

St Mary's Newsletter

Autumn Term – Friday 15th October 2021

Telephone 01799 523384

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



Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly - 96%

Attendance Year - 97.1%

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,

Individual & Sibling Photographs:

As you will know, the children had their individual and sibling photographs taken at school with the Kittle Photography Company on Thursday this week. Today, in your child's bookbag you will receive a slip with an explanation of how to order these photographs, which involves using a QR code or alternatively visiting the Kittle Website and entering the photo ID code and password (which is on the slip).

Parent and Carer Evenings on Tuesday 2nd November and Thursday 4th November:

After the half term break on the first Tuesday and Thursday, St Mary's will be holding our Autumn Term Parent & Carer Evenings from 3.30pm to 6.30pm (on both days). These are a very valuable opportunity to find out about your child's progress and how you can support their learning. Therefore, I am delighted that we have already had a very good sign up using our online Parents Evening booking system (which I sincerely hopes makes the process of booking slots for your child's appointment simple and easy to do— please do let us know if you have any issues with this system).

As I am sure you can understand, due to the large number of parents/carers that will be seen, it is vital that parents keep to the 10-minute time scale for their appointment and ensure that they that they are there at least 5 minutes in advance. Pupils with One Plans will be holding their meetings with the class teacher separately. The Parents/Carers evening link can be found on the school website

<https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/parents-evening/>

We look forward to welcoming you for these important meetings. **If you have not booked yet please do so as quickly as possible.**

Essex Music Services:

Exciting news! We were informed today that Essex Music Services has found a teacher to deliver Piano and Keyboard lessons for pupils where parents/carers have requested 1:1 tuition. We believe that these will be taking place on Wednesday mornings after the October half term break.

Making Us Proud:

Today we had some lovely news that some of our Year 6 students had shown an act of kindness when leaving school yesterday. They saw a situation, they offered help and were able to stop a situation escalating. We are so proud of these children for showing St Mary's values when out and about. Well done.

Christmas Panto - Jack & the Beanstalk

The PTA are so pleased to invite Gary Starr Pantomimes back to St Mary's again this year to perform their hilarious adaptation of **Jack and the Beanstalk**. We are bringing the theatre to the school as a Christmas treat on the **8th December**, to help get into the spirit of Christmas, and for the children to enjoy with their friends.



Non-Uniform Day

Please note that next **Friday 22nd October** is our last day before we break up for half-term. Children are invited to come to school dressed in **non-uniform** for a small donation of £1 which will go towards the PTA fund.

Warm regards

Mr C. D. Jarman

Headteacher at St Mary's



St. Mary's C of E (VA) Primary School
Castle Street, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1BQ

*Our vision: We aspire for our pupils to be the best they can be,
in an inclusive Christian learning environment*

If you have a child starting school in September 2022
please come and join us for our...

OPEN MORNING

Come and visit our wonderful school, situated in beautiful Saffron Walden, where you will have the opportunity to meet some of our wonderful staff and pupils and find out more about what we provide

Wednesday 17th November 2021

9.30am

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS 15th JANUARY 2022

To book a place please contact the school office on:
Tel: 01799 523384
Email: info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk
Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk





Reception Class Update

Butterflies have really enjoyed thinking about the natural world this week, especially looking for Autumn finds and learning about the season.

Key **Science** vocabulary Butterflies have learnt this week has included nocturnal and diurnal animals, animals that hibernate, and the names of different natural objects, the properties of materials, and using their senses. In **Phonics** the children have learnt two new sounds 'm' and 'd', ask them about the sings and actions. They are also thinking about natural objects and what they can hear are their initial sounds such as l, leaves, c, conkers and s, sticks. In **PSED**, for Mental Health Awareness week, we are looking at looking after our mental health by taking art in mindfulness activities such as careful coloring, deep breathing exercises and cosmic yoga Zen Den.

In **Maths**, Butterflies have sorted natural objects into groups, such as pine cones, conkers, leaves and sticks. In Art, the children are making pictures using the natural objects that we have found so far.



The children **will be bringing home a brown paper bag each to collect natural objects** (treasures) this weekend. Please can you encourage your child to look for natural objects safely and bring the bags back on Monday. Thank you!

Maths update—**NCETM** (The National Centre for Excellence in Mathematics) have highlighted how parents can support their child's mathematical learning by watching CBeebies '**Numberblocks**'.

Numberblocks covers the basic fundamental mathematical concepts in five-minute animated programmes by CBeebies - accessible on iPlayer and You tube.

The NCETM has provided support materials linked to the Numberblocks programmes which we are using in school, to draw out and build on the maths embedded in the stories contained in each episode.

So, if your child mentions they have watched Numberblocks in school then you know they are being fully immersed in their mathematical learning.

Do watch the first couple of series with your child and think about all the maths that is going on, it's amazing! Here is a link to the first ever episode 'One': <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b08bzzns/numberblocks-series-1-one>

Have a lovely Autumn walk this weekend,

Mrs Jeewan & Miss Hunter



Ladybirds

Year 1 Update

Another very busy week in Ladybirds this week! We have been designing and labelling monsters and monster recipes for our new book, 'Monster Market'. In maths, we have been using and applying the addition symbol as well as finding fact families. We have taken part in more relaxation and mindfulness sessions for Mental Health Awareness week to help us with our learning and we enjoyed spending lots of time in nature for RE this week. In Science we are continuing to learn about our senses and this week we have focussed on the sense of smells, identifying mystery smells!



Year 2 Update

In maths this week, we have been subtracting using number bond to 10 then 20. Most children are secure with these patterns but we will revisit later in the year. In English, we continued to use Doodleday to write creatively. We used our doodle creations to practise verbs, nouns and adjectives. I am looking forward for you to see the progress the class are making with their letter formation and sentence structure. In geography, we received another postcard from The Very Hungry Caterpillar, this time he was in New York City. He described how busy and noisy it is there and how he felt so small compared to the skyscrapers. Once again, using this information and the children's previous knowledge, we compared Saffron Walden to New York. It was lovely to see the children learning to ride last week and I was amazed to see how many could already ride so confidently. As it was World Mental Health day on Sunday (and it is for Mental Health Awareness week), we spent lots of time this week thinking about mindfulness, emotions and tools to help if we are feeling red. We did some breathing methods including, tin man / rag doll, high 5 and lazy eight. We also spent some time colouring to clear our minds. One more week until a well earned half-term break. Well done everyone. Mr Pike

New spellings will be coming home today stuck in their reading record, please practise with your child, we will be having a spelling test next Friday.

Mr Pike & Y2 Team





Year 3 Update

In maths this week, Grasshoppers have been applying their knowledge of addition and subtraction to word problems. They have done a great job of searching for words within the problems to help them work out whether they need to add or subtract.

In English, we have carried on writing descriptions based around The Egyptian Cinderella. This week we have moved on to setting descriptions and Year 3 have done a fantastic job of using descriptive language to bring their writing to life!

As part of Black History Month, we have been looking at influential black people in history and have created fact files. These people have included Barack Obama, Mary Seacole and Dr Mae Jemison.

In PE this week, we had our own mini games of netball. We used the passing, shooting and pivoting skills we have been practising to play our games.

As it was world mental health day on Sunday and for Mental Health Awareness week, we carried out some relaxation exercises. Year 3 listened to some calming music whilst focussing on their breathing, coloured in and did yoga.

Miss Allin & Year 3 Team



Year 4 Update

Fireflies, You have had another fantastic week!

This week in Maths, we have focused on finishing our unit on place value. The children have completed some tricky tasks involving rounding and we have looked at rounding numbers using real-life examples.

For Mental Health Awareness week, we focused on how the words we say impact other people. We spoke about how we need to ensure that we treat others how we want to be treated and that we support and help each other as a class.

In our English lessons, we have started our myth unit. The children have identified all of the key features of this genre of writing and have begun to develop ideas for their own stories.

During our Science lessons, we conducted another experiment involving sound. The children made a string telephone to explore further how sound is created. The pupils then produced a fantastic evaluation of all of their findings.

Finally, in our Art and DT lessons, the children have created their Greek artefacts using clay- the steps they took were:

1. The children developed their designs using different sources from Ancient Greece art.
2. The pupils created their final design.
3. They worked very hard to implement their design with clay.

Thank you for all of your hard work this week,
Have a great weekend,
Mr Brown & Year 4 Team





Year 5 Update

We started off the week looking at e-safety with the 2 Johns which was a really interesting and interactive session. We had lots of open and productive discussions with the children about how to stay safe online and the 2 Johns were really impressed with their input. It impressed upon us how we have to stay vigilant and keep talking to our children about what they are doing online and who they are talking to. We then embarked on a Space Mission with the Spaceship Earth Interactive Show presented by Spacefund.co.uk delivered as a live broadcast via Microsoft Teams. The children absolutely loved it—we learnt so much about how we are currently using our satellites to help combat climate change and share information globally. We took part in lots of challenges, sending our votes in through the online quizzing platform, it was great fun. To keep in with our space theme, we have started to write our own recounts of witnessing a UFO above the school. There were many sightings and signs of their encounter, so keep an eye out in the skies above! We really hope to see as many of you as possible on Friday for our book look—the children have been incredibly busy this half term so there is lots to share. Finally, as part of Mental Health



Awareness Week, as a class we thought about how our words and actions can impact on those around us. For a happy brain we need supportive friends around us to help us when things go wrong. **Mrs McInnes, Mrs Robinson & Year 5 Team**



Year 6 Update

Dragonflies have had a busy penultimate week before the half term break—we have launched into looking at graphs and coordinates in Maths, plotting points and even translating shapes across axes with four quadrants!

The Year 6s took part in a talk by the 2 Johns, ex-police officers who now try to make sure children stay safe online. Dragonflies were very sensible and honest during the sessions and it was very eye-opening as a teacher too!

The children also squeezed some drama into their week! They acted out the transfiguration, where Jesus rose up to heaven. In Computing, the children applied everything they have learnt about the Mayan civilisation by creating their own presentation on Google Slides—they even taught Mr Clarke some different techniques that they discovered independently!

As it is Mental Health awareness week, Year 6 also took some time to meditate and think about the positives that we all have, even if there are stresses in our lives!

Mr Clarke & Year 6 Team



Diary Dates



Fri 16th October	-	Fireworks Assembly
Fri 22nd October	-	Look At My Work Sessions (8.30am and 3.15pm)
Fri 22nd October	-	Last Day of Term Non Uniform Day for £1 for PTA
Mon 25th - Fri 29th October	-	Half-term
Mon 1st November	-	INSET - Non Pupil Day
Tue 2nd November	-	Pupils Return to school
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)
Fri 3rd December	-	KS2 Disco (PTA Event)
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