



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 22nd April 2016

## Now>Press>Play—Science Workshop

On Monday, children in Year 5 and 3 took part in a Science workshop called 'Now>Press>Play'. The children used wireless headphones to undertake tasks, learning about how animals adapt to their environments. They also explored the ways that humans affect animals' habitats, not always in positive ways (eg through pollution and deforestation).



Here are some year 5 pupils mimicking different animals!



## Cycle Training

This week, Year 3 and 4 have had cycle training, to help them understand how to ride safely.



## Parenting Course

There will be a new PPP parenting course on Tuesdays from 17th May onwards, 12.30 - 2.30. It is for 8 weeks and is completely free. Please call 020 7641 7113 if you are interested, or speak to Mrs Leith.

## A note about Assessments

As I'm sure you know, Year 2 and Year 6 pupils will be taking 'SATs' tests during May. This has been in place for many years in Year 6, and has been re-introduced this year in Year 2. There has been a lot of press coverage about the tests, with very strong views being discussed. The big difference this year is that the standard required for a child to be 'at the expected level' will be much higher than last year (in both Y2 and Y6). However, at St Mary's we do not want any child to be unnecessarily anxious about these tests. Every child will have to take the tests, but we will be making every effort to conduct the testing in such a way that the children find it as normal as possible—especially in Year 2. Please do not put any additional pressure on your children; we will also try to make sure that this term is as stress-free as we can make it whilst meeting the Government's requirements. If you have any questions or concerns, please see me or Ms Granite (Y6) or Ms Bell (Y2). Thank you.

**STOP PRESS: Y2 children will not be taking the Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar test now!**

## Assembly Dates

Parents are welcome to attend our Friday afternoon assembly every week.

**Friday 22nd April—Year 3**

**Friday 29th April—Year 1**

**Friday 6th May—F2**

**Friday 13th May—Year 5**

**Friday 20th May—Year 4**

**Thursday 26th May—Church service at 9.15**

**Friday 27th May—school ends at 1.15**

## Parents' Coffee Mornings

**Wednesday 27th April Bilingual Children- Information for parents on how to best help your child**

The session will look at current best practice, information and tips on how to integrate two or more languages into family and school life. Please bring along a storybook in your home language for this informative and interesting session.

Best wishes

Emily Norman—Headteacher