



'A Caring Christian Community Committed to Achievement'

# Newsletter 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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COMPASSION **COMMUNITY** COURAGE CURIOSITY

Dear Parents,

I can't tell you how good it feels to be writing the first newsletter of this new school year with all of our children back in school! I think we were all wondering, a few months ago, whether this was ever going to happen! As always, I spend time throughout the school day walking around school and sharing the learning that is taking place in each classroom. It has made me feel very proud that, without exception, every child at St Mary's appears to be so settled and enjoying the learning in their new classroom. You would really think that our youngest children in Reception had been in school before due to their confidence around their learning environment. I would like to thank all of our teaching staff for working incredibly hard to make their classrooms so inviting and engaging.

We had two really positive training days at the start of September. During the first of these Andy Baker, Trust lead teacher for pupil engagement, led a high quality training session on mindfulness. A large body of research shows that mindfulness supports levels of well-being in children and adults. We are starting this term by introducing our children to the idea of pausing and taking time to reflect on their feelings, using simple breathing techniques and fun activities. We will be closely monitoring the impact that this is having on our children's learning and levels of well-being over the next few terms. We have a very exciting term ahead filled with activities that we hope will challenge our children and develop their curiosity.

We fully appreciate that you must be missing the close contact with staff at the start and end of the school day and would like to remind you to contact your class teacher by e mailing the school office: [admin@stmarysprimaryportbury.org](mailto:admin@stmarysprimaryportbury.org) or telephone to make an appointment on: 01275 372066

Best wishes,

Sophie Westerwijk



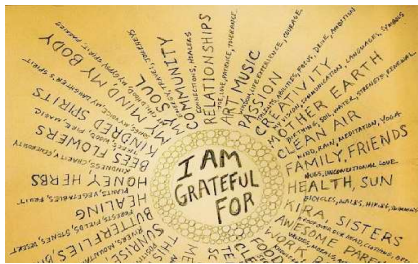
## PE NEWS...

During play time Grace and Emily were enjoying a cracking game of tennis and Lucy, Nathaniel and Sofia showed off their long rope skipping skills taking turns with ease. Well done, you've all been **'CAUGHT IN ACTION!'**

Congratulations to Noah & Lola-Rose who were our first **'Value champions'** so far for encouraging others, being team positive and putting so much effort into their PE lesson.

In PE this term we are learning about Netball. We have learnt about the 'W' to catch and how to use the push / chest pass through playing fireball and ball chase games.

### OUR CHRISTIAN VALUE – THANKFULNESS



#### Time to Talk:

What are the small and big things that you are grateful for?

### OUR SCHOOL VALUE THIS TERM – COMMUNITY



#### Time to talk:

How are we all connected in our community?



Monday – Netball  
Tuesday – Dodgeball  
Wednesday – Handball  
Thursday – Football  
Friday – Cricket

As well as offering a range of sports for our children to take part in every day, our after school club also offer a range of other activities including craft, reading, games and free-play...

If you have any questions relating to the financial side of our Wrap Around Provision then please contact our school office on: [admin@stmarysprimaryportbury.org](mailto:admin@stmarysprimaryportbury.org)

If your questions relate to any other matter then please contact Lynne Giles, St Mary's Wrap Around Care Leader on: [Lynne.giles@bristol-sport.co.uk](mailto:Lynne.giles@bristol-sport.co.uk)