

HEADLINES 29TH APRIL 2022

St. Mary's Catholic School Newsletter (Issue 28 2021-22)



“Drama Showcase Success!”

This week was the highly anticipated visit for our Y9 Drama production cast and crew to the Garage Theatre in Norwich to perform as part of the National Theatre showcase the play “Like There’s No Tomorrow”. The students were excellent ambassadors of the school and showed their gifts and talents as they performed with such vigour and passion the scripted drama. They were joined by a wide range of schools and were noted by the National Theatre as a beacon of excellence in their stage presence, their character transition and technical ability. We are exceptionally proud of our cast and crew led by Mr McHugh and Ms Hayles – Elward who directed and supported them so well. On this page you will find a range of photographs of the wonderful event.

You will find on Page 2 and 3 of this week Headlines the photographs of the range of activities from our Y7 and Y8 enrichment day, all activities focusing on improving and enhancing their literacy and numeracy skills. You will see what a great day was had by all our Y7 and Y8 students who learnt many new fun and creative skills through the medium of



Acting Heads of School Update Mr Johnston & Miss McHugh

mathematics and reading. More cultural capital focus for our students is planned for further into the Summer Term.

Y11 and Y13 students are busy preparing for their forthcoming examinations. The Senior Leadership Team this week have met with all Y11 students and their parents to help and support with guidance, advice and encouragement to ensure our students flourish in their examinations. We keep them very much in our prayers over the weeks ahead.

Wishing you and your families a restful and relaxing May Bank Holiday Weekend.

God Bless

Miss D McHugh



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 2nd May
May Bank Holiday
School Closed

Thursday 5th May
Y10 Parents Evening

**Monday 30th May - Friday
3rd June**
Half Term
School Closed



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

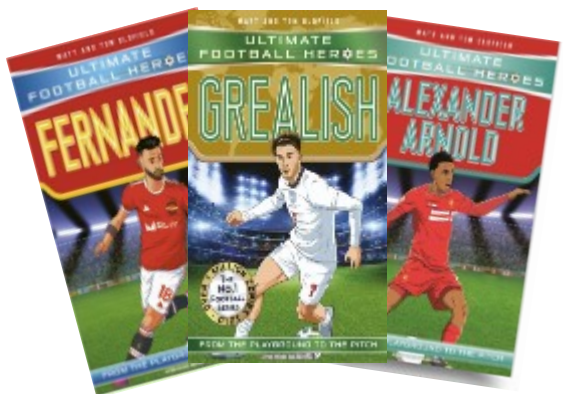




Year 7 and 8 Enrichment Day

Last Friday Year 7 and 8 had a wonderful, creative day, separate from their usual timetable. Students in enjoyed a visit from best-selling author Matt Oldfield, as part of their Enrichment Day.

Matt is the writer of the hugely popular 'Football Heroes' series. He began by explaining how his job unites his love of football and writing. Then students thought about challenges faced by professional sports people and were inspired to write about times in their lives when they have recovered from setbacks. The best story in each class won a copy of one of Matt's books or an alternative fiction title. Matt was also stayed to sign copies of his books at the end of the day.



Other literacy activities included an introduction to Calligraphy, a project on Venetian Masks to link with study of Romeo and Juliet, an Interhouse Spelling Bee for Year 8, and a dynamic and interactive Punctuation Show in the hall for Year 7.

The emphasis in Maths was on construction and spatial activities, this being an area of maths which the pandemic has forced to be neglected. Students designed Islamic Tiles, created Escher-style tessellations and designed Stained Glass Windows, as well as taking part in the first day of the St Francis Academy Trust Sumdog competition.

Participation in this day will count towards this term's St Mary's Award and I look forward to creating some wonderful displays around school to showcase students' beautiful work.

Watch out for more information on our July Enrichment Days in the final week of this term!

Mrs C Wilkin
Assistant Headteacher



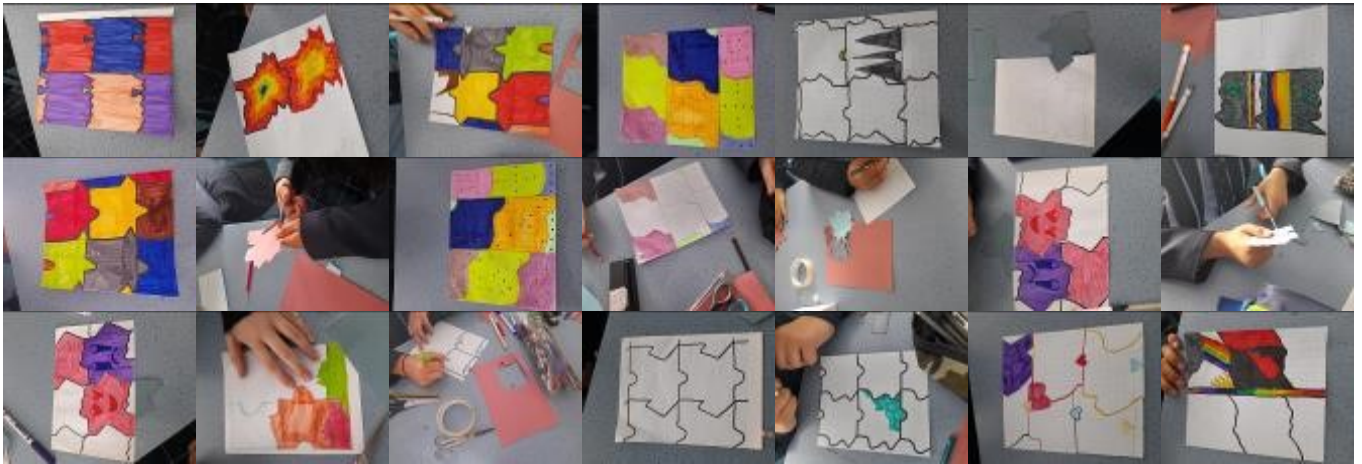
Congratulations to the following forms who are the joint winners of the year 8 Spelling Bee:

8B and 8K





Year 7 and 8 Enrichment Day cont..



The Tessellations completed by 7B.

Islamic Tiles



Face mask making year 8





125th Anniversary Essay



The following Y10 students awarded for their 125th Anniversary Essay:
Kainefechi N, Amy B, Fimi S, Jaymie S, Faith E, Thomas T, Henry L

Celebrating Sporting Success!



Phoebe J, Year 7, has been chosen for an invitation only race at Badminton Horse trials on the 7th May. She has had a fantastic start to her season already, having had a trial day in the Easter break and being chosen to go and race at Royal Windsor for the Queens Special Jubilee Celebrations in May. Phoebe will race in the main ring in front of the Royal enclosure.

Photos include: winning first place at the London International Horse Show 2021, being interviewed for the news channel which aired later that evening on the television and celebrating her win with former Grand National winning Jockey Bob Champion, who has become a great mentor for the children!

Good Luck Phoebe!



Geography News

Year 12 Fieldwork in Bishop's Stortford.

Having missed out on fieldwork opportunities during their GCSE Geography, the Year 12 A Level students designed their own investigation centred on Bishop's Stortford. On Wednesday 20th April they were able to enjoy the sunny weather whilst carrying out different methods of primary data collection. It was exciting to be able to undertake real Geography and explore concepts that had been learnt in the classroom. The class have been working hard back in the classroom to present and analyse their results.



Year 12 Global Sustainable Development competition.



The Year 12 Geographers have also been working hard exploring the issues surrounding global sustainable development. Essays, podcasts and artwork have been created for the University of Warwick's competition. Winners of our internal competition to be announced shortly – all entries have been outstanding, the Geography Department is very impressed with the students' efforts which are making judging very difficult! Well done!

Jessica's painting of an image of a father carrying his child on his shoulders above a cloud of darkness, representing a darker future of pollution if we don't act towards creating a sustainable future. The child is being lifted above the clouds to a much brighter clearer sky representing a better future with the help of her parent or role model.





Geography News cont..

Year 9 Climate Summit

On Tuesday 26th April Year 9 developed further as global citizens by taking part in a United Nations style Climate Change Summit. Working in groups they identified key areas of priority for different stakeholders and solutions for limiting the warming of the Earth to 1.5°C (compared to pre-industrial levels). By using a simulator the students were able to see how much effect their actions could have on lowering the projected warming. You came up with some great solutions to global issues, well done Year 9!



Year 7 India

Year 7 are currently studying India in Geography lessons. This week, by playing a board game in groups, some of the classes explored the difficult decisions that subsistence farmers have to make. Many ran out of money and ended up moving to the city.





Poetry Recital Competition Winners



Olivia L - Year 7

Congratulations to the following students for winning or coming second in the poetry recital competition:

Winner:
Olivia L 7R

Joint runners up:
Ruby C 8A
Joana E 7J

All were announced and awarded with their prizes in celebration assemblies this week.

All KS3 students should watch out for the competition which will be run again next year in February.

SMCS Reading Challenge Cup

These are the top five Accelerated Reader classes with their word count totals. It's fantastic to see a mix of classes across KS3 in the top ten. Will 7A be knocked off the top spot by the end of the year? There's everything to play for this term.

7A	7,546,805
9B	7,495,657
7F	6,692,128
8F	6,687,381
7C	6,601,778

There are 29 new Word Millionaire readers, who have received certificates in assemblies this week. Congratulations to all of them on their amazing achievement.



Year 7: Jeremy B, Thomas B, David DC, Daisy C, Joana E, Rozalia G, Dominic K, Amelia M, Alexander M, Luke O, Maisie P, Sophie S

Year 8: Ilaria B, Isabella F, Rebecca G, Olivier L, Sofia M, Anna N, Imogen S, Daniel W

Year 9: Skye A, David B, Theo D, Joseph F, Molly G, Ieva G, Addison K, Rebecca S, Amelia T



Twisted Tales



Over 70 students from St Mary's had their short stories published as part of the 'Twisted Tales' writing competition. They were challenged to write a 100-word story to show another side to the traditional story-book villain. Congratulations to all the talented writers who took part!



Leo C, Ryan K, Jonathan B, Alex N



Anna N, Keenan B, Austin G,
Marius G, Jan P, Jamie K

The Hooded Man

It was a dark evil night. I was watching the sunrise when a carriage rumbled past, carrying a rich lord. I licked my lips in anticipation, craving the smell of gold. I took out my bow and arrow and hid my face with my dark green cloak, I took a deep breath and started moving. I ran stealthily, jumping in front of the horses, making them rear up, causing the carriage driver to stop abruptly. I swung the carriage door open, the occupant wore an expensive fur-lined cloak, a bag of coins on his lap.

"Your money or your life!"

(Austin D, Y7)

From a Small Point of View

Why are they scared of me? They are so huge. I'm so tiny. I spend my time cowering in the corner of the room and yet they scream. Then one of them *always* tries to squash me. So I quickly scutter away, terrified for my life. I really am one of the lucky ones you know. All my friends are dead. Splattered. Squashed by a shoe, flattened by a book, or flushed down the whirlpool (I think the humans call them toilets?). When will these giants finally realise how much we do for this planet? God save us spiders!

(Chiara L, Y10)

Betrayal

I slowly reopened my eyes. I was lying in the family tomb; he was standing over me crying. "Romeo?" I abruptly asked. He looked like he'd seen a ghost.

"Juliet! You're alive!" he exclaimed. "But why are you still alive?" He looked startled.

"What?" I laughed at how naïve he was.

"The plan was that you would see me lying here and kill yourself!"

"But, Juliet, we were married, y-you said you loved me!"

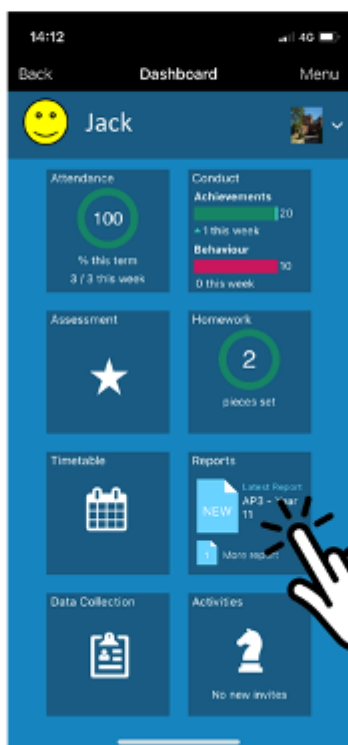
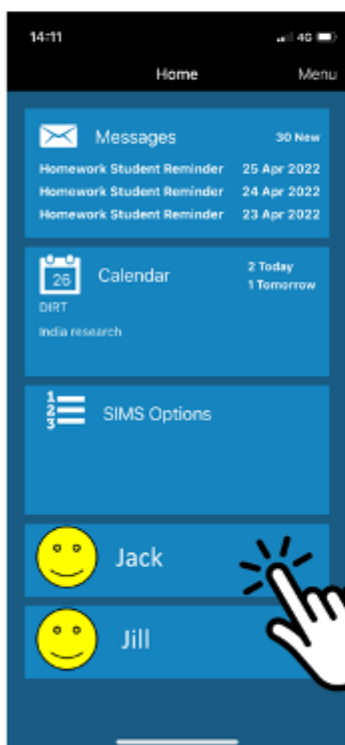
"Romeo, Romeo, Romeo ..." I said, reaching for the dagger in his pocket, pointing it towards his heart, "Why would I ever love a Montague like you?"

(Maeve D, Y9)



Accessing your child's AP3 report

1. From the home page click on your child's name
2. From the Dashboard click on 'reports'
3. From the 'Reports' page click on the 'AP3' report



Absence Requests



Please be reminded that a leave of absence request form must be completed for any planned absences (excluding medical or dental related). These forms can be collected by students from the Student Hub (A block) and must be returned to school, prior to the absence taking place.



Thank you for your cooperation.



We are hiring!



St Mary's Catholic School

Teacher & Learning Coordinator (Head of Year)

Full-time position required from September 2022

You can view the job details by clicking [here](#)

Closing date: Monday 23rd May 10.00am.



St Mary's Catholic School

School Facilities Assistant (Premises)

Full-time position, Year Round

You can view the job details by clicking [here](#)

Closing date: Tuesday 10th May 10.00am.



St Mary's Catholic School

Food & Nutrition Teacher

Part Time (0.6 FTE) required from September 2022

You can view the job details by clicking [here](#)

Closing date: Tuesday 10th May 10.00 am.



St Mary's Catholic School

Headteacher

You will by now have received the letter to parents and carers regarding Mr Celano's role working full time as Chief Executive Officer for St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust and consequently our Headteacher recruitment.

You can view the formal advertisement by clicking [here](#)

Closing date: Monday 2nd May 2022, 9.00 am.

Please contact Rebecca Faulkner r.faulkner@stfrancistrust.net to arrange a visit, submit an application, or for further information.



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Class Teacher—Lower Key Stage 2

Full-time Teacher required from September 2022

You can view the job details by clicking [here](#)



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Learning Support Assistant—EYFS

Full-time LSA required from September 2022

You can view the job details by clicking [here](#)



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Class Teacher—PPA Cover

The role is for 2-3 days a week on a **maternity cover fixed term contract**. required from September 2022

You can view the job details by clicking [here](#)

