

Newsletter ~ Term 5, Week 3

We have had a school full of stars this week, as our Prayer Team and Miss Parry have appeared on Radio Bristol and our BBC local news channel sharing the work they have been doing to help the homeless of Bristol. They were all amazingly calm about the whole experience and we are very proud of them!

Well Done

I am always so pleased when merit certificates show that children have been working hard at their learning and consequently making good progress. Learning new skills does not always come easily, and one of the most important life skills we try to foster in the children is being positive and resilient in the face of challenge.

We therefore say a big 'well done' to these children, who have been praised for working hard among other things: Jacob, Tyler, Dotty, Freya, Scott, Maia, Erin, Isla, Jamie, Will, Hamish, Benji, Emily, Ada, Ezekial, Lauren and Amelia.



Congratulations to Leanne who has been awarded the Somerset Dragon for her hard work and clean routines as a member of the Somerset Gymnastics Squad.

Leanne may make an appearance in a series of CBBC programmes about gymnasts screening from 1 May at 5.45pm so look out for her if you are tuning in!

We also say 'well done' to Zak, whose art work from the 'Brain Art' competition the year 5 pupils entered this year is now on permanent display at the Backwell GP surgery.

Parents' Consultation

We have been talking to some of our parents with a child on our SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) and EAL (English as an Additional Language) registers to find out what we are doing well and what we could do better.

The overwhelming response was that children were well supported and happy at school. Parents were very pleased we are giving our children 'a good knowledge of Christianity' and that home, church and school share the same values. They were happy that teachers make learning fun and active and that children are well supported and cared for by teachers and each other in their learning and in their social and emotional development.

Some of our parents felt that the children's home languages could be celebrated more in school so we will try and make sure we incorporate this into our work here at school. We also had some feedback that children can become confused by lengthy instructions at times so we will try and make sure we are clear when giving instructions and that we ensure all children know what is required of them.

Thank you so much to all our parents who responded and – as always – our aim is to keep our doors open to you.

Rugby Tournament



Some of the children in year 5 had a fantastic morning on Thursday playing tag rugby against Golden Valley and Kingshill Schools. The morning consisted of training and learning the basic tag rugby skills followed by playing four games each. The children showed fantastic teamwork skills, cheered for one another and helped each other to develop skills, playing to

each other's strengths. Year 5 also had the opportunity to gain an understanding on what it takes to be good sportspeople, making sure they ended the game by shaking hands.



'I learnt that I shouldn't pass but run and that you have to work together as a team to help each other.'
Benji

'I learnt the rules of tag rugby.' Hamish

'I learnt that even if you don't win you still get a warm feeling inside of feeling proud.' Jamie Ann

Upcoming Events

Sunday 29 April 11am: School-led mass at St Francis' Church – all welcome

Tuesday 1 May: SATs and Camp meeting for year 6 parents

Thursday 3 May: Reception trip to Bristol Zoo

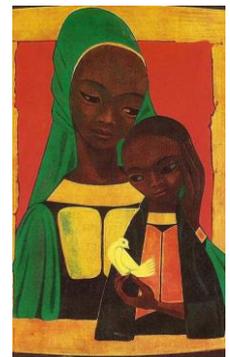
Friday 4 May 2pm: Year 5 lead our May Procession this year to which all are invited

Wednesday 9 May: Friends' meeting (evening)

And Finally...

As we approach the beginning of May, our thoughts are turning to Mary, the mother of Jesus, who is traditionally especially remembered and celebrated this month through the May Procession and the crowning of the statue of Mary, in our school an honour given to the very youngest and the very oldest pupils.

We don't know that much about Mary, but what we do know tells us that she was a truly astounding mother and human being, who bravely stood by her son literally until the moment of his death. She is rightly honoured by Christians throughout the world.



“There is a reason Mary is everywhere. I've seen her image all over the world, in cafés in Istanbul, on students' backpacks in Scotland, in a market stall in Jakarta, but I don't think her image is everywhere because she is a reminder to be obedient... Images of Mary remind us of God's favour. Mary is what it looks like to believe that we already are who God says we are.”

Nadia Bolz-Weber, *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People*