



**Week beginning Monday 1st March 2021
Newsletter**

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Week Beginning 1st March

During this week we got confirmation that for our Nursery, Primary 1,2 and 3 pupils' school will reopen for face-to-face learning on Monday 8th March for a period of two weeks. I will be writing out to those classes later this week to confirm the arrangements for returning to school. Currently our Primary 4,5,6 and 7 pupils will continue with Remote learning. New packs will be made available for these classes available for collection from the school on Monday 8th March. 2021.

It is important to continue with a routine at home, setting time for rest and play amongst the work. Remember that you can only do your best and if there is anything that we, in the school can help with, please let us know. It is also important that you continue to keep in contact with your class teacher, either by email or through the Microsoft Teams app. If you have any questions or queries about any aspect of school, remote learning or the return to school, please continue to get in touch with me at email: pgilchrist570@c2kni.net



Post Primary

The Post-Primary application process opens **from 12 noon on 1 March and will remain open until 4pm on 16 March**. You will be able to access it on the EA's website; <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions> Further to my correspondence of last week, should you require any advice, assistance or documentation from the school, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Reading Books (Primary 4/5/6/7)

Through this period of school closures our school have issued over 1,500 reading books to support our pupil's reading at home. However, a large portion of these books have not been returned to the school which has implications for being able to continue to be able to lend out books to all. We have an individual record of all books issued and returned for all pupils.

Unfortunately, we have had to make decision that we are unable to lend any new books to any pupils who have more than 4 reading books outstanding.

If you have any reading books still at home that your child has finished reading, I ask you to please return them to the school during this week. The school is open each day this week. Please place the books in a plastic bag and ensure your child's name is on the bag. If you do not have your child's name along with the books we will not be



able to update our records to record that your child has returned their allocated books. Bring this along to the front entrance porch of the school where there will be 4 marked class boxes. Simply leave your reading bag in these boxes.

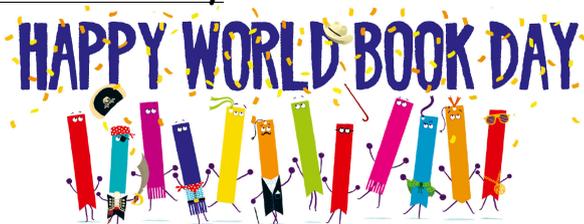
ACCELERATED READER

Our school records have shown that our P4/5/6/7 pupils have read almost 7 ½ million words during this period of school closures, according to the Accelerated Reader programme. This is an impressive total and certainly shows that a large number of our pupils are still engaging with their reading.

We are delighted to be able to announce that we have our second Reading Millionaire's with Lucie Magee (P7) joining Sophia Sims (P5) as a Millionaire reader. We also have a number of pupils very close and if they keep up with their reading and testing on Accelerated Reader it will not be long before they too join Lucie and Sophia as reading millionaires.



World Book Day



This year "World Book Day" is celebrated on Thursday March 4th 2021. Normally in school we invite all of our pupils to come to school dressed up as their favourite book

character. While, a little different, this year we are continuing to celebrate World Book Day virtually. This week we are encouraging our pupils to:

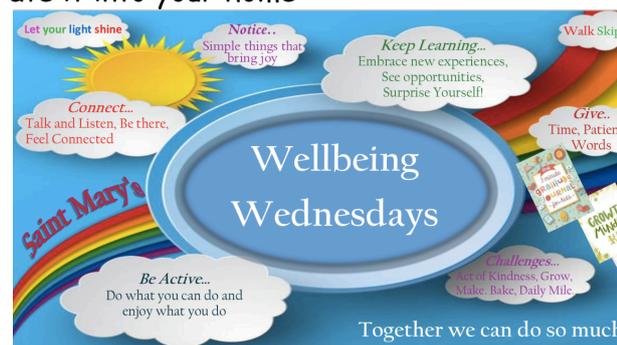
- 1) During this week pupils can dress up as their favourite book character and send a picture to pgilchrist570@c2kni.net for publication in the school website.
- 2) Take part in our Extreme Reading Challenge. Think about different, exciting, fun and SAFE places you can enjoy a book. Get your parents to take a photograph of you reading your book in your 'extreme' place. We would also love for families to get involved as well so children why not take a picture of your parents reading. Again send any pictures to pgilchrist570@c2kni.net (See poster at end of newsletter)

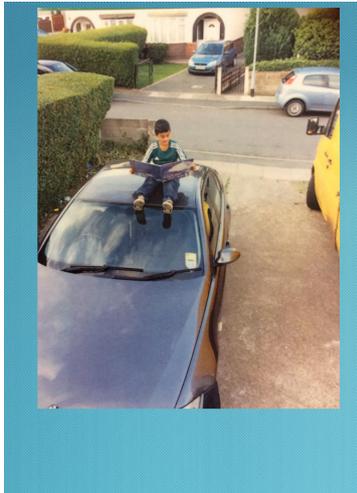
World Maths Day

World Maths is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 3rd January but we will be celebrating our own St Mary's Maths Day on Friday 12th March. More details will issue over the next few weeks.

Wellbeing Wednesday

Each Wednesday, during this period of school closures we will be putting up some thoughts, ideas and suggestions on how you may wish, as a family, to get involved in "Wellbeing Wednesday" at home. All we ask is for you to be open to the ideas expressed and maybe pick one theme, line or quotation and try to incorporate it into your home





THE [EXTREME] READING CHALLENGE

EXTREME
Get Caught Reading



**The Challenge has been set.
Are you an Extreme Reader**

This year to celebrate "World Book Day" on 4th March we are inviting you ALL to once again take the St Mary's Extreme Reading Challenge.

Think about different, exciting, fun and SAFE places you can enjoy a book. Get your parents to take a photograph of you reading your book in your 'extreme' place. We would also love for families to get involved as well so children why not take a picture of your parents reading.

Send your photographs to pgilchrist570@c2kni.net by Thursday 4th March for publication on the school website.



EXTREME
reading

