



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth

15th January 2021

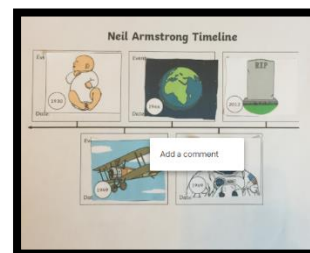
Dear Parents and Carers,

There have been lots of lovely things that have happened at St. Mary's this week and so I hope to make you smile with this update! It will hopefully make you realise, like it has me, how blessed and fortunate we are to have such amazing, dedicated teachers and such hard working, super children.

There has been some amazing work and activities shared with us either via Google Classroom or by email this week. I will pick a selection each week so don't forget to send your work in!

Siena in Year 1 did a great timeline for Neil Armstrong. Sometimes Mr Armstrong tells people Neil is his uncle!!!!

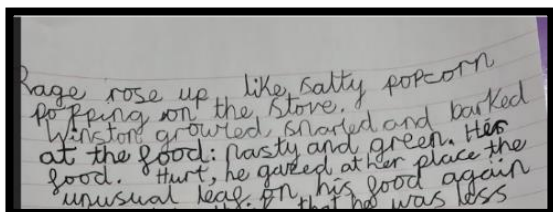
Look at this fantastic picture of a robin, drawn by Nathan in Year 2.



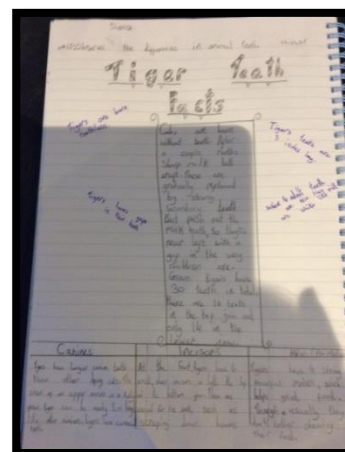
Millie in Year 3 is making pompoms which go on little hats for the top of Innocent smoothie bottles. The great news is that they will be in shops this October. Every hat generates 25p for Age UK. Well done Millie and her mum.



Look at Karla's great writing, also in Year 3.



Isabelle in Year 4 has done some great fact finding, comparing animal teeth. Well done!



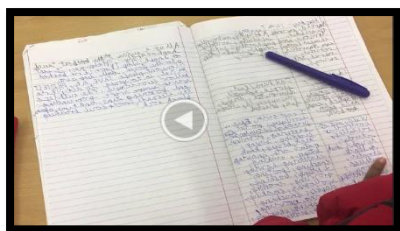
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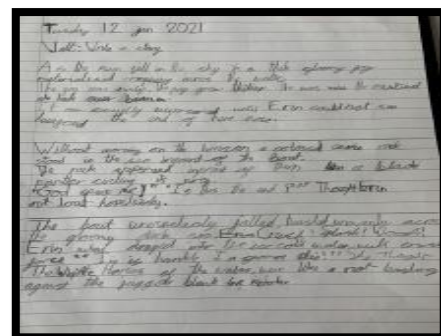
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Look at this Year 5 piece of writing.

This piece of writing was sent in by Mia in Year 5. Look at her excellent word choices.



Mia in Year 6 has produced some amazing artwork. This week Year 6 were looking at sketching techniques and steampunk in art. Look at the detail in Mia's sketch.

Jennah's clockwork art is also full of detail. Well done.



Our two work teams continue to work hard providing education for the vulnerable and critical worker children and the remote education for all the children accessing from home. Sadly, poor Mrs Lovell has fractured her wrist in a fall but is still trying her best to keep up with all the lovely work that is being sent in. I hope you will keep Mrs Lovell in your thoughts and prayers.

Over the next 2 weeks you should all receive a call from school to check in with you and your child. Hopefully this will enable us to help each other if there are any problems or just enable us to share good news. We are collating the signed ICT live streaming consents and hope that by the end of next week your child will be able to log in to live a live meet with the year group to find out how everyone is.

On the issue of well being here is a link which was sent to me by a parent. This website has been set up by two busy working mums who are also juggling home education. There is a useful section on health and well-being. <https://homehuddle.org/>



We have been able to loan out 21 Chromebooks and laptops to support different families and we have applied to the DfE for 14 more. We also wanted to thank families who have personally

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supported us with laptops for other pupils. We also have some SIM cards in school to help with data. If you are running low on data please let us know and we will arrange to get a card to you.

We thought it would be useful to share top tips for Google Classroom. If you have any quick and easy ways that you would like to share please send them into the office. This week's top tip is to help you upload your work to GC using an iphone shared by parents of children in year 5 and 6.

Scanning the Document

Open the Notes application on your (I)Phone.

Create a new note.

Tap the camera icon at the bottom of the screen in the centre.

Select "Scan Documents".

Position your camera over your page so that it is top down, overlooking the paper.

A yellow rectangle will appear over your page this is the area that will be scanned.

If the document is able to be read clearly by the camera, it will automatically scan the document and process it for you.

The rectangle may flicker uncontrollably, and will not be able to get a good read of the page you wish to scan. If that happens just take the photo normally. Pages will then let you manually edit the area of the photo that will be scanned. All you need to do from here is simply edit the corners so that it covers the page you wish to scan.

Once you have finished with taking the scan, press the "Save" button.

That's it! You've officially added a PDF scan to your note!

Uploading the Scan to Google Classroom

If Google Classroom is installed on your iPhone.

Go to the Notes app.

Select the note that contains the document that you just scanned. Long press the document to bring up a mini-menu.

Click the "Share" button.

Scroll through to the end of the suggested apps at the bottom of the window until you see Google Classroom. Then, select Google Classroom.

Good Luck!

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We have had more messages of support and encouragement including this lovely card from a neighbour:



To all staff,
Thank you for taking care of our vulnerable children, and those of ~~key~~ workers. Praying for the safety of staff + children.
God Bless,
A neighbour

Our Reverse Advent Calendar was a great success in providing families with something a little extra. We had a lovely letter of thanks from a member of our parish community.



Before Christmas, we asked for your help to support the Catholic Children's Society, 'Sleep on the Floor' event over Christmas. They wrote to us this week to say they are delighted to have received sponsorship forms and money. So far, they have received £437 which is almost half the figure they hoped to raise. If you still have any sponsorship money please could you post to Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth), St Boniface House, Ashburton, Devon, TQ13 7JL with a cheque made payable to Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) or the money can be paid directly into the CCSP's bank account - number 06024335 – sort code - 52-41-60. Thank you if you were able to help.



Here are the house points this week. Please feel free to award your child a house point on Google classroom in the stream or privately.

The totals this week are:

Red – 46

Blue – 48

Yellow – 79

Green - 41



Thank you for all your thoughts, kind words, suggestions and prayers. Please keep sharing them.

Please stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully,

Helen Armstrong

Helen Armstrong
Headteacher

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