

St Mary's Newsletter

Autumn Term – Friday 10th December 2021

Telephone 01799 523384

Email: info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk



Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly - 95.1%

Attendance Year - 96.2%

Let Your Light Shine... as You Grow Matthew 5: 15-16

Friendship
Trust

Truthfulness
Compassion

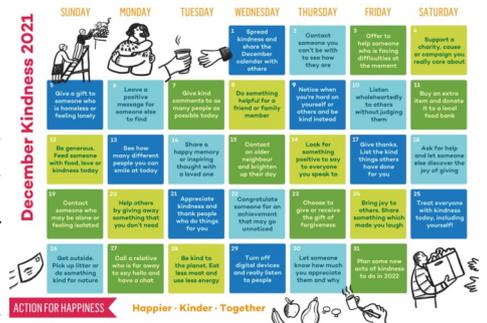
Perseverance
Respect

Dear parents, carers and friends of the school,

Kindness calendar and activities:

In last week's newsletter we shared our 2021 Kindness Calendar. This week I just wanted to share a quick reminder to ask you to support our **Kindness Calendar initiative**. Please don't forget to take photos of your children completing these Kindness activities and then share them with the school by emailing it in to us on the info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk (ideally with a comment about what they did and why they were doing it). I am delighted to say that lots of children have already shared their activities with me as I have travelled through the school and I am proud to hear how kind and compassionate they are being. If you need an extra copy of the calendar they are available on our school website, if you follow this link:

<https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/kindness-calendar-december-2021/>



Key Stage 2 assemblies:

Throughout the last few weeks, the Key Stage 2 class teachers have been busy filming their class assemblies for this term, using their amazing class iPads. These assemblies are now almost complete, although they have been held back a little as we have been particularly hampered over the last few weeks with high levels of pupil and staff absence. However, I am delighted to report that these will be available to watch on our school website next week and we will communicate further information as soon as these are ready to be watched and enjoyed!



Jack and the Beanstalk – the Pantomime!

This week we once again welcomed the Gary Starr Pantomime company, who put on a fantastic performance of Jack and the Beanstalk—paid for by our wonderful PTA as a lovely Christmas treat! It was great to see how excited the children were and how much they enjoyed the KS1 and KS2 performances and it was a lovely way to round off the penultimate week of term. A BIG thank you to Gemma and Ruth from the PTA who organised this performance for the children and also to the whole of the parent and carer community – whose recent fundraising helped to pay for this amazing event!

COVID19: Polite reminder:

Just a quick reminder that we are now asking all parents and carers to wear masks again when bringing their children to and from school (at the beginning and end of each school day) due to the increased rates of COVID in the community.



Also, please do not forget the importance of twice weekly (at least) Lateral Flow tests on non-symptomatic parents/carers and their children—so that we can all discover any cases of COVID before they spread through the local Saffron Walden community.

Please remember that school breaks up at 1.30pm next Friday 17th December for the Christmas holiday celebrations.

Mr C. D. Jarman

Headteacher at St Mary's

Dear parents/carers

With Christmas approaching and new devices being purchased during the festive season, it's important to remember to set privacy settings on these news items to keep children safe.

Please take a look at <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/a-parents-guide-to-privacy-settings/>

for your guide to privacy settings.

Jo Crocker

Welfare & Support Officer



Diary Dates



Wed 15th December	-	Nativity in the church - 11am and 5pm
Thu 16th December	-	Christmas Lunch
Thu 16th December	-	Carol Service in the Church - 2pm
Fri 17th December	-	End of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm
Mon 20th Dec - 3rd Jan	-	Christmas Holidays
Tue 4th January 2022	-	INSET Non Pupil Day
Wed 5th January	-	First day of Spring Term - Pupils Return

Thursday 9th December 2021

Year 3 Ancient Egyptian Day

Yesterday, we had an Ancient Egyptian Day. We started the day off by learning some Ancient Egyptian maths. They use special symbols like hieroglyphs to show the numbers. After that, we made beautiful death masks in groups of 3. We used gold, blue, yellow and black to decorate our death masks. Ancient Egyptians were buried in death masks so that their souls could recognise their bodies in the afterlife. In the afternoon, we made creepy canopic jars which were used to keep your intestines, stomach, liver and lungs in. Once we finished our canopic jars, we did some Egyptian colouring in whilst other people finished. It was a fantastic day and was really fun!

Holly and Lily-May (Year 3)

