

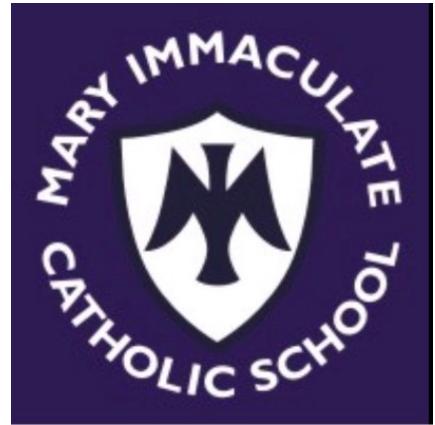
Weekly Newsletter

Friday/Dydd Gwener 12th March/Mawrth 2021

Reminders

Due to Pembrokeshire County Council announcing a planning day for all schools on 22.2.21, we have postponed our planned INSET day to Thursday 25th March, we are adding it onto the already planned Diocesan INSET Day on the 26th March. Therefore, the last day of the Spring Term for pupils is Wednesday 24th March.

Foundation Phase progress meetings will take place WB 15th March and KS2 meetings will take place WB 22nd March. Teachers will be in touch closer to the time to arrange dates and times.



The Friends of Mary Immaculate - 200 Club

"The Friends are kindly asking for your support with the 200 Club - especially as we are facing another year with all our normal fundraising events cancelled until further notice. If you can spare £10, please take part in this years' 200 Club and feel free to ask family members and friends to join.

Once all winnings have been paid the remaining money will go towards our children. The Friends have worked endlessly to obtain the money for the new younger years' playground. We are now working towards providing our children with an outdoor classroom that can double up as a shaded area at playtime.

Details of how you can pay are below. If you wish to pay by bank transfer please email the friends on friendsofmaryimmaculate@gmail.com with your name, address, telephone number and email once you have paid so we can contact you if you win. Details of The Friends account can be found on the 200 Club renewal letter.

Cash and cheque are also welcome and can be dropped off at the school office. Any cheques to be made payable to The Friends of Mary Immaculate. Thank you!"

ICT equipment

If your family used a school device during the lockdown period, please return it on Monday 15th March. These devices need to be reconfigured and set back onto our school network. The quicker the devices are returned, the faster the devices can be utilised in the classroom to support the children's learning.

Breakfast Club

As explained in the meeting for parents and carers and in further correspondence sent on the 10.3.21, places must be booked for breakfast club from now on to comply with WG guidance. Parents have now been notified if they have a place for breakfast club. If you have not received confirmation of a breakfast club place, please do not bring your child prior to the drop off time for their class.

There is now a breakfast club register and the children will be signed in on arrival.

COVID-19 tests now being encouraged for people in the Hywel Dda region with a wider range of symptoms

"People living in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire are being encouraged to have a free COVID-19 test if they have a wider range of symptoms. To read the full article please click the link below:

<https://hduhb.nhs.wales/news/press-releases/covid-19-tests-now-being-encouraged-for-people-in-the-hywel-dda-region-with-a-wider-range-of-symptoms/>

Parish Links

Please find the link to the Parish website on the link below:
<https://stdavidandstpatrick.org/>

Please see the link below for some important news with regards to changes in our Parish:

<https://www.facebook.com/StDavidandStPatrickCatholicChurch/photos/a.245935475590926/1687041141480345/?type=3>

Ten Ten Parents Newsletter

Please see the link to this months parents newsletter.
[Newsletter - March](#)

Assembly - TenTen

This week we are half way through our Lent Adventure, this assembly helps us reflect on this special time.

[Half Time](#)

The whole school Twitter handle is:

[@MaryImmaculateH](#)

To find out what's happening in each class please follow:

[@DosbarthSolva](#)
[@DosbarthAmroth](#)
[@DosbarthHaven](#)
[@DosbarthMarloes](#)
[@DosbarthNewgale](#)
[@DosbarthDruidst](#)
[@DosbarthWhites](#)
[@DosbarthAberei](#)



The Department of Welsh Language and Culture

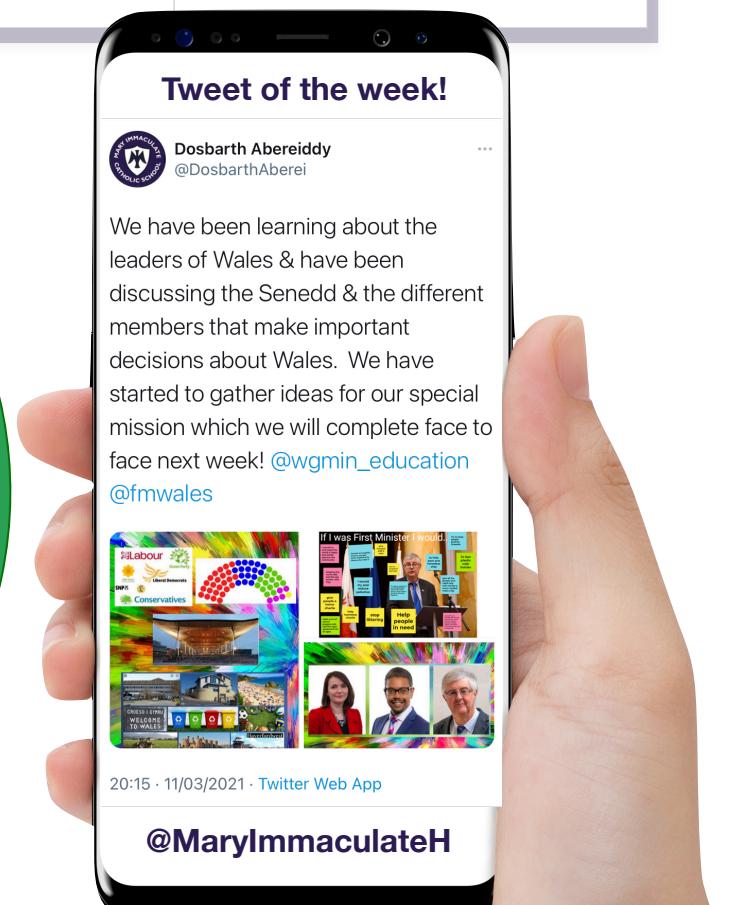
Mae Siarad Cymraeg yn sgil!

A big Llonyfarchiadau to our support staff who have been gweithio'n galed/working hard to further develop their Welsh skills this term online and through extra conversational sessions on TEAMS supported by Mrs Roberts and Mrs Rogers. Dal ati!



Merit Certificates

Dosbarth Solva	George Trew “For fantastic independent work this week.”	Dosbarth Newgale	Conner Free “For writing an interesting blurb for our class book ‘Flotsam’.”
Dosbarth Amroth	Archie Thomas “For brilliant effort he has made this week when writing sentences to describe what he could see through his pirate telescope.”	Dosbarth Druidston	Timothy Davis “For fantastic input in our live well-being sessions this week and his continuous hard work.”
Dosbarth Little Haven	Ellis Thomas “For his excellent effort and sharing such enthusiasm towards all learning activities this week.”	Dosbarth Whitesands	Lily Mathias “For her creative poetry writing.”
Dosbarth Marloes	Evie James “For a fantastic piece of independent writing about overcoming her fear.”	Dosbarth Abereiddi	Oscar Wasilewski “For showing great perseverance in his learning this week.”



April

£30	Lexi Allen
£20	Michelle Rees
£10	Tom Hallett

May

£30	Tina Curtis
£20	Sue Fletcher
£10	Anabel Street

June

£30	Ann Donovan
£20	Corinne Codd
£10	Mandi Foot

July

£150	Pat Mansfield
£100	Tracy Roberts
£50	Sophie Noott

August

£30	Pat Lewis
£20	Chris Shrewry
£10	Ryan Foot

September

£30	Charlotte Evans
£20	Pam Mayman
£10	Liz Hearne

October

£30	BEV Robinson
£20	Mary Field

Here are last year's winners! The winning cheques are available for collection from the school office.

Details of how take part in next year were sent via ParentMail this week. If you did not receive this information, please contact the school office.

November

£30	David Evans
£20	Ian Bartlett
£10	Liz Hearne

December

£150	Kate Carruthers
£100	Ann Soper
£50	William Hallett

January

£30	Nat Meldon
£20	Erin Allen
£10	Mandi Foot

February

£30	Fiona Richards
£20	Ann Harvey
£10	Ann Morris

March

£30	Mark John
£20	Tom Halpin
£10	Mrs I Evans

TOP TIPS

Preparing your child for returning to school

With plans being made to reopen schools, as a parent or teacher you may feel concerned about your child returning to school, especially if they find change difficult to handle.

Here are some things that you can do to help prepare your child and to gain a sense of control over the uncertainties.

- 1 Think about your child's individual needs:** each young person has their own personality, strengths and requirements so will need different preparation and support.
- 2 Find out your child's worries:** are they worried about catching the virus or family members getting sick? Once you know their concerns, you can provide them with information and reassurance to help them feel safe at school.
- 3 Share with teachers and support staff your family's lockdown experience,** as this will affect how your child will feel about returning to school. For some families, just getting through each day has been the priority, while others will have lost someone close to them. This will help school staff to provide the support your child needs.
- 4 Work together** with your child's teacher and other professionals to agree an individual 'return to school' plan. It will help to think about what time your child will start and finish school, who will meet them and where they'll spend breaktime. You can add more details as they become known.
- 5 Use your child's preferred communication method.** Your child could help write their own 'return to school' plan. Other children may find symbols, photos or videos more helpful. Social stories which use short descriptions of a situation or activity can help children understand and cope with changes.
- 6 Think about what will be the same** when your child returns to school, such as their teachers and uniform. Focusing on this first will be reassuring and help reduce their anxiety.
- 7 Find out how the school environment will be different,** such as the position of desks in classrooms. School staff may be able to provide photos or videos so your child can see what school will look like. Remember, certain changes may benefit your child, for example fewer children in the playground may reduce the risk of sensory overload.
- 8 Consider how changes to school routines and activities will affect your child:** for example, there could be new rules about entering and moving around school. Some activities that your child enjoys may not be allowed, such as swimming. Help your child to understand those changes to their school day and why they are happening.
- 9 Think about what you learned about your child during lockdown.** Did certain activities calm your child down? Did regular movement breaks improve their focus? Share this with their teacher. It could also help to continue some of the activities you started in lockdown once schools reopen.

Website links

Social stories: autism.org.uk/about/strategies/social-stories-comic-strips





Oracy is an important set of skills that we use everyday. Every week you will be given an important piece of news to discuss with your child/children. Please use the websites and information given to support the discussion. This discussion will also support our pupils in becoming ethically informed citizens.



Websites to support discussion

This week's news story

Life on Mars

This week's useful video

Perseverance rover Mars landing

Things to talk about at home...

Do you think it is important that we learn about other planets?

What kind of things do you think we might learn from them?

The Perseverance rover has 23 cameras, do you think it needs that amount?

What do you think they are for?

8th March 2021

UN Rights of a Child

Children have the right to research what life would be like on Mars from the Internet, the media, books and other sources. This research should be available for children to read in their own languages.

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

What's going on this week?

Last month, Nasa's £1.9 billion rover mission successfully landed on Mars after its seven-month, 290-million-mile journey from Earth. The rover, named Perseverance is packed with ground-breaking technology. The mission marks an ambitious first step in the effort to collect samples from Mars and return them to Earth. It is thought that life forms from Earth could temporarily survive a Mars-like atmosphere.

Can you imagine living on another planet?

Find out on this link

Virtual Assembly



KS2

Could you imagine living on a different planet?

Watch this week's useful video, which shows the Perseverance rover landing on Mars.

Talk about people's reactions to the event, why do you think they reacted the way they did? How did watching it make you feel?

Some people believe that in the future, we may be able to live on other planets, such as Mars. Do you think this is likely? Is it something you would consider? Explain your reasons why.

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Useful Video - Life on Mars

Would you like to be the first person to ever go to Mars?

How would you get there?

What do you think you would do once you were there?

What do you like or dislike about Mars?



8th – 14th March 2021

Volcano's 'flank' eruption



Pictured: Mount Etna is thousands of years old and has erupted hundreds of times in its history
Source: Canva

Although Mount Etna on the island of Sicily has been erupting since December, volcanologists have said that there is no need to worry. At 3329 metres above sea level, the mountain is the largest active volcano in Europe. It erupts often but rarely causes real danger to human life. 500,000 people live around its base and it is a popular tourist destination. Visitors flock to the area to watch the dramatic fiery lava waterfalls, which look spectacular against the night sky. The craters span an area of 459 square metres, and this is increasing all the time. The current eruption has expanded the reach of the volcano because for the first time, lava has spewed out of one of its sides. This is known as a 'flank eruption'. Locals have spotted plumes of smoke, which have reached 10 kilometres into the sky and this closed Sicily's Catania Airport for a while. Mount Etna has been active for thousands of years. In 122BC, Romans records show that smoke from the volcano blocked the sun for several days.

Photographer becomes role model

Alfie Bowen, aged 22 from Suffolk, has always been fascinated by animals. He says that his first word was 'mallard'. He often found school life difficult and he felt that he did not fit in. His classmates laughed at him because all he was interested in was animals. As a youngster, he developed a love of photography and enjoyed taking photos of animals. 'Photography was my escape', he says. He was diagnosed with autism at the age of nine and he believes that his autism helps to make him an excellent wildlife photographer. He explains, 'Autism helps me visualise what I want to capture and gives me the determination and the obsession to create that.' His story is being made into a film and he hopes that it will help to inspire other young people with autism to achieve their dreams.



Pictured: Alfie's photo of the baby giraffe against its mother's skin
Source: @decubitusrex



Jockey from Senegal rides to glory

19-year-old jockey, Fallou Diop, has dreamed of becoming an international horse racing champion since he was a little boy. He comes from a horse-riding family and has been winning races for years, but he says that he wants to make his parents proud and one day hopes that his success will mean that he can buy a house of his own. In Senegal, horse-racing is a popular national sport, so this makes Fallou a national hero at such a young age. He trains for hours at a time and likes to ride his horse on the beach. Fallou puts some of his success as a jockey down to the relationship he has with his horse, Raissa Betty. He said, 'I took care of her mother before she gave birth, and she has recognised me ever since. We have a special relationship.' Fallou longs for international glory. 'I want to be the best jockey in a country other than mine,' he says. 'In Morocco or France, anywhere



Pictured: Fallou training his horse, Raissa Betty in Senegal Source: @DPAQreport
there is horse racing.' His dream may not be that far away. His trainer has given him the opportunity to travel to France next year to compete there. He will put in hours of training to make sure that he has the best chance of winning. He left school at the age of 12 and walked 10 miles (16 kilometres) to enrol in his training programme and has been dedicated to horse riding ever since.

Your thoughts on last week's news...

Walls are there to separate our classrooms, so we don't get confused and distracted when we are working.

Bethany – age 9

They keep us warm also in cold weathers.

Sienna – age 10



What was your opinion on this week's news? Visit our discussion area, found here:

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss
to share your thoughts!

Zoo walls protect people visiting the zoo from dangerous animals but can also keep animals from their natural habitat and keep them locked up in their enclosures.

Mason – age 7

I think...



YOUR
COMMENTS

Share your thoughts on our online discussion board:
www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

Email: help@picture-news.co.uk Tweet: @HelpPicture
or post to: Picture News Ltd, Colber Lane, Bishop Thornton, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 3JR