literacy, Year 2 have been learning and acting out a story called 'The Papaya that Spoke' as part of a 'Talk for Writing' project. Test your child to see if they can recite it! Thank you to all the parents and carers who came to school on Wednesday and Thursday for the drop-in sessions. We hope that you enjoyed the lessons and they provided you with ways to support your child at home. We are always happy to provide any extra information or support for you and your

child if you feel you would benefit from it. The key ways to support at home are listening to your child read every day and also for you to read to your child, as well as practising weekly spellings and times tables. Thank you for your continued support as it really does impact on your child's progress. Have a lovely weekend!



### Phase 2

Home Reading: JG-68%, CB-86%, ME-92%

We have leapt into our 7th week of the Autumn term with great enthusiasm and the pupils have shown continued commitment to producing excellent pieces of work. To the parents who attended this week's parent drop ins, thank you and we hope it gave you an insight into just how clever and impressive your children are within the classroom settings. As a phase, we aim to

provide creative avenues into their learning and we hope you witnessed this, whether it was during maths, RE or topic lessons. In Science we have begun our tooth erosion investigation. Using egg shells to represent our enamel, we will find out which liquid is least harmful as we strive to be as healthy as possible. Thank you to all who are encouraging their children to read every night. It is much appreciated and is greatly beneficial to their learning journey.



### Phase 3 Home Reading: LA-97%, NA-86%, MN-100%

Phase 3 have had another enjoyable week. In RE, Year 5 have been acting out a marriage ceremony, focusing on the importance of the promises that are made, whilst Year 6 have written letters to Father Marsden to ask him questions about his recent ordination. In English, Year 6 have created some wonderful signifiers and story maps to help them retell the story of 'The Caravan' in preparation for writing their own versions next week. In topic, we have written letters to the Brazilian government to persuade them to stop the dreadful act of deforestation- we were very impressed with the passion the children demonstrated in their finished pieces. In science, we have made models of the Sun, Moon and Earth. We will use these to record videos of the children explaining how they move within the solar system. Congratulations to Mr Neal's class for getting a 100% reading score this week. It is important that all of our children are reading each night and completing their reading records.

