'Celebrating life in all its fullness'



Newsletter 21st May 2021

Tel: 01275 372066 Email: admin@stmarysprimaryportbury.org www.stmarysprimaryportbury.co.uk



COMPASSION COMMUNITY COURAGE CURIOSITY

Dear Parents.

We have a lot to be grateful for and a lot to celebrate this week. Kerry, our wonderful kitchen leader, baked cakes with some of our classes to celebrate their much improved behaviours at lunchtime. It was superb to see so many young cooks in action in the hall, weighing, rolling and mixing and I hope you managed to have a small taste of the final product!

Today we celebrated World Environment Day with 'everything about bees.' Walking around the classrooms I was greeted by so many children engaged in creative experiences, purposeful writing and enthusiastically discovering the world around them. I am sure they will be able to share some amazing 'bee facts' with you over the week end.

As you all know, our values are so important to us here at St Mary's as well as growing kindness across our community. I was particularly delighted to receive this feedback from one of our Trust colleagues working in school improvement:

Thank you for inviting me to your school yesterday and I thoroughly enjoyed visiting all the classes. I know how much you all believe in building the children's confidence and empathy and there is something I would like to comment on. While I was at the gate in the morning I was struck by how many of the children greeted you so warmly and asked you how you were feeling. The genuineness and warmth of these interactions was very uplifting. Children often copy the behaviours that they have seen in adults. What was possibly even more lovely was to see children who wanted to engage in this way but haven't quite yet developed the language skills to to do it skilfully...yet! Their confidence to give it a go was really impressive.

Andy Baker – Lead teacher for pupil engagement Lighthouse Schools Partnership

Dates for your diary:

Term 5
Whole school value
COURAGE

w/b Monday 17th May

Internet Safety Week

Friday 21st May

Environment Day – Bees!

w/b Monday 24Th May

Share My Learning
Journey on class pages
on our website

Friday 28th May

Term 5 Ends

A parent contacted us this week with a concerning report about the use of Roblox. I am sharing their message below:

Roblox chat and messaging

I have only recently allowed chat on Roblox for my child and only allowed it after being shown that Roblox does not allow personal info or any words associated with requesting personal information to be sent through the game. It blocks it out and blocks any user using those words. So, wrongly, I assumed it was a pretty safe environment to chat to other online players.

However, this week whilst checking my child's device I found messages to my child from an unknown source. Having spoken to my child about the source of the messages it appears that while playing on Roblox she was chatting to another player who then requested her private contact details and then showed my child how to avoid Roblox security measures to send the information to them.

The person told my child they were of the same age and same interests but after reading the messages my child received from this person, we feel the messages sent where not from a child. Nothing serious was requested but within 24hrs of passing her contact details the details of the chat became inappropriate and concerning. I dread to think what might have been sent and requested had we not noticed the conversation so soon. This conversation escalated very quickly and although my child has been warned not to message people we don't know they were duped in to giving out their contact details because they felt sorry for the other player.

I've reached out to the school to include this message in this week's newsletter so you can be aware as I know a lot of children in the school use Roblox and like me, you may be under the impression that they cannot pass on any personal information through the game.

YOU SAID...

You want to be able to attend class meeting for your children in different classes.

WE WILL...
Make sure we hold these meetings in term 6 at different times so you can attend more than one.

Dates for your diary:

Term 6

Monday 7th June

INSET DAY

Wednesday 9th June

Welcome meeting

Teacher to parents 4pm via

Teams

W/b Monday 14th June

Health and Well-being Week

W/b Monday 21st June

Refugee Week

Friday 25th June

Sports Day

Tuesday 29th June

Reserve Sports Day

Monday 5th July

Governors Meeting

Friday 9th July

End of year Reports go home

Friday 9th July

Summer Fair

Monday 12th July

Share My Learning

Journey on class pages

on our website

Tuesday 13th July

Transition Afternoon 1.15-

3pm

Teddy Bears picnic for new

Reception children

Wednesday 14th July

Year 6 Leavers Service

Friday 16th July FOSMs

School Disco

Wednesday 21st July

Last Day of Term 6