ST MARY'S SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER

Autumn 5 - 13th November 2026

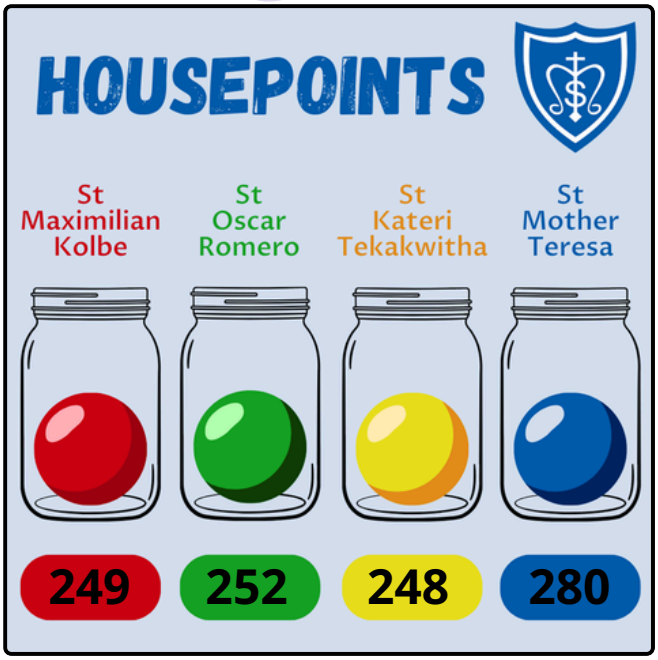
FROM MRS COLE

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half-term and enjoyed some of the beautiful autumn sunshine. We have had a busy fortnight back with lots going on in school. Last week Yr6 climbed into a Trojan horse in the school hall before setting off on exciting writing journeys! They also had a visit from a real life Ancient Greek, Paul Ullson. KS1 started their Polar Explorers topic by discovering a range of objects trapped in the ice! Early Years have started Beach School, with the first two groups having been for their first visit.

Some of the Faith Leaders visited SPH on Tuesday, joining together with Faith Leaders from our other deanery schools to share ideas for leading prayer and liturgies. Mr Eyres took a group of UKS2 boys to a Quick Cricket competition with our local schools, despite some not having played cricket before they still came 4th out of 6 schools; Mr Eyres was very proud of them.





We welcomed prospective families to school at our Open Afternoon on Tuesday; if you know anyone who missed it or couldn't make it, please encourage them to phone the school office to book a tour.

Please keep a close eye on your parentmails for news from the FSA about the disco and the Christmas Fayre. As usual, there will be particular days when you are asked to send in donations of bottles and chocolates in return for non-uniform or crazy hair-see their parentmails for information. The more that's donated, the more they are able to raise for the benefit of the children.

Since half-term we have welcomed David (Shell Class), Laura (Blake Class) and Ava-Louise (Beach Class) and their families to St Mary's.

Next week is anti-bullying week-the theme this year is Break the Silence. Please do speak with your children at home about this and help them to understand how important it is to speak out if someone is bullying them.

And finally, next week we have a representative from Mary's Meals coming to talk in assembly. St Richards have chosen this charity for the Deanery Advent fundraising this year (details will follow separately). We will be arranging a non-uniform day to raise money for this; it fits very well with us as it is part of our Jubilee pledge.

With my best wishes,

Mrs Cole

BREAK THE SILENCE

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Find out more about anti-bullying week, and download the parent carer resource pack here: https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2026/parent-and-carer-pack



QUICK CRICKET



TROJAN HORSE



ANCIENT GREEKS VISIT





BEACH SCHOOL



When I Grow Up

Careers Day



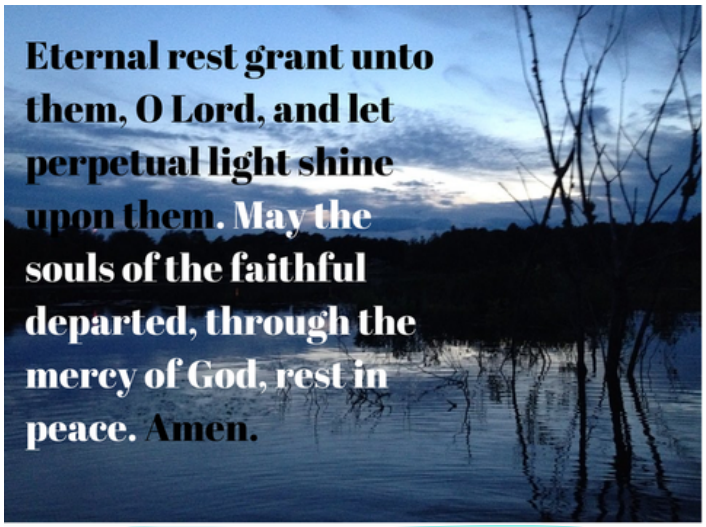
We are looking for volunteers to come and share their careers with our pupils!

Friday 20th November 9.00-11.00am

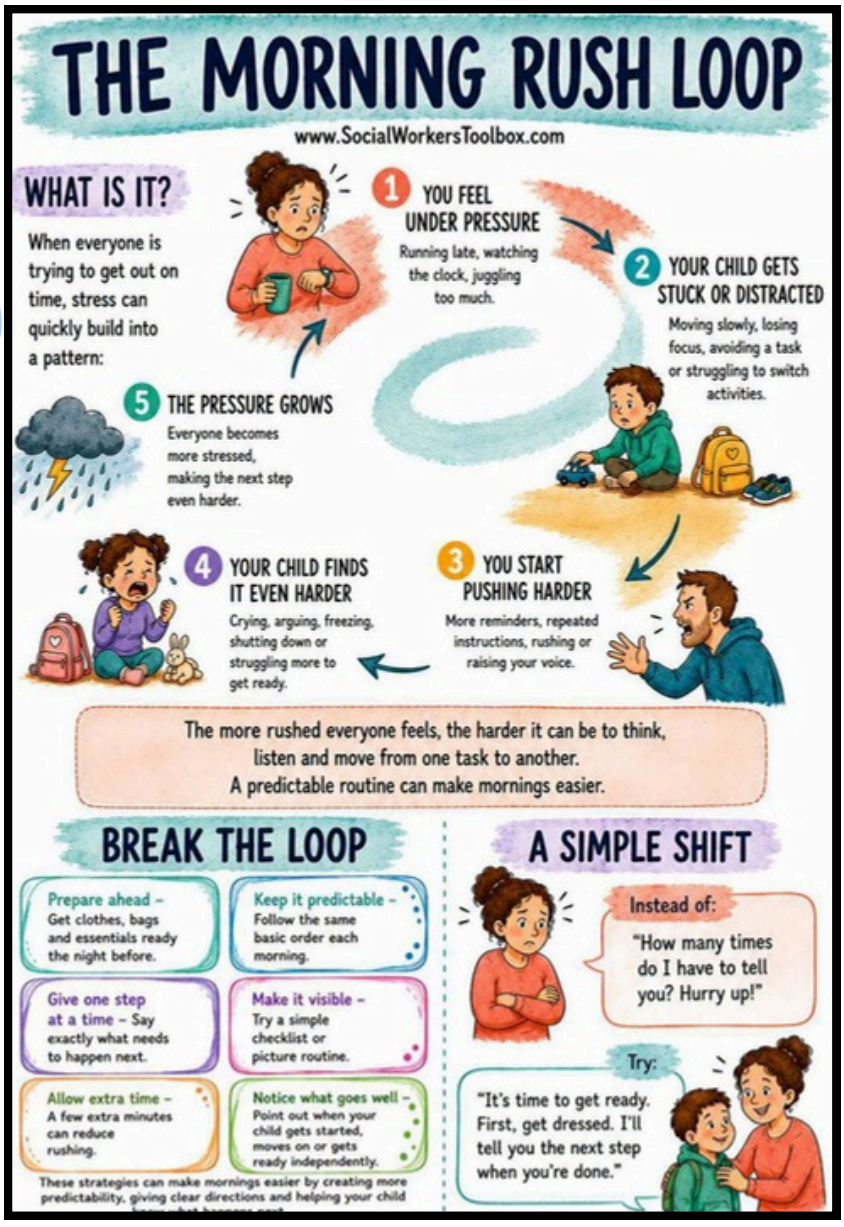
If you would like to come in and share your career with our KS2 children, please let the office know! The children will spend the morning moving around in small groups to each visitor so that they get to experience them all!



Thank you to year 5 & 6 who lead a beautiful Remembrance assembly on Wednesday



November is the month of **Holy Souls** when we pray for all those who have died.



Nativity Painting Competition



Two Age Groups:

- ⭐ **Reception to Year 2 (Ages 4–7)**
- ⭐ **Year 3 to Year 6 (Ages 7–11)**

Key Rules:

- Must be a Nativity Scene
- Freehand drawing only (no tracing)
- A4 or A3 size
- Watercolour paint only
- Include an appropriate Bible verse (on the front or back)
- On the reverse write: child's name, age, year group, and the name and address of your school

Prizes (for each age group):

- **1st Place:** **£30**, Winner's Trophy and Certificate signed by the Supreme Knight
- **2nd Place:** **£20** and Certificate signed by the Supreme Knight
- **3rd Place:** **£15** and Certificate signed by the Supreme Knight

A **£100 cash** award will be presented to the school of which the winning pupil is a member.

Christmas Photography Competition



One Age Group:

- ⭐ **Year 3 to Year 6 (Ages 8–11)**

Key Rules:

- A photograph of a Crib or Nativity Scene
- Photos may be taken at your parish church, a church near you, a cathedral, at school, in your town centre, or at home
- Use a camera or smartphone
- Submit as a JPEG or PNG file
- Include: child's name, year group, location of the crib, date the photograph was taken, camera or phone used, and an appropriate Bible verse
- Be creative and capture the best image possible!

Prizes (for the age group):

- **Winner:** **£30**, Winner's Trophy and Certificate signed by the Supreme Knight
- **Runner-Up:** **£20** and Certificate signed by the Supreme Knight

IMPORTANT: All submissions must include an appropriate Bible verse.

Submission Deadline

4 January 2027

Send your submission to:

Nativity Painting Competition
Hand to the School Office

Christmas Photography Competition
kscbognor@gmail.com

PARENT DROP IN AFTERNOON!

On 30th November we will be holding a parent drop in afternoon with our dedicated schools link worker, Craig Barton.

Craig will be here to offer **support and advice** about a range of things, such as **emotional support and wellbeing, behaviour at home, family difficulties, housing, school attendance** to name a few. If needed, he can also arrange further meetings with you, can work directly with the children in school and can help refer to other support services that may help you.

If you would like to make an appointment to speak with Craig, **please email Mrs Kale - akale@stmarysbognor.co.uk to arrange.**