

St Mary's Newsletter

Autumn Term – Friday 22nd October 2021

Telephone 01799 523384

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



Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly - 94.2%

Attendance Year - 96.7%

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,

Open Morning and Open Afternoon



Today, at St Mary's, we trialled a new format to give parents and carers the opportunity to pop into school, to meet their child's class teacher and teaching staff, whilst at the same time giving our wonderful pupils an informal opportunity to share some of their work with their parents and carers. It was really lovely to see so many friendly faces popping into St Mary's to have a look at their child (or children's) work as well as seeing how the classroom is set

up. After half term we will send out a simple electronic survey so that parents/carers can give us some feedback on this event and whether this is something that we should continue to do going forwards.

Black History Month



Over the course of this month, we have been celebrating Black History Month, finding out that every October, in the UK, we set aside some time to celebrate the achievements of black men and women in the past as well as today.

During our Monday Daily Worships, I have been talking to the children about the sad fact that throughout history many people have been treated differently because of the colour of their skin. We have also discussed the meaning of a number of key themes, including respect, equality and diversity

and linked this to our own six school values of Perseverance, Respect, Friendship, Compassion, Truthfulness and Trust. We also shared examples of some well-known black people who have led to important changes in their own countries and who have also inspired others. These have included: Barack Obama, Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela, Mary Seacole, Jesse Owens as well as Alice Coachman.

The children were also given the opportunity to vote for which black person they would like to find out more about and so we also spent an assembly learning about the important contributions of Marcus Rashford – who lead the school meals campaign over the last year. The children were able to understand and explain that Marcus has shown great leadership, as well as demonstrating compassion, friendship, sacrifice as well as tremendous resilience.

Please feel free to discuss these important messages with your child at home.



Good news!

Sonya Johnson (our School Business Manager) has had a change of circumstances and she will now be staying with us for the rest of this academic year (up to July when she relocates down to Maidstone). So in fact, this will **not** be her final week at St Mary's. I am sure that you will also agree that this is fantastic news and we look forward to welcoming her back to us after half term!

In further cheery news Miss Donnelly is returning from South Africa and will be joining us from the 7th November to support a pupil in school up to Christmas (for about 7 weeks in duration).

Two pieces of lovely news to take us into the October Half term break!

Please do have a lovely half term break and we look forwards to welcoming you back **on Tuesday 2nd November from 8.30am.**

Warm regards

Mr C. D. Jarmain

Headteacher at St Mary's



Congratulations to **Green House** who earned the most house points this half term. They enjoyed 20 minutes reward time on the new Trim Trail / playing ball games on the meadow today.



Also, a huge congratulations to our **7 'half-term superheroes'** who earned certificates for a mixture of: hard work, positive attitudes, resilience, perseverance and kindness. Well deserved!

Mr Pike (Curriculum Leader)



Light Festival – Dress Up

We are really looking forward to celebrating our annual Light Day on the first day back after half term (**Tuesday 2nd November 2021**). Children should come into school dressed in bright, light clothing to celebrate. Think neon, light up and super colourful! Children can also use colour spray in their hair if they like but we would ask that they only use one colour. If your child has P.E on this day wear bright, comfy sportswear!

The children will be looking at a light festival from around the world with their class for the day and will be sharing what they have learned during a special Collective Worship at the end of the school day.

Polite Reminder - School Dinners Payment



Please be remember that School Dinners should be paid for in advance by topping up your School Money account.

We have noticed that quite a few School Money accounts are in arrears. Please can we ask that all School Money accounts are paid up as soon as possible.

If you are experiencing any financial difficulty and are unable to clear your account, please contact the school in confidence on tel, 01799 523384.



Parents Evenings - LFD Tests

We are really looking forward to welcoming you all for the upcoming Parents Evening on **Tuesday 2nd** and **Thursday 4th November**. In order to keep our community safe we would like to encourage parents/carers to take a Lateral Flow Device Test on the morning before coming to school for your appointment. If you test positive or are experiencing any COVID symptoms, please do not come into school, call the office to let us know and we can rearrange your appointment for a later date.

LFD test can be ordered through the NHS on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Thank you for your support.

REMINDER - After-School Clubs

Please be reminded that there will be no after school clubs on the first week back after half-term, Tue 2nd-Fri 5th November, due to the parent/carers consultations.



**Important
Reminder!**

Secondary School Applications for September 2022 Reminder for Year 6 Parents

As you may be aware, the statutory closing date for applications from parents of Year 6 children (for a secondary school place in Year 7 from September 2022) is **31 October 2021**.

Parents of Year 6 children who have yet to submit an application, must do so **by 31 October 2021**.

Applications can be made via our website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions .

E-Safety - 'The 2 Johns'

Last week we sent parents a link to the E-Safety training session by 'The 2 Johns'. We hope you managed to watch the session and we hope you found it informative.

The parent session has now been uploaded to YouTube, so if you missed it last week, there is still a time to watch it, which we would strongly advise.

You tube Link for parents session

- <https://youtu.be/k9Huu3xNLRM>

This will be available until Sunday 7th November 2021.

We would also ask that it is not downloaded or copied as the material is constantly changing and may not be correct.



**Job
Vacancy!**

St. Mary's Church - Job Vacancy

St Mary's is seeking an Associate Administrator to work alongside the Parish Administrator in the Parish Office with specific areas of responsibility to manage funeral and other church bookings, to produce a wide variety of service booklets, posters and news sheets, and to provide administrative support to the Area Dean. 4 mornings (16 hours) per week. Closing date 8th November.

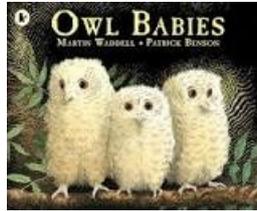
Full details on St Mary's website www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/adminpost or contact Judith Hasler team@stmaryssaffronwalden.org



Reception Class Update

Thank you everyone for going on **Autumn Treasure Hunts** last weekend, the children had a wonderful time telling us all about it and the children have used the items in their learning—in maths, art and understanding of the natural world.

Butterflies have really enjoyed learning all about nocturnal owls and reading lots of owl stories, rhymes and fact books. Thank you also to children who brought in some owl themed books to share.



Wow, Butterflies you have completed your very first half term and what a busy one it was!

Well done for persevering with new challenges and settling into school life so well.

Have a lovely half term break Butterflies and get some well deserved rest. Be ready for an exciting start to our next half term Topic **'Come on and Celebrate!'**

Mrs Jeewan & Miss Hunter

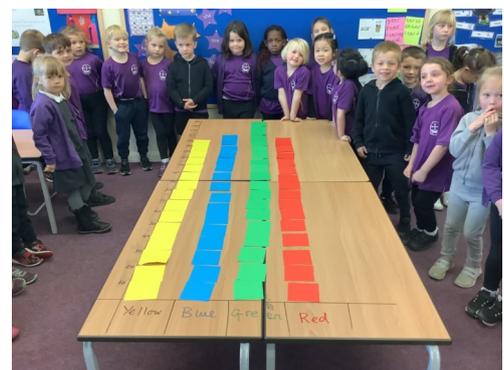


Year 1 Update

Ladybirds - This week we have been enjoying some Autumn poetry, solving addition problems and practising a cheerleading routine in PE! As part of Black History Month, we learnt about Rosa Parks and why she is famous. In music, we performed a song that we have been practising and some of us played the glockenspiels. On Friday we all joined in with the run and then gathered the data into a block graph to show how many laps each house ran. In the afternoon, we got the Beebots out and programmed them to race laps!

In the front of your child's reading record, you will see some sounds. Please can you practise these with your child and see if they can spot them in their reading books. Well done Ladybirds for a great first half term—you are working so hard and we are very proud of you! Have a lovely break and see you soon.

Miss Nicholson & Mrs Potter



Year 2 Update



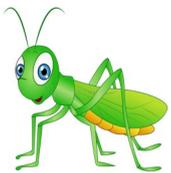
What a busy week we have had. In R.E, we learnt about Hanukkah for our Light Day after half term. We discovered why there are 8 candles on a Menorah and thought about what we are thankful for and wrote them on each of the candles. In geography, we received another postcard from The Very Hungry Caterpillar, this time he was in Moscow in the snow. He described how cold and busy it was there and how they have beautiful 'candy coloured' buildings. This time we found similarities and differences between Moscow and New York City. Last Friday, we made giant butterflies in art using found objects from the classroom. The class tried their hardest to use symmetry to make their butterflies as interesting as possible. In music, the class have been listening and reviewing different styles of music and describing which they like and which they don't and why. Caterpillars did amazingly well on Thursday to gain points for their houses by running laps around the meadow. It was great to see the children persevere and work as a team to total as many as they could. We then used the data to create graphs in maths. Finally we raced BeeBots in the hall to finish off our P.E/Maths and Computing day! Have a well earned half term break and I will see you all in a weeks time.

NO spellings for half term. Please encourage your child to read with you or by themselves over the break.

Mr Pike & Y2 Team



Year 3 Update



The Grasshoppers have worked really brilliantly this half term! In maths this week, we have been looking at using the inverse to check our column additions are correct and have been continuing to practise our work problem solving skills. In English, we have been practising how to punctuate direct speech and have also been looking at predicting what might happen next after a story has ended.

In science this week, we have started our new unit of work, 'Light'. We explored what light and dark are and discussed different light sources. In music this week, the class recorded their final performance of 'Let Your Spirit Fly', a song which they have been working hard to learn all half term.

We had a fantastic day for our topic day this term on Thursday! The class enjoyed turning the information collected from their morning run into bar charts and then used coding to help lead beebot around his own tracks on the iPads.

Well done for all your hard work this half term, Year 3, and have a fantastic half term!

Miss Allin & Year 3 Team





Fireflies,

We have had a fantastic final week before half-term!

Year 4 Update

This week in Maths, we have focused on starting four operation questions- specifically looking at addition. I was very impressed with how the children focused on this task and completed specific questions even with missing numbers.

In our English lessons, we have focused on developing our descriptive writing to help us write our Myths. We chose characters and settings to describe related to the Ancient Greeks, which has helped us complete our Myth. For our Myth, the children also created an alternative ending to the story we analysed in class.

This week in our History lessons, we have been focusing on Black History and Rosa Parks. The children did a fantastic job at conducting their research based on the achievements of Rosa Parks and how her influence is still so significant. I was incredibly proud of the maturity the children showed during this activity.

During this week, we also did a cross curricular event. The pupils collected data about laps of the Meadow and created a bar graph to display this. In the afternoon, the children created a PowerPoint presentation to show the information and data we collated.

Finally, in Art/DT, we completed our Ancient Greek artefacts. The children used their final design to use clay to create their last piece. We also used specific colours that are related to Greek artefacts to make them look more realistic.

Thank you for all of your hard work this half term- I hope you have a lovely break,

Mr Brown & Year 4 Team





Year 5 Update

Another action packed week in Year 5! At the beginning of the week we made models which show the movement of the moon in relation to the sun. It's a great visual way to understand why the moon appears to disappear and reappear. The class has also worked hard to write and create recounts of their encounters with UFOs. Terrifying pictures accompany their reports—be sure to look out for them in the class assembly! On Thursday morning all the children gave it their all during the running challenge. Lots of activity came from this, including a line graph to show which team won. We have also spent time writing speed poems about Marcus Rashford to celebrate Black History Month. The adjective 'determined' was used by many.

Mrs McInnes, Mrs Robinson & Year 5 Team



Year 6 Update

The Dragonflies packed their final week with just as many different activities as the weeks leading up to the break! Some of these were not so fun; there were a few end-of-term assessments the children had to get out of the way. However, others were lots of fun— such as finally, after many weeks, finishing off our Mayan masks! The children painted a base layer and ensure that the next layer wouldn't mix with the base by mixing the paint with some glue. Then, they added their detail to their masks—they came out really well!

Year 6 also had a lovely Thursday, which was our PE/Math/Computing day! They ran around the track and really pushed themselves. After, they took the data from Key Stage 2 and created their own bar graphs on the computers.

A big thank you to our Sports Ambassadors, who marked out the track for everyone and helped organise the running event!

Finally, Dragonflies got to know what their reward will be if they get enough marbles this term—a trip to...Harry Potter World!

Mr Clarke & Year 6 Team



Diary Dates



Mon 25th - Fri 29th October	-	Half-term
Mon 1st November	-	INSET - Non Pupil Day
Tue 2nd November	-	Pupils Return to school
Tue 2nd November	-	Light Festival - wear bright coloured clothes
Tue 2nd November	-	Parent Consultations from 3.30pm to 6.30pm
Thu 4th November	-	Parent Consultations from 3.30pm to 6.30pm
Thu 11th November	-	Remembrance Service
Fri 12th November	-	Children In Need Day
Wed 17th November	-	Open Morning (New Reception 2022 intake)
Tue 30th November	-	KS1 Film Night (PTA Event)
Thu 2nd December	-	Y5 Natural History Museum
Fri 3rd December	-	KS2 Disco (PTA Event)
Sat 4th December	-	Spirit of Christmas @ St. Mary's Church
Mon 6th December	-	Y6 Harry Potter World
Wed 8th December	-	Jack & the Beanstalk Pantomime
Fri 10th December	-	Christmas Jumper Day
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