



THE ST MARY'S MESSENGER

FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026

THIS WEEK

Dear Parents

This week, our worship focus has been peace, linked to International Day of Peace on 21st September. We have reflected on the words of Jesus: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matthew 5:9). Throughout the week, children have explored how they can bring peace through kindness, forgiveness, understanding and respect. We are encouraging everyone to be peacemakers in our classrooms, on the playground, at home and within our wider community. Small acts of care and consideration can make a big difference, helping us to create a school where everyone feels valued, safe and loved. Together, let us continue to share peace wherever we go.

With blessings

Diane Wright

Comic Book Club Takeover!

This week, children at Wednesday's comic book club have taken time to design their own comic book strips inspired by their favourite comic book The Phoenix (which contains popular cartoons such as Bunny Vs Monkey, Doughnut Squad and Squid Bits). Their website is packed with interesting things to draw and read so please check it out www.thephoenixcomic.co.uk. This week's comic strip was designed by AJ and you can see his work later in the newsletter. AJ really enjoys comic book club and has even designed his own comic book at home. His favourite thing to read is Captain Underpants. Hope you enjoy.



HAVE YOU FILLED A BUCKET

In key stage 2, our children are encouraged to "fill each others buckets" - this means doing kind things for one another to develop a positive community. Outside Ms Starkey's office, we have a real bucket that children can write notes to celebrate or thank when someone has filled their bucket. Please see some of this week's notes below.

"Nicole has been a lovely friend since I first joined the school, she helped me settle in. She is so kind"

"Kendra is a lovely friend, she is just Wow!"

"Thank you Kayden for playing with me when I had nobody to play with"

"Renesmee is really funny, she has been a great friend to me. She is amazing"

"Thank you Miss Bagshaw for making me feel so welcome in your class"

KEY DATES

30th September - 9am Year 3 & 4 Maths forum for parents

1st October - 2.30pm EYFS Phonics demo and meeting for parents

7th October - KS1 trip to Wicksteed Park

8th October - 2pm OPAL presentation to parents

14th October - 9.15am EYFS read-a-long with your child

20th October - 2.45pm Lions class worship

21st October - Lions & Doves trip to Cadbury World

23rd October - 2.45pm Leopards class worship

23rd October - Break for half term

31st October - Deadline for Year 6 parents to enter their secondary school preference

3rd November - Return to school



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Does your child fancy becoming their generations rock star?

Why not book them in for music lessons at school with Intersales music academy.

Intersales music academy provide 1:1 music lessons in school on a variety of musical instruments such as Guitar, Drums, Piano and Violin.

For more information visit www.ismmusicacademy.com or email info@ismmusicacademy.com



Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

“Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience.”

“Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right!”

“We have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care.”

“Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident.”

“This information means that we can understand a child's behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want.”

“We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this.”

© Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Operation Encompass is a police and education early information partnership enabling educational settings to offer immediate support to children experiencing domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass ensures that there is an electronic notification to a school's trained Designated Safeguarding Lead prior to the start of the next school day after an incident of police attended domestic abuse where there are children related to either of the adult parties involved. For more information visit www.operationencompass.org.

Dear fellow year 6 parents,

It was lovely to see so many of you at some of the secondary school open evenings this week. So far, I have visited two schools with my daughter, with a few more booked in over the next couple of weeks.

I wanted to take the time to remind all of you that applications for secondary schools are already open, and close on **31st October**. It is so important that you get your child's school preferences in before the closure date, as your child's name will fall to the bottom of the allocation list if you don't, and they may not get one of the three school's they choose.

In order to submit your preferences, please visit the school admissions website on <https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/secondary-school-places/apply-secondary-school-place>

Choosing the correct secondary school for your child is an incredibly important decision, so please take the time to visit the schools, check out their websites and read their prospectus documents.

Best Wishes

Ben Collins

Ceriously

by AJ87

