



St Mary's

Achieving more together



St. Mary's News



A message from the editor...

Spring Edition 2023

Hi everyone,

I hope you have been enjoying all the fun learning and extra-curricular activities going on around school this term. Spring is finally in the air and it has been wonderful to see new life in terms of wildlife in and around school. Daffodils are in full bloom and there have even been sightings of songbirds, squirrels, rabbits and baby deer...aaahhh! Spring is a time for new life, new ideas and a fresh start. During this time of Lent and in the lead up to the Easter break, we will be thinking about how Jesus' sacrifice brought about a fresh start and a path to bring people closer to God. How do you celebrate Easter in your families? Read on to find out how people around the world celebrate. How is this the same as you? How is it different?

We also have a great Easter recipe, a quiz and other fun activities for you to try. Each year group has an excellent piece of writing for you to read and in Teacher Talk, you can find out about the hobby of one of your teachers. It might inspire you to give it a try too! Try one of the books recommended for your year group and write a review of it for a friend. Have a lovely Easter Holiday!

Mrs Gill

An Easter Recipe – by Mr Gibbs

Mr Gibbs' Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns are a particular favourite of mine and baking is something I really enjoy. These sticky buns of goodness are great toasted and I enjoy mine with butter or jam. I wonder how you eat them. Try baking and let me know what you have used. Follow my recipe below.

Ingredients

- 50 g unsalted butter
- 50 g golden caster sugar
- 1 heaped teaspoon mixed spice
- 1 whole nutmeg , for grating
- 200 ml semi-skimmed milk
- 1 large free-range egg
- 400 g strong white bread flour , plus 2 tablespoons and extra for dusting
- 50 g quality cocoa powder
- 1 x 7 g sachet of dried yeast
- 150 g quality dark chocolate, (70%)
- 100 g raisins , or mixed dried fruit
- 3 tablespoons runny honey



Method

1. Place the butter, sugar, mixed spice, a good grating of nutmeg and a pinch of sea salt in a pan over a low heat and warm gently until melted, stirring occasionally.
2. Remove from the heat, pour in the milk, then crack in the egg and whisk well.
3. Sift the flour and cocoa powder into a large bowl and tip in the yeast. Make a well in the middle, then gradually pour in the milk mixture, stirring and bringing in the flour from the outside to form a rough dough.
4. Knead on a flour-dusted surface for around 5 minutes, or until smooth and springy. Transfer to a flour-dusted bowl, cover with a clean damp tea towel and prove in a warm place for 1 hour 30 minutes, or until doubled in size.
5. Chop half the chocolate into 12 equal-sized pieces and put aside, then finely chop the remaining chocolate into tiny chips. Chop any large dried fruits into smaller pieces.
6. When the dough is ready, transfer to a clean surface and use your fist to knock out the air. Roughly stretch and flatten out the dough, sprinkle over the chocolate chips and dried fruit, then knead for a few minutes until smooth again, pushing any chocolate or fruit that escapes back into the dough.
7. Preheat the oven to 180°C/350°F/gas 4, and grease and line a 25cm x 35cm baking tray.

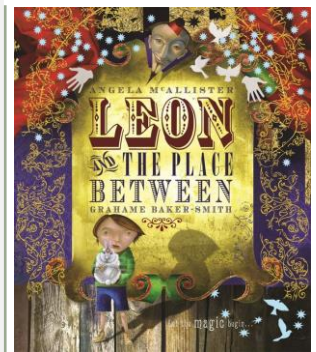
8. Divide the dough into 12 equal pieces. Flatten one piece slightly, push a piece of chocolate into the centre, snapping it to fit, if needed, then fold the dough back over the chocolate to trap it inside. Shape the dough into a neat ball and place on the prepared tray. Repeat with the remaining dough, leaving a small gap between each bun.
9. Cover with a damp tea towel and leave to prove in a warm place for around 45 minutes, or until doubled in size.
10. Mix 2 tablespoons of flour with enough water to give you a thick batter consistency, then transfer to a piping bag. Pipe thin crosses across the top of the buns.
11. Bake for 25 minutes, or until golden, then transfer to a cooling rack. Warm the honey a little to loosen, then gently brush over the buns to glaze.
12. Slice open while warm to enjoy the melting middle – delicious served with a little butter and Mr Gibbs' choice of cherry jam, if you like.

This Edition's Book Recommendations – by Mrs Gill

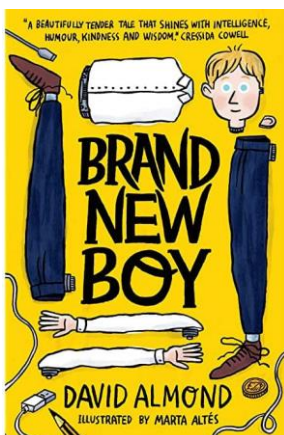
Year 3

Leon and the Place Between

Wanting to prove to his brothers and sister that magic really exists, Leon volunteers to be in Abdul Kazam's magic show and gets transported to a mysterious world. Filled with rabbits, doves, playing cards and magician's assistants – among other things – if a magician can make it disappear, it will end up in the Place Between! When Leon returns, not only do his brothers and sister believe, but we do too. With die cut holes into and out of the Place Between, the reader takes a journey right through the pages of the book, into the mysterious world of Grahame Baker-Smith's breath-taking illustrations.



Year 4



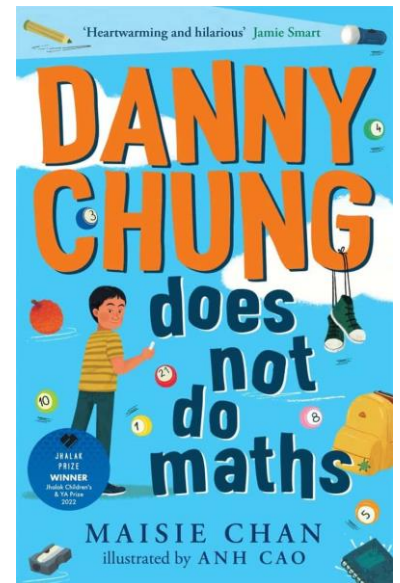
A simple but punch-packed new tale from storytelling master David Almond. When a brand new boy called George starts at school, Daniel and his best friend Maxie are looking forward to getting a chance to enjoy the company of a new classmate. Daniel agrees to keep an eye on the new boy, although he has to admit there are few unusual things about George. Whether it's the way that Miss Crystal watches his every step and makes ongoing observations in her notebook or the way that George can answer complicated maths questions without having to think about them, yet doesn't seem to have an understanding of some of the very basic chatter between Daniel and his friends, something seems amiss.

Year 5

Eleven-year-old Danny Chung loves drawing more than anything – certainly more than maths, which, according to his dad and everyone else, is what he is 'supposed' to be good at. He also loves having his own room where he can draw in peace, so his life is turned upside down when a surprise that he's been promised turns out to be his little, wrinkly, ex-maths-champion grandmother from China. What's worse, Nai Nai has to share his room, AND she takes the top bunk!

Nai Nai can't speak a word of English, which doesn't make things easy for Danny when he is charged with looking after her during his school holidays. Babysitting Nai Nai is NOT what he wants to be doing!

Before long though it becomes clear to Danny that there is more to Nai Nai than meets the eye, and that they have more in common than he thought possible ...

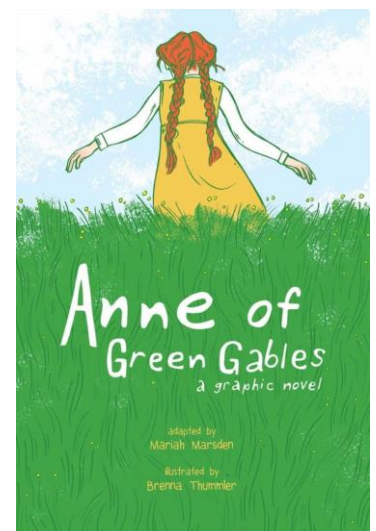


Year 6

The magic of L.M. Montgomery's treasured classic is reimaged in a whimsically-illustrated graphic novel adaptation perfect for newcomers and kindred spirits alike.

When Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert decide to adopt an orphan who can help manage their family farm, they have no idea what delightful trouble awaits them. With flame-red hair and an unstoppable imagination, 11-year-old Anne Shirley takes Green Gables by storm.

Anne's misadventures bring a little romance to the lives of everyone she meets: her bosom friend, Diana Barry; the town gossip, Mrs. Lynde; and that infuriating tease, Gilbert Blythe. From triumphs and thrills to the depths of despair, Anne turns each everyday moment into something extraordinary.



TEACHER TALK – by Mrs Parsons



Have you ever slept overnight in a tent? Do you love being outside? Well, if you do, then camping might be something that you would like to try.

Camping is an activity that my family and I love to do each summer. As the summer months are approaching, we are planning out our next camping trip. I love being able to get away from all the busy, noisy places and find a campsite with lots of green, open space and have a chance for my family and I to enjoy time outside together. We cook outside, play outside, make our meals outside and even brush our teeth outside! One of my favourite times is when we can sit around a campfire together, toast marshmallows and watch stars together. We have managed to watch a meteor shower before, with amazing shooting stars across the sky.

If you fancy trying camping, talk to your family about where you could camp together and what sort of equipment you might need...

Here is a handy checklist of things of you might need:

- A tent – of course!
- A torch or lantern
- Bedding – a soft mat and a sleeping bag and lots of blankets
- Kitchen tools (forks, knives, plates, containers and a kettle)
- Food
- Water
- Clean clothes and dry shoes
- A cool box to help keep food fresh
- A first aid kit
- Insect repellent
- Sun cream
- Matches to light a fire – of course, this needs to be with an adult!

If you want to ask about what camping might be like, come and have a chat with me, I'd love to talk to you.

Wonderful Work Gallery

A celebration of your writing this term...

Thursday 16th March 2023

Can I write my own 'Lost Words' poem?

Happily, walking across the forest is a secretive creature the Honey Bear.

On going eating is what he loves with icky sticky honey in his jaws.

Never leaving his food alone with other bears or he will have no honey left.

Emerald green gills the forest and lets its flowers spread.

Yawning after his big, cosy night sleep on his pile of fresh leaves.

Bear night boozels is the best night in the forest.

Even if you get a seat, whether you can see it's bitter-sweet.

After that night of extreme fun *This is a brilliant poem Serena!*

Resting is the thing that must be done.

Mitchell

Friday ~~Monday~~ 1st March *well done! Great points in your persuasive writing!*

Can I write a persuasive letter?

Dear Ms Welch

I am writing to you to say that year 6 should be able to go to the Globe Theatre in London and ^{we} persuade you to go. We will never get another opportunity.

Firstly, the cost is £25 per person but if their ^{the} parents pay for their child it will be quite cheap. It will be a really good experience that we will not forget.

Secondly, our behaviour will be really good on the bus. We will not shout and we will not be silly. In London we will be sensible as it is a museum city. We will not wander off into shops.

Lastly, we will be responsible for our ~~own~~ ^{own} school. We will show the school values that you taught us. This trip will prepare us for bigger school trips in Secondary School. When we get to London we will know a bit about it if we visit again, so we won't get lost.

As a caring head teacher, and this being your last year we should go to the Globe Theatre because you need to have some fun on your last year. Year 6 have ~~earned~~ ^{earned} this treat.

Yours Sincerely Freddie Ward

Russell

Can I write a persuasive letter?

Dear Mrs M. Welch,

I am writing to you respectfully to ask you to let us go to the Globe, as it part of our learning. I strongly ~~believe~~ ^{believe} that if you let us go it will give us a better opportunity to understand our learning more than just learning it in school. I really hope that after you read my letter you will consider taking year 6 to Globe in London.

Firstly, I know that SATS is soon but it will be good to get away so we get a thinking about everything that might happen in SATS. You may be saying that it will be too much money to go on this school trip, but all could pay so we can go or we could raise money like a bake sale. Also, visiting the Globe Theatre would be amazing to see and learn about. It would be more fun to learn about it there than in the class room.

As you know, this is our last year in St Mary's; it would be a good school trip to go on. Please take time to consider to let us go on this amazing school trip, as you are the best head teacher in the world.

Yours Sincerely, Skye

Nightingale

Good persuasive letter

Thursday 23 March 23

Can I draft an extract inspired by *Persepolis*?

Accutely took a break today to take in everything she could see. An overwhelming feeling, followed her head, an episode of ~~her~~ ^{her} mind with excitement. She stared into the dark abyss. Following her dad's gaze, her eyes landed on a tissue box. Quiet, just what she needed.

Snapping out of her trance, she followed her dad, cautiously stepping, skipping and balancing on the smooth wooden floor. She looked gratefully on the wooden side table, wobbling for a brief moment before she steadied her self. But quickly placing and opening her cotton bag, not realising that her sugar tube fell onto the floor. She used her strong upper body to pull herself up, onto the cold tissue box, shuddering the intense vibrations on the polished wooden box. With the help of her dad, she dugged at the soft tissue as she turned from her father. She spotted a pair of huge, watery, doll like eyes. She froze... the colour from her face drained immediately like pulling the plug from a bath. The next few moments were painstakingly quiet.

Superb!

White

7

190 The 190 Roman Museum

I went to a visit to the Roman Museum to explore and find out more about the Romans. The museum was full of lots of fascinating artefacts and they gave us lots of information about the Romans. I had a great time and here is what I have learnt.



This is a wax tablet that the Romans used to write on. From it, I learnt that the Romans started schools and the Romans used numbers. This means they learnt how to write.



This is a big horse Roman toy horse. From this I have learnt that the Romans knew how to play. This also means that they made wooden toys.

What I learnt



These are Roman helmet and shield. I have learnt that they went to war. They had bigger shields so they can protect themselves more.



This is a glass cup. This would use glass. I have learnt that the Romans used glass. This means they also drank from it. They picked grapes to make the wine.

What was the cup made from?

Well done, Frankie!

Dickens

Can we describe and reflect in the first person?

Was this bird following me? I'm sure it was the second time I had seen it on my walk home. This time it stood in front of me and blocked my way. Why? Slowly it craned its head up. Eye to eye we stared at each other. Deep black pools of love peering up at me. It was so bright and so blue, like the sea on a clear day or the sky on a clear frosty winter's morning.

What did this little guy want?

After the terrible day at school I had had, this was a welcome relief.

"Chirrup," it sang to me so beautifully, "Chirrup!" it said once more. The sound pierced my miserable mood and the despondency lifted a little.

"Finally, he's looking at me!" When he looked at me I felt so good after 6 hours and 45 mins. The bird thought what he is seeing is he happy is he feeling sad after being tortured by those two diabolical kids. "I am so happy that he is happy so just to make things better I chirped" "Chirp" "Chirp!" The bird glapped his wings out of joy then started to giggle "he he he" he he he!

The bird, was so relieved because he was smiling for god knows how long. After that he was giggling for a couple of minutes. The bird was smiling in a happy, cute way. The bird looking at him and the boy was looking at the bird as well. "I think he has forgotten about those bullies."

Dear diary,

Today was a spectacular day. I was just casually kicking about a football; I heard a sudden BANG! I looked out of my window to Paddington Station; a train fell off the track. Suddenly, I teleported to the scene, now let me introduce you to my side kick I mean. Obviously, I lifted up the train while I mean helped the passengers and the train driver out of the train. I mean and I took the people far away as we heard the train go BANG!

Nelson

Paulet

Conan Doyle

Wearing a mask lets us be,
Anyone we want, really!
Wearing a mask lets us do,
Whatever we want, it's true.

Wearing a mask can make us hopeful,
So there really is no need to be so woeful!
You can be yourself,
Or, you can be someone else!

So when we're done with play and it's time to put away,
You can go back to yourself because your great in every way!
Because who you are is unique and true,
And being yourself is the best thing to do!

Austen

Wednesday 8th March

Can I write a text about snow?



Once upon a time, there was a little boy he was out with his mum and dad on a picnic the boy was play with his ball then there came a gust of wind and blew the ball away the boy chased the blue bouncy ball but it kept on going at last the ball stopped but the boy was lost. The boy looked up and said I am lost, just then there was a flash and the boy covered his covered eyes. He saw a beautiful woman, she look looked like an Angel but she had blue hairs neatly blated and her wings were blue and half her sash was blue. Who are you? The boy trembled. I am the snow I made the wind move your ball. Why? said the boy, because I and my land are in danger my enemy the sun wants to delect me and my land. I need you to work with my daughter. if you can complet my task I will give you

any wish you want, so are you is The boy thinked in his head he said I complet this task I can wish to go back home. I'll do it said the boy. OK, This is my daughter Lizzie you will work with her.

A very imaginative story . . . Well done.

Remember to use inverted commas for speech.

What's in the news around the World?

By Mrs Candy



Easter Traditions

Easter is just around the corner. As well as being a religious festival, Easter is host to a range of unique traditions from around the world.

When did people start eating chocolate eggs?

In Bermuda, an island in the North Atlantic, people build and fly kites on Good Friday. Traditionally, the kites are either six or eight-sided and are made from colourful paper. They often have long tails and a strip of paper attached to the kites to make a humming noise. From 3 p.m., people fly their kites and take part in competitions, such as the largest kite and best decorated.

In Sweden and some other countries, children dress up as Easter witches. This involves wearing a headscarf and having painted freckles on their faces. Much like Halloween, children go from house to house to get sweets but here they swap them for pictures they have made.

In Florence, Italy, there is a special firework display, every year on Easter Sunday. The event is known as the 'Explosion of the Cart'. This sees a decorative cart, which is around nine metres tall, wheeled outside of the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore by two oxen. After the Archbishop of Florence has led an Easter service, he lights a dove-shaped firework, which flies down a wire lighting the cart. Attached to the cart are many fireworks, which then are set off in front of an eager crowd.

Every year in Bessières, France, a giant omelette is made from around 15,000 eggs! The tradition is said to have dated back to when French ruler Napoleon was travelling through Bessières. He ate an omelette so delicious that he wanted all the eggs in the town gathered to make a giant omelette for his army. To this day, the tradition continues; many chefs stir the giant omelette with oar-sized spoons.



Did you know?

Hollow chocolate eggs were first sold in the UK in 1873, by the company Fry's. Sending these eggs as gifts replaced a previous tradition of sending painted chicken eggs.

The chocolate egg is first thought to have come from France and Germany in the early 19th century. At this time, the eggs were solid chocolate!

However you and your family choose to celebrate Easter, I hope you have a wonderful time.

Quiz time – by Mrs Stephens

King Charles III's Coronation – How much do you know?



1. When was Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation?
2. Who designed Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation dress?
3. How many parts does a coronation service fall into?
4. What did Prince Charles receive from Queen Elizabeth II when she was crowned?
5. How many Coronations have been held at Westminster Abbey?
6. Who will conduct King Charles' Coronation?
7. How many guests attended Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation?
8. How many nations and territories were officially represented at Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation service?
9. What is the name of the crown placed on the head of Queen Elizabeth II during her Coronation service?
10. What is Prince William expected to do at King Charles III's Coronation?

Answers on last page

It Is Easter Time

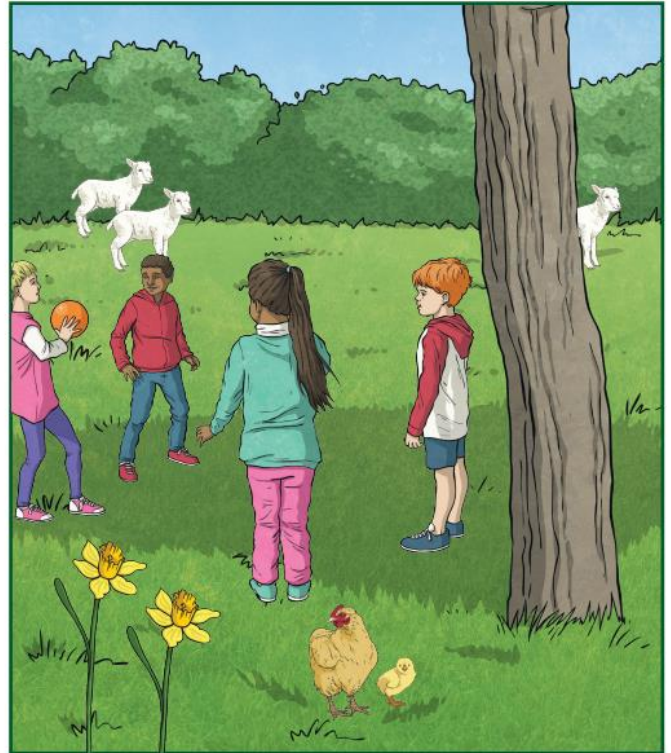
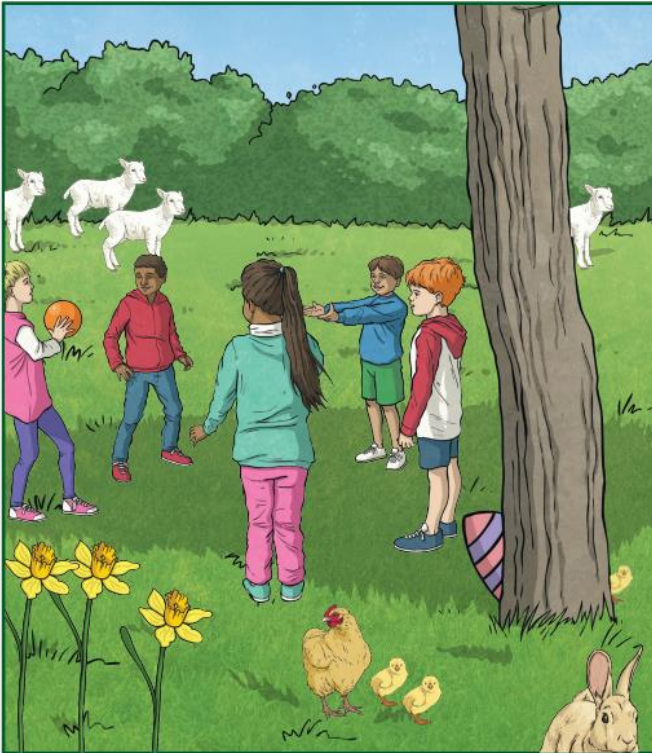


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cross
daffodils
bible
priest
basket

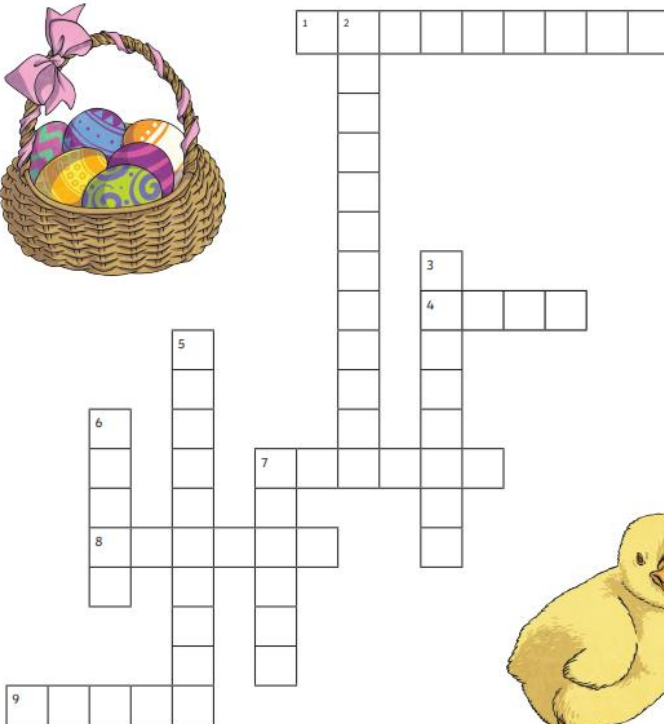
hunt
eggs
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Easter
nest

Easter Spot the Difference



There are 8 altogether!

Easter

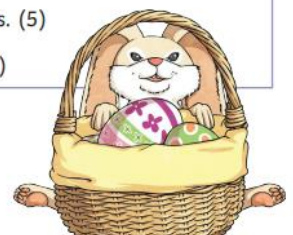
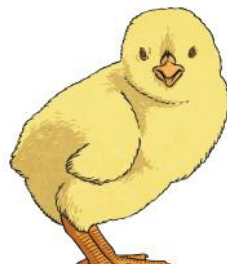


Across

1. The main ingredient in Easter eggs. (9)
4. The shape of an Easter egg. (4)
7. This is used to collect Easter eggs. (6)
8. The season when Easter takes place. (6)
9. The animal who is said to deliver Easter eggs. (5)

Down

2. Special Easter cakes. (3,5,4)
3. The week before Easter Sunday. (4,4)
5. The day that Jesus died. (4,6)
6. Jesus was nailed to this. (5)
7. A special Easter hat. (6)

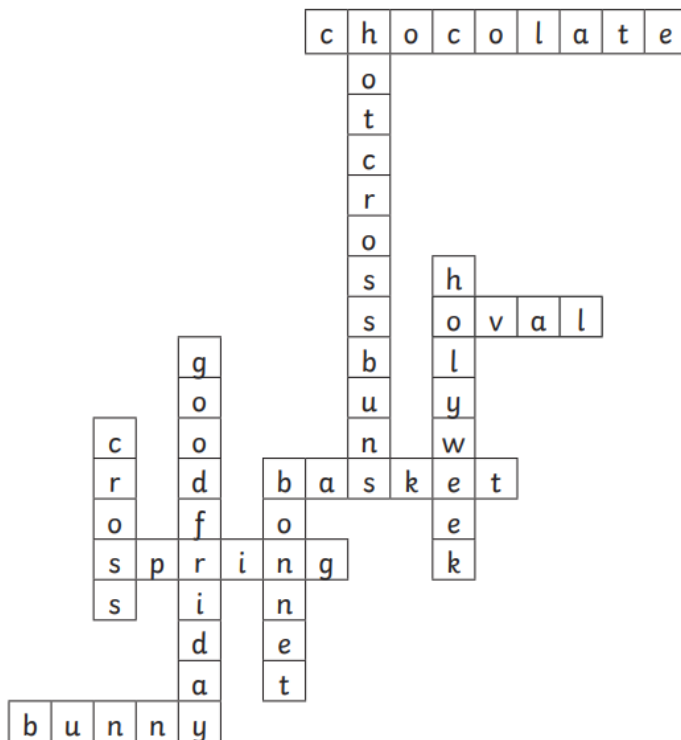


Answers

King Charles III's Coronation: quiz answers

1. 2nd June 1953
2. British fashion designer Norman Hartnell
3. The coronation falls into six parts: the recognition, the oath, the anointing, the investiture (which includes the crowning), the enthronement and the homage
4. A special hand-painted invitation to the Coronation
5. There have been 39 coronations in Westminster Abbey since 1066
6. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby
7. A total of 8,251 guests attended The Queen's Coronation ceremony at Westminster Abbey
8. 129 nations and territories were officially represented at the Coronation service
9. The St. Edward's Crown
10. Prince William is expected to kneel before the King and kiss him on his right cheek as a sign of respect

Crossword answers:



Across

1. The main ingredient in Easter eggs. (9) (**chocolate**)
4. The shape of an Easter egg. (4) (**oval**)
7. This is used to collect Easter eggs. (6) (**basket**)
8. The season when Easter takes place. (6) (**spring**)
9. The animal who is said to deliver Easter eggs. (5) (**bunny**)

Down

2. Special Easter cakes. (3,5,4) (**hot cross buns**)
3. The week before Easter Sunday. (4,4) (**Holy Week**)
5. The day that Jesus died. (4,6) (**Good Friday**)
6. Jesus was nailed to this. (5) (**cross**)
7. A special Easter hat. (6) (**bonnet**)