



NEWS UPDATE – NOVEMBER 2020

MRS HANDY WRITES...

Well, I'm back!

Having had the most amazing experience walking the Camino Frances, it is lovely to be back at St David's. Walking into school and being greeted by the welcome messages from the children was just the boost I needed to kickstart my week back at work.



Walking nearly 500 miles over 29 days was at times challenging but the constant stream of videos, messages and donations from our incredibly supportive St David's community played a huge part in spurring me on and motivating me each day. 'Thank you' does not even begin to express my gratitude.

I know the children were following my journey, challenging themselves to run various distances each day and enjoyed sharing my video updates. I hope I have shown them that setting and completing a personal challenge can be rewarding in so many ways and that by persevering, even on the wet days, the end goal can be reached!

THANK YOU ALL...



**We donated
£340.00
from
'Own Clothes Day'**

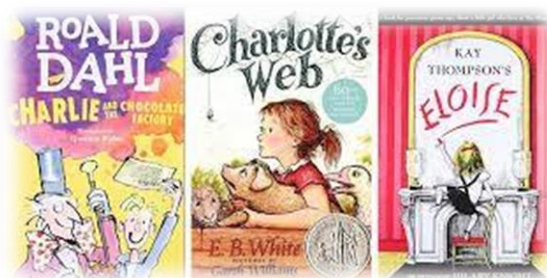
TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

I was delighted to receive so many book orders from pupils who obviously love their reading!

Despite no parents coming into school to view the books this year, we still managed to sell over £700 worth.

This gave us an amazing **£380** to spend on new books for each classroom.

... A THANK YOU FROM MRS BISHOP



AND THANK YOU IN ADVANCE...

Some of you have already brought in contributions towards our Christmas 'Reverse Advent Calendar' appeal on behalf of New Addington Salvation Army, thank you. Please keep your donations coming! Gift items must be new but why not have a sort at the weekend and see if you have any unwanted gifts or toiletries that someone else would appreciate and maybe add a few items into your online basket or shopping trolley.



DOING THE MOST GOOD

KEEPING SAFE

Thank you to everyone who has worn a mask at drop off and pick up times, as requested before half-term. We are doing all we can to keep everyone in our school community as safe as possible and appreciate your support. As adults, we need to be role models for the children and enforce good habits both within and outside of school. We are conscious that there is often a 'huddle' of parents outside both school buildings in the mornings and afternoons. We ask that you try to maintain social distance when chatting and also endeavour to keep the pavements clear for other parents and members of the general public to pass by in safety. We do try to maintain good relationships with our neighbours and local community and do not want to jeopardise this in any way.

STAFF TRAINING:

- 19 members of staff attended a 1 day course on Children and Youth Mental Health First Aid during October
- 8 members of staff completed Paediatric First Aid Training run by St John's Ambulance in November

HEAD TEACHER AWARDS:

The following pupils have recently received awards, once again for a variety of diverse reasons, including success in a music exam, writing a script for our Remembrance assembly, going above and beyond with homework tasks and developing sensational netball skills!

YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
<i>Jude H-C</i>	<i>Chidera N</i>	<i>Whole Class for perseverance and understanding of Long Multiplication</i>	<i>Iris P</i>
<i>Darcey D</i>	<i>Felix C</i>		<i>Lily W</i>
			<i>Cole H</i>
			<i>Evie N</i>
		<i>Toby C-R</i>	<i>James C</i>
		<i>Charlotte M</i>	<i>Emily R</i>

Keep working hard everyone. Next time, it could be you!

PRIMARY MATHS CHALLENGE

This year a number of our mathematicians from Years 3-6 took the annual Primary Maths Challenge in school. It was the first year we had invited pupils from lower years to participate and therefore delighted at their results and how strongly they performed! The questions are extremely challenging and require a degree of 'thinking outside the box' and problem solving.

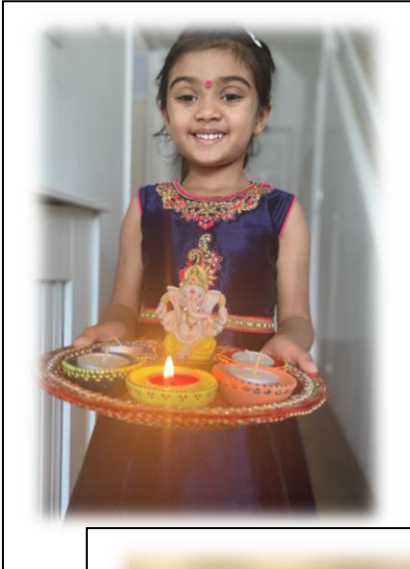
Here is a list of this year's top performers and award winners.

Special mention to George in Year 6 who gained the top overall score both this year and last! And a brilliant result for Louis in Year 3 who came joint 2nd!

Well done to everyone who took part.

NAME	YEAR	SCORE	AWARD
George B	6	21	GOLD
Evie N	6	19	GOLD
Mya B	5	19	GOLD
Louis B	3	19	GOLD
Orlando C	5	18	SILVER
Jessica C	6	17	SILVER
Franklin D	6	16	SILVER
Ashley D	6	16	SILVER
Ava C	5	16	SILVER
James C	6	15	BRONZE
Ben G	6	15	BRONZE
Max T-F	5	15	BRONZE
Esha R	4	15	BRONZE
Guhan K	3	15	BRONZE
Cole H	6	14	BRONZE
Matthew T	5	14	BRONZE
Srisakthi K	4	14	BRONZE
Florence I	4	14	BRONZE

DIVALI in RECEPTION



We are very lucky at St David's to have a large number of children who, with their families, recently celebrated Diwali.

In the Early Years, we understood that for our families who celebrate this special festival, things were very different this year and they couldn't mark this important festival in the usual way. We decided that we would do some fun activities with the children in class in order to teach the story of Diwali. They loved learning the story of Rama and Sita and enjoyed learning the names of some of the Hindu Gods and Goddesses. The children created their own Rangoli patterns and made their own Diva lamps which they decorated and lit. We are so lucky that some of our Reception children sent in pictures and videos of the celebrations that they managed to have with their families at home.

Thank you for sharing this special Hindu festival with us and for bringing it to life with your stories and experiences.



Today, we lit our lamps and thought about the story of Rama and Sita when they were welcomed home guided by lights.



VIRTUAL PARENT MEETINGS

All the staff have now completed their online appointments with you having trialled our new system. From our side the whole process went surprisingly well, once we got all the correct details in and everything up and running. There were a few minor connection problems, from both your side and ours, but times were rearranged and meetings held. We would welcome any feedback from your point of view but plan to continue using the system in the future.

PUPIL USE OF TEAMS

Mrs Campbell wanted to include the following message, she says,

'We are now firmly in the digital age and are grateful to you for your support with our new initiatives. We would now ideally like all Prep pupils to be helped to check Teams once a week from home. Thank you all'

FUTURE DATES

Please keep a regular check on the school website to ensure you are up to date with any forthcoming events and activities. You may notice some changes to the Rainbow Club dates for the coming year. We are trying to maximise the usefulness of our holiday provision for our families and hope to provide some cover for more weeks throughout the year.

Also, on the website, you can now view the term dates for the following academic year **(2021-2022)**

REMINDERS

- **Tuesday 15th December** – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day (school tracksuit bottoms, festive top and trainers to be worn for whole day)
- **Wednesday 16th December** - Last Day of Term – School finishes at 12.00 for all pupils (no lunch provided)
- **Thursday 17th and Friday 18th December** – Rainbow Club. Must be pre-booked by Friday 4th December

ANTI-BULLYING WORKSHOPS

This week is designated Anti-Bullying week and whilst it is something we are mindful of all year, we are having a particular focus on the topic this month. Based around this year's theme, 'United Against Bullying', Year 4 and 6 had workshops last week and Years 3 and 5 will enjoy their sessions next week. Led by Faye Willingale, co-founder of Spotlights, the workshops tackle the subject of bullying in an age-appropriate way, allowing the pupils to challenge, reflect and question in a safe environment.

One Year 6 pupil described her session as *'life-changing!'*



We also plan to arrange some Friendship puppet shows with Faye for our younger pupils in the next few weeks



CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS/CAROLS

We all know that our end of term Christmas events can not happen in the traditional way. However, staff are working really hard with all their classes to prepare some kind of play/ production that will hopefully be filmed and shared on Teams. Please note, the emphasis is very much on giving the children a fun and festive time. It is not setting any sort of precedent for future years or indeed aiming to emulate the West End! We ask that you see it as a happy, positive experience for all the pupils and not worry about parts they've been given or how many lines they have to say. Simply enjoy!

HOUSE STARS

The children are awarded stars throughout the week, sometimes for their work in class but also for their overall conduct around school, or for doing something exceptional outside of school.

Their individual totals get added up and put into their house total.

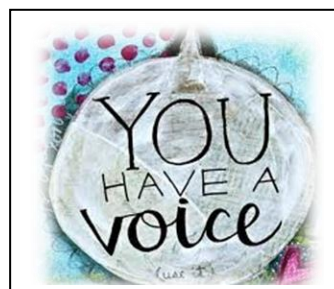
Current totals are as follows:

WAGSTAFF	OAK	SCHOVE	JUSTIN
1740	1854	1921	2042

DON'T FORGET - PARENT VOICE MEETING

Along with Miss Slim, I will be hosting a Zoom session on **Friday 27th November at 10.00am**. Traditionally held after drop-off in the cabin, these meetings are open to any parents who would like to use this forum to air ideas, suggestions and generally be heard. This will be our first virtual session so we'll see how it goes – you will have to provide your own coffee and pastries. Sorry!

Please email the school office if you would like to join, you will then be sent the Zoom code ahead of the meeting.



IMPORTANT!

Please continue to message the school office immediately if your child displays Covid symptoms or if any member of your household has a positive test result for Coronavirus.

This will enable us to maintain our records and get in touch with any close contacts in accordance with our Risk Assessment and the latest Government guidance.