

St Mary's Newsletter

Summer Term – Friday 17th September 2021

Telephone 01799 523384

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



Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly - 98.1%

Attendance Year - 98.3%

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

Dear parents, carers and friends of the school,

Head's Lines

Our Curriculum:

Some of our Parents and carers have asked us if they could find out a bit more about the Curriculum at St Mary's. Over the last two years we have been adding more and more information to our new school website, so that parents and carers can find out more about what their children are learning. If you are interested and would like to find out more please visit the Our Curriculum section of our new school website to find out more about our curriculum, or click on this link <https://stmaryschurhofengland.secure-primariesite.net/topic/our-curriculum>. In this section we have created twelve different sections, ranging from Reading and Phonics, our Topic Pages, our Forest School lessons, to the British Values and much, much more!

This week I have chosen some of the key sections from the Our Curriculum website area to tell you more...

Home Learning Plans!

As you will be aware, last year we introduced our new **Home Learning Plans**. The concept behind these plans was to provide parents or carers with easy to follow lessons, videos and materials to support their children when they are off school for a short period of time – whether it is because a child, sibling or parent/carer is awaiting a test result and whilst the rest of the class is still in school and getting taught by their class teacher in school.

By clicking on this link: <https://stmaryschurhofengland.secure-primariesite.net/autumn-term-september-2021-october-2022/> you will be taken to

the Our Curriculum section of our website where there are individual Home Learning Plans for this half term. These Home Learning Plans are produced six times a year – one for each half term in the academic calendar. Each home learning plan will provide enough material for at least a fortnight of work, in the event that a pupil is off school for a longer period of time.

On each Home Learning Plan there are a series of links which will take parents/carers and pupils to a number of English, Maths, Science, Topic and PE and fitness activities, including videos to watch, and online activities to complete. To complete the majority of these activities all the pupils will need are some simple stationery (paper/pens/rulers etc) and some paper to record their work and ideally a computer or laptop (or another device where they can access the internet).

Our teachers have advised that children should do their very best to show their working (in Maths) and to use their very best handwriting (in every subject)! Furthermore, please do contact the school if you do not have any access to the internet and are unable to use these Home Learning Plans from home and the school will do our best to support you.



Curriculum and Topic Pages!

Also available on our St Mary's school website (under the **Curriculum** section) you will find our very latest Topic Pages – and there is a different Topic Page for every class in the school.

This half term the classes are focussing on the following topics:

Reception (butterfly class) – **Marvellous Me!**

Year 1 (Ladybird class) – **Me and My Town**

Year 2 (Caterpillar class) – **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**

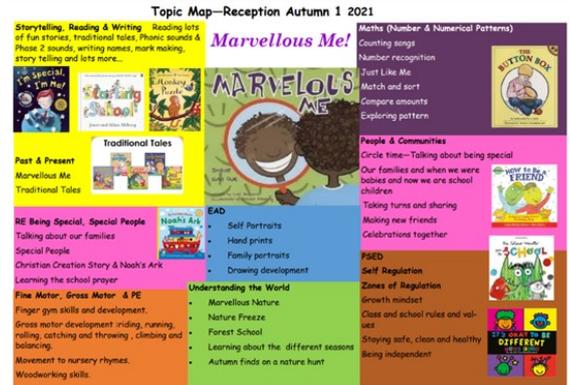
Year 3 (Grasshopper class) – **Tomb Raiders!**

Year 4 (Firefly class) – **Groovy Greeks!**

Year 5 (Busybee class) – **Space... The Final Frontier**

Year 6 (Dragonfly class) – **A Whole New World**

Please follow the link below to find out more! <https://stmaryschurchofengland.secure-primariesite.net/topic-pages-for-autumn-term-2021-new-academic-year/>



In most classes the topic (along with the Topic Page) will change either half termly or termly.

Skills progression documents:

On the same page of our website (also in the Our Curriculum section), you will also find a subsection

named **Skills Progression Documents**. In this section you will find the curriculum skills progressions carefully mapped out for each of our subjects. Please click on each one, individually, to find out the skills that are taught in each year group throughout the school.

As you will see these have been recently updated in July to ensure that we cover all areas of the National Curriculum rigorously throughout the school.

Click on this link if you wish to be taken directly to this section of the website. <https://stmaryschurchofengland.secure-primariesite.net/skills-progression-documents/>

Farewell.....

Due to a change of circumstances, our lovely Business Manager, Sonya Johnson, is going to be leaving the post of School Business Manager at St Mary's at the end of this half term, after a few years of working in the office area at our school.

Over the Summer break, Sonya has decided to concentrate her energies on her young and growing family, and I am sure that you will join me in thanking Sonya for all of her hard work and support for the school over this challenging time of a global pandemic and I am sure you will agree that she will be very sadly missed.

The very best of luck, Sonya.

Job Vacancy

We are now recruiting for a new School Business Manager/PA . All details and how to apply can be found on the following link: <http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=67733>

Nut Free School

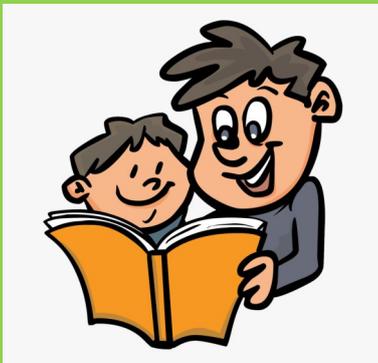
Please can I remind parents that due to allergies NO NUTS are allowed in school. If you are needing some nut-free pack lunch ideas, please visit the following website <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life> for some healthy and tasty recipes.



Have a lovely weekend.

Mr C. D. Garmain

Headteacher at St Mary's



Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

We are holding a 'Come and read with your child' session on **Friday 1st October at from 9 to 9.30am.**

This will be a great opportunity for you to see your child in their new classroom and to meet their class teacher. You will read with your child (and friends) and have a go at some reading activities.

We hope to see as many of you as possible,

Mrs Jeewan , EYFS/KS1 Lead

After School Clubs (Year 1 - Year 6)

We are currently going through all the forms and allocating places on the school clubs. You will be notified next week if your child/ren has a place. To confirm your child/ren's place you will need to pay through your School Money account from the Monday 20th(evening) and by no later than the end of Thursday 23rd September.



There are still plenty of spaces on the **FREE** club below:

On Track – Wednesdays (KS2)

Mr Williamson is continuing with his On-Track Club for KS2 classes pupils, they will be looking at the bible in a relaxed environment and participating in arts and crafts relating to bible stories.

If your child/ren are interested, please contact Xenia on info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk.

Clubs will start on the week beginning Monday 27th September.

For more information about the clubs, including the club timetable, please see our school website on the following link: <https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/clubs/>

Reception Class Update



Butterflies have enjoyed their first few full days at school, although they are feeling very tired now! The children have really enjoyed getting to know their Year 6 buddies at lunch time and during break. The Year 6 Buddies have been amazing and are taking their roles very seriously.

The children have been busy learning the school routines and have already produced some lovely work. The children are getting used to working in their colour groups and attempting new challenges



In Butterflies we are involving the children in their learning through **Child Led Planning**

Where each week we discuss the topic and their interests to fully engage them in our continuous provision and direct teaching. They have some great ideas and interests!

Butterflies were amazing in their first Collective Worship, they sat still and listened to our visitor Matt Williamson, from St Mary's church, and some even joined in with the actions to the song My Lighthouse.

Well done Butterflies, we hope that you all have a restful weekend.

Mrs Jeewan & EYFS team



Year 1 Update



Ladybirds

Another fantastic week in Ladybirds this week. The children have been counting forwards and backwards in maths. They have been designing front covers and making story predictions in English as well as creating and labelling their own shops! In RE, we are looking at the Christian Creation Story and we started by creating something special ourselves. We have also made our own rhythmic patterns in Music. In Science, we have begun talking about the seasons and the changes we see at different times of the year. In Art we will be making our own self-portraits and focussing on how we feel about new beginnings in PHSCE.

Miss Nicholson and Mrs Potter & Year 1 Team





Year 2 Update

Another busy week in Caterpillars' class! The children have continued to settle into the new routines and are beginning to push and challenge themselves which is great to see.

In maths, we have been delving deeper into place value, partitioning numbers into tens and ones and then moving onto 3-digit numbers looking at hundreds. In English, we have been looking at nouns and adjectives and describing different parts of the story. We also decided what we would eat if we could eat anything each day of the week. They finished the week off by changing the opening of the story to make it their own.

In science, we went on a nature hunt around the school, looking at the pond, the meadow and the Forest School area. We found so many different creatures. In Computing, we experimented with the BeeBots programming them to move in different directions and then debugging when we weren't successful and trying again. In geography, we looked out of our classroom window and thought about all the things we might see at different times of the year. In Forest School, the children were making nests and clay pots.

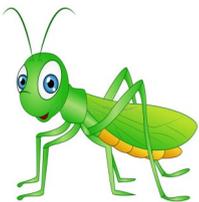
Keep up the good work Caterpillars!

Mr Pike & Year 2 Team

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.



Year 3 Update



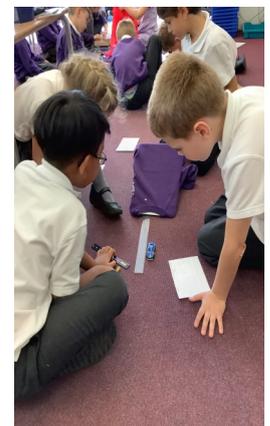
The Grasshoppers have had another busy, hardworking week.

In maths, we have been looking at place value within 3-digit numbers. The children have been partitioning, comparing and ordering and adding and subtracting multiples of 10 and 100 from these. Some children have even had a go at looking at place value in 4-digit numbers! In English, the class wrote fantastic sets of instructions to tell the reader how to make their very own mummies! They worked hard on using imperative verbs and time conjunctions within their instructions to make them really clear and easy to follow.

In science this week in Year 3, we carried out an experiment to test which materials would cause the most and least amount of friction. The children thought carefully about their predictions and why materials might cause friction and then set up and carried out their experiments very carefully.

Keep up the great work and have a lovely weekend!

Miss Allin & Year 3 Team





Year 4 Update

Fireflies, well done on a fantastic week! I have been very impressed with how quickly the children are settling into Year Four.

This week in Maths, we have continued to look at Place Value. We have looked at increasing and decreasing numbers and using our knowledge of the columns to do so.

In our English/Topic lessons we have learnt about the Olympics and making comparisons between the modern-day event and the event which took place in Ancient Greece. The pupils used their investigative skills to use different historical sources to gather information and evidence of what sports the Ancient Greeks would have participated in. Next week, the children will start to write their non-chronological report and use the knowledge they have gathered.

During our PSHE lessons, we looked at the different zones of regulations and what we can do when we are in each individual zone. The pupils came up with strategies for each zone and created some very grown up responses.

Finally, it has been fantastic to see the pupil's enthusiasm for PE. We have been learning different skills in tag rugby, and the children have started to implement these into match situations.

Thank you for all of your hard work this week. Have a great weekend,

Mr Brown & Year 4 Team



Year 5 Update

Year 5 have been working hard on their descriptions of space this week, getting their head round different devices that they can use like similes and personification. They are fast becoming experts on the planets and came up with a new top trumps game using the planets facts cards and their own research. We have continued with the space theme by creating our own artistic interpretations of the planets and were blown away by watching a video illustrating the huge scale and depth of the solar system and our small place within it. This led to many interesting discussion about whether life could exist beyond our solar system and if there could be further universes out there! The children have been challenging themselves to improve their times tables knowledge - any time that can be spent at home practising their skills would help them beat their score and maybe even earn a reward...

Mrs McInnes, Mrs Robinson & Year 5 Team



Year 6 Update



Dragonflies have had a wonderful week - mostly due to the fact that they finally met their buddies! It has been great to see the children really step up as role models and help the new Butterflies find their feet in the school!

In class, the Dragonflies have been learning all about the Maya, from their writing to their food. The class enjoyed tasting some of the food and found a deep appreciation for the Ancient Maya when they found out that the cacao plant, found in the Mayan region, is the source of chocolate!

Dragonflies also began designing their own masks in Art, and they've come out really well! I can't wait to see how they look when we make them in 3D!

Mr Clarke & Year 6 Team



THIS SCHOOL IS A



NUT FREE ZONE!

Due to allergies **NO NUTS** are allowed in school.

If you are needing some nut-free pack lunch ideas, please visit the [change4life](https://www.change4life.co.uk/) website for some healthy and tasty recipes.

Diary Dates



Wed 22nd September	-	Author James Campbell Visit- Writing Workshop
Thu 23rd September	-	KS2 Girls Football Festival @Katherine Semar
Fri 24h September	-	Benedetti Sessions @Saffron Hall (Y3,4,5)
Thu 30th September	-	Sports Ambassador Training (via zoom)
Wed 6th October	-	Football Tournament @Katherine Semar
Fri 8th October	-	Multi Skills @Katherine Semar (Y3&4)
Thu 7th October	-	CENSUS Day - Special Lunch
Fri 8th October	-	Yare 2 Learn to Ride
Mon 11th October	-	E-Safety – The 2 Johns - KS2 Pupils (virtual)
Tue 12th October	-	E-Safety - The 2 Johns - Parents (virtual)
Wed 13th October	-	NHS Flu Vaccinations (1st visit)
Thu 14th October	-	Individual Photos - Kittle
Fri 22nd October	-	Last Day of Term
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 (timings TBC)
Thu 4th November	-	Parent Consultations (timings TB)
Thu 11th November	-	Remembrance Service
Fri 12th November	-	Children In Need Day
Wed 17th November	-	Open Morning (New Reception 2022 intake)
Tue 23rd November	-	NHS Flu Vaccinations (2nd visit)
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