



Friday 15th December 2023

Issue number 734

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# Festive Felicitations!

We have had a great start to the academic year with lots of activities, fun learning and achievements. Our term this year ends on Tuesday 19th December at the usual time of 3.20pm. We will be returning to school on Thursday 4th January and I look forward to hearing about all the exciting things the children have been doing over the Christmas break.

We have lots of things planned for the Spring term including the Year 6 trip to Bristol to watch *Wicked* at The Hippodrome and World Book Day which St Mary's always does with style! We are also excited to announce that we have been offered an incredible opportunity (which has been funded by the Governors) to run an Art of Brilliance Eat, Sleep, Move workshop on Tuesday 20th February after school. This workshop teaches young (and old!) people positive healthy habits linked to eating, moving and sleeping. Mastering these habits early is the key to feeling great and having an amazing life. Some of the topics covered include screen time, how we have more options than we think, how we learn, the importance of family connection and a strong sense of self. We will share further details in January.

On behalf of all the staff and Governors at St Mary's, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy Christmas break!

*Mrs Bray*



**You're never too young to make a difference!**

*1 Timothy 4:12*

# Thank you!

At the end of this term, Mrs Marples, our treasured Forest School teacher, will be leaving us to pursue new outdoor education adventures,

Mrs Marples leaves the legacy of St Mary's Forest School, which she has lovingly nurtured over the past five years. Before this she has taught many pupils, inspiring them with her creativity and love of learning,

As Christmas is Mrs Marples' favourite time of year, we couldn't resist using this photo of her dressed up as her favourite word!

We will miss Mrs Marples very much but we know she will stay in touch and let us know what she is getting up to.

Thank you for everything you have done for St Mary's!



# He's behind you!!



A huge thank you to the Friends of St Mary's for funding a whole school trip to the pantomime at the Hall for Cornwall to watch Peter Pan. The children all had a fabulous time and the pantomime was full of dancing, singing, jokes and excitement!

Thank you also to the parent volunteers who were able to help with this trip.

What a great end to the term!



# Mrs. Marples' Gift to St. Mary's!

*As a little leaving gift to all the children at St. Mary's, Mrs. Marples has kindly donated her rope swing 'Dobby Horse' for all of the children to enjoy! Mrs. Marples has also written out her recipe for the fantastically popular GIGANTIC bubbles, which you can find on the next page. Thank you Mrs. Marples for your really kind donation.*



# Mrs Marples' GIGANTIC Bubbles recipe!

## Ingredients

- 1/2 cup of cornflour
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 1 tbsp glycerine (find it in the baking aisle)
- 1/2 cup of green FAIRY washing up liquid (it has to be FAIRY liquid to make the best bubbles.)
- 6 cups of hot water.

## Method

1. Mix cornflour, baking powder and glycerine together with a spoon.
2. Add Fairy liquid and gently mix.
3. SLOWLY add 6 cups of hot water mixing as you go. (it is very important you use a spoon and NOT a whisk to mix because you don't want to create too much froth.)
4. Pour into an empty 4 pint milk bottle to store.
5. Leave the mixture to settle for a day or two then it is ready to use.
6. Do NOT shake mixture, just gently tip the bottle to mix up the bubble mixture when you are ready to use.

(If the cornflour mixture is stuck to the bottom of the bottle then stand the milk bottle in a bowl of hot water.)

(You can find instructions online to make a giant bubble wand with: two sticks, string and a metal washer or you can buy giant bubble wands online.)

7. Have the most AMAZING fun making GIGANTIC BUBBLES.

Mrs Marples 😊 ✨ 🌳





# Christmas Celebrations!

On Thursday we celebrated this festive time of year with a Christmas dinner and the children all came into school wearing their finest Christmas jumpers. In their classes they have been making festive hats to wear at the dinner and they all looked amazing! We would like to say a massive thank you to our catering team, Willow, Gina and Julie, for cooking a delicious Christmas meal for the children to enjoy.

The children voted to raise funds for Save the Children again this year and we have set up a Just Giving page if you would like to donate to this cause:

We would like to thank our families for all the support they have given us in making this a special day.





# One Cosy Christmas Eve...

We were very proud to hear that Connie in Year 4 will be having a poem published in *The Week Junior* on the 16th December!

What a fantastic achievement!

Well done Connie for creating a beautiful poem that perfectly sums up a cosy Christmas Eve.

## A Christmas poem

Created by Connie



What have you been up to lately? Which books have you enjoyed reading? What have you made? Have you written a poem or drawn a picture that you'd like to



### One Cosy Christmas Eve

In the winter's cold breeze,  
My Christmas stocking sways,  
The cosy crackling fire,  
Warms up these icy days,  
Outside snow falls, dusting lightly,  
The candle inside burning brightly,  
The cold breeze drifts through the sky,  
And in my bed all snug I lie,  
Awaiting the dawning of  
Christmas morning

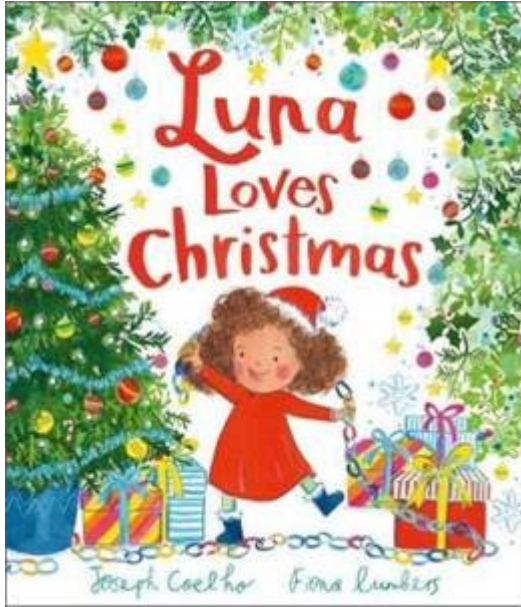
# Christmas Crafternoon

On Wednesday after school, the Friends of St Mary's put on a fantastic Christmas Crafternoon session. Families were invited in to make decorations together while drinking delicious hot chocolates. As you can see from the photos, a great time was had by all.

Thank you to the Friends of St Mary's for organising another brilliant event and thank you to all the parents for their support in raising funds for the school.



# Recommended Read



## *Luna Loves Christmas*

*Author: Joseph Coelho Illustrator: Fiona Lumbers*

*Publisher: Andersen*

*Luna absolutely loves Christmas. She loves that sometimes she spends it at Mum's House, and sometimes at Dad's. She gets to decorate two trees, open two advent calendars and feast on two Christmas dinners. This Christmas is a little different though. As she and her Mum look at their holiday schedule, Mum explains that they'll be doing some*

*volunteering this year.*

*First Luna helps Mummy deliver food bank parcels to neighbours in need. They take a box to the McKenzie family before climbing up twelve flights of stairs to get to the Sandhus' flat where they're greeted by carollers. The next stop is to a small cottage outside town where Old Ms Pothers lives. They go inside and Ms Pothers reads Luna a story by the fire.*

*Then it's off to Dad's house for the night to bake cookies, hang up stockings and prepare a little snack for Santa in the morning. Dad and Luna open gifts together before getting dressed in their best Christmassy outfits. They arrive at the town hall for a community meal. Mum's there too, serving dinner for everyone and even her grandparents have come to help.*

*This wholesome book celebrates giving back to the community and normalises different family Christmas experiences.*

*The illustrations from Fiona Lumbers throughout the book are festive, beautifully captivating and detailed.*

**Interest age: 6-8**

**Reading age: 7+**

# Congratulations!

*Well done to Charlie and Oliver who have both passed their yellow belt physical and theory exam!*



# STARS OF THE WEEK

Year R	Sunrise	Afia Trevaskis For being brave and reading someone else's words as well as her own at the Christmas Carol Concert.
Year 1	Joy	The Whole Class For super behaviour at the pantomime.
Year 2	Trust	Kayden Plows For sensible walking to our Church service.
Year 3	Hope	Wilfred Allen For your amazing singing in class and at the church. You have brightened our day with your enthusiasm.
Year 4	Friendship	Connie Tucker For showing determination and resilience in all lessons.
Year 5	Compassion	Elowen Chase For fantastic maths work.
Year 6	Courage	Isabelle Middleton For always being ready to learn and an exemplary role model to others.



# Diary Dates

Tuesday 19th December 2023	Last day of Autumn Term
Wednesday 20th December 2023	Christmas Break! Happy Christmas!
Thursday 4th January 2024	School Opens - Happy New Year!
Tuesday 16th January 2024	Early Help Hub Drop In Session
Monday 22nd January 2024	Year R Vision Screening
Wednesday 24th - 25th January 2024	Year 6 Bristol Trip
Friday 2nd February 2024	NSPCC Number Day
Monday 12th February 2024	Half Term
Monday 19th February 2024	School Opens
Wednesday 20th March 2024	Rocksteady Easter Concert
Monday 26th February 2024	Parents Evening
Tuesday 27th February 2024	Parents Evening
Wednesday 28th February 2024	Parents Evening
Tuesday 26th March 2024	Easter Service - Kenwyn Church
Friday 29th March 2024	Easter Break - Happy Easter!
Monday 15th April 2024	School Opens
Monday 6th May 2024	Bank Holiday
Monday 27th May 2024	Half Term
Monday 3rd June 2024	School Opens
Wednesday 17th July 2024	Rocksteady Summer Concert
Monday 22nd July 2024	Inset Day
Tuesday 23rd July 2024	Inset Day
Wednesday 24th July 2024	Inset Day
Thursday 25th July 2024	Summer Holidays Begin!
Tuesday 3rd September 2024	School Opens