

# St Mary's Newsletter

Autumn Term – Friday 12th November 2021

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Website: [www.stmaryssw.org.uk](http://www.stmaryssw.org.uk)

Attendance Weekly - 96.6%

Attendance Year - 96.3%

*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,

It is been another extremely busy week here at St Mary's! Please enjoy reading this week's newsletter to find out what we have been up to!

## Remembrance

On Thursday morning, the pupils and staff of St Mary's joined together for a special Collective Worship to mark Remembrance Day. Each class shared work that they had been producing leading up to this in-school service, focused around the themes of Respect, Sacrifice, Reflection and Remembrance. Photos of these can be found later on in this newsletter.



At 11am the bells rang and everyone throughout the school fell silent for two minutes to remember all of those men and women who have given so much since the concept of Remembrance Day was introduced following The Great War (World War 1).

A short time later Mrs Dickinson (one of our School Governors) and I accompanied the School Council and Worship Council up to the War Memorial at the far end of the high street. Whilst we were there Daisy and Jack (from our School Council) shared two verses from Rupert Brooke's *The Soldier*. Everyone joined in with a Remembrance Prayer—where all the children joined in with '**We will remember them**' and finished our visit with some facts about what memorials tell us, Mrs Dickinson even told the children about the meaning of the white poppy.



The adults accompanying the children were very impressed with how beautifully and sensibly the children walked through the town and how respectfully and maturely they joined in with the mini service when we arrived at the memorial and how polite they were to members of the public who made some positive comments about the children. I was also very touched with how well they read their poems and prayer and how well the older pupils looked after the younger pupil when we were walking backwards and forwards to the memorial and also whilst they were there. Every pupil was a credit to our school.



**Children in Need / Fancy Dress Friday:**

Next Friday is Children in Need day. As you may be aware, the theme is Fancy Dress Friday, so it would be great if the children could dress themselves up to mark this important day. As our families have recently contributed to our fantastic St Mary's Readathon, we are going to have

some buckets outside school at the start and end of that day where families may contribute to Children In Need if they are willing and able to do so.

Thank you for your continued support of good causes!



**Key Stage 2 assemblies:**

This term we have made the decision to continue to film our class assemblies. These will continue with the same format as before— the aim is for children to share work and topics that they have been working on in class; they will be between 10-15 minutes in length, each child (if they are allowed to be filmed) will get an opportunity to strut their stuff; if they are not they will get a speaking part 'off camera'. These assemblies are due to be completed and sent out on Friday 10th December—with the links being included in our weekly newsletter.

Warm regards

*Mr C. D. Jarman*

**Headteacher at St Mary's**





## Natasha's Law

The [UK Food Information Amendment](#), also known as Natasha's Law, came into effect on the 1st of October 2021 and requires food businesses to provide full ingredient lists and allergen labelling on foods pre-packaged for direct sale on the premises. The legislation was introduced to protect allergy sufferers and give them confidence in the food they buy.

This amendment was brought about thanks to the actions of a lobbying group lead by the parents of Natasha Ednan-Laperouse, the teenager who died after suffering an allergic reaction to an undeclared ingredient in a prepacked meal. Due to their efforts, the government confirmed that stronger laws would be implemented to protect those with food allergies and give them greater confidence in the food they buy.

**Prepacked Food** – This already must have full labelling, including the name of the food and a full ingredients list, with allergenic ingredients emphasised within it.

**Non-prepacked Food** – Any food that is not in packaging. Allergen information must still be provided but this can be done through other means, for example, a written list of allergens at point of service.

### The 14 allergens are:



I appreciate this may feel like a lot of information to take in.

In essence, it means that **any food items brought into school, must include an allergen list**. This applies to all snacks brought in from home. If the item is shop bought and prepacked, but the item/s have been removed from the packaging and separated, the allergen list must be included with the individual items.

*Please can I remind you that we are a **NUT free school**. Any foods with traces of NUTS in the ingredients are not allowed in School.*

More information regarding the changes can be found here: <https://natashas-law.com/>

If you need any further clarification regarding Natasha's Law and the impact on our school, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs J Crocker

Welfare & Support Officer

# Diary Dates



Wed 17th November	-	Open Morning (New Reception 2022 intake)
<b>Wed 17th November</b>	-	<b>Y5 Dodgeball Tournament</b>
<b>Fri 19th November</b>	-	<b>Children In Need Day - Fancy Dress</b>
<b>Tue 23rd November</b>	-	<b>Flu Immunisations</b>
Tue 30th November	-	KS1 Film Night (PTA Event)
Thu 2nd December	-	Y5 Natural History Museum
Sat 4th December	-	Spirit of Christmas @ St. Mary's Church
Mon 6th December	-	Y6 Harry Potter World
Wed 8th December	-	Jack & the Beanstalk Pantomime (KS1-9.15am & KS2-10.30am)
Fri 10th December	-	Christmas Jumper Day
<b>Fri 10th December</b>	-	<b>KS2 Disco (PTA Event) (moved from Fri 3rd Dec)</b>
Mon 13th December (TBC)	-	Christmas Lunch
Wed 15th December	-	Nativity in the church - 6pm
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

## Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2022



The primary school (Reception) admission round opens on **Monday 8 November 2021**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2022.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2022**.

**From 8 November 2021**, applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions). 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above.