

News from St Mary's School

It's been a busy half term at St Mary's as we all settle back into a more normal routine.



Thrive

The pandemic, as we know, has had a serious impact on children's health and well-being. In September we introduced the Thrive approach, with its own dedicated space, and it has been successfully established in the school. Our 2 fully qualified practitioners are working to build children's resilience and emotional and mental health. They work with targeted pupils as well as children with problems at key moments. This is in addition to the continuing, valuable interventions of our Pastoral Support worker, and our lunchtime nurture groups.

Suffolk Children's University

This term we have launched an exciting new venture with the Suffolk Children's University. We had a visit from Debbie Bennett who spoke to individual year groups, to promote out of school activities to enrich children's learning and enhance their life experiences. Participating children will have passports to record their achievements, working towards a graduation day at Suffolk One, resplendent in gowns and mortar boards!

Police visit

Other visitors to the school have included 2 police officers who came to talk to years 5 and 6 about staying safe, especially when out and about in the community.

Road safety

Our Junior Road Safety officers in year 5 organised a poster competition for the whole school. Children produced some great posters about keeping safe when crossing the road. The winning posters are on display on the information board.

Number day

To raise funds for the NSPCC children and staff came to school dressed as a number! Year groups across the school took part in a range of number-based activities, for example, making calculations using dice, exercising and recording pulse and heart rates, and a number scavenger hunt!

Sport

Year 6 had a very exciting morning at Hadleigh High school, learning lots of trampolining skills. They all showed masses of enthusiasm and keenness to join Miss Clark's trampolining club in due course. Everyone is enjoying the new netball posts on the playground, as well as the always popular gym equipment and the trim trail.

Spirituality

We have become adept at worship gatherings by zoom, but it is lovely being back together in the hall. Father Jo has entertained the children with his wacky stories, and they are becoming experts at working out the meanings!