

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 8th July 2022

Telephone 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Attendance Weekly - 94%

Attendance Year - 95%

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

Friendship

Trust

Truthfulness

Compassion

Perseverance

Respect

Dear parents and carers and friends of the school,

What a busy and rewarding week it has been at St Mary's; I cannot believe that we only have two weeks left of term (and the school year). This week we have been treated to a truly magnificent performance by the Year 5 and 6 pupils to a production of Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies; this was followed up by Sports Day - which took place during the whole of Wednesday (Key Stage 1 in the morning and Key Stage 2 in the afternoon). Final academic yearly reports are being prepared, ready to sent out to all parents/carers today (Friday) apart from the Year 6 pupils who will be getting them next week after their residential trip to Danbury - which will be taking place next week. Phew!



In further good news, the weather is glorious and set fair for the next week - so please do make sure that you take care in the sun and please ensure that **your child comes into school with sun cream applied, their cap/sunhat (named) and a water bottle with their name on!**

Summer Term Reports:

Today, all parents and carers will be receiving their child/ren's end-of-year Summer term report, which will have come home with your child in their bookbag. If you have any questions about the contents of this report please speak to your class teacher. Next week, the school will be holding our last Parent/Carers Consultations of the term, which will be a good opportunity to discuss your child's progress this year, the areas of their learning which will be targeted next year and how you can best support your child at home. Please note that pupil's in Year 6 will be receiving their reports – by hand – next week (a statutory requirement from the government), when they return to school after the Year 6 residential to Danbury on Monday 18th July. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school on info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk

Next year's classes! New Class teachers and members of staff for September:

Along with your child's report you will find a letter which details the staffing team for each year group for the next academic year! Very exciting! This information will also be shared next week, in a separate email from the school. Please note that we are also still recruiting for some staffing positions - which are taking place before the end of term. As ever, everyone is very excited about the upcoming academic year and I know that each class teacher and their accompanying Teaching Assistant and Learning Support Assistant/s are excited to be working with their new class and welcoming our pupils back to school in September. I think that everyone would agree that it is going to be another very busy, but fun and productive year, once again!

Thank you to Gemma and Ruth - PTA Chairs

As you will have read in our last newsletter, Ruth and Gemma, co PTA Chairs, are stepping down at the end of this term after doing an amazing job in the role of PTA chairs for the last 3 years. I would like to say the biggest thank you to both of these ladies. Gemma and Ruth have worked tirelessly to raise much-needed funds for the school, during incredibly

challenging times (COVID lockdowns - say no more...) and they have always done it with good humour, enthusiasm and passion. The money they have helped to raise has contributed to additional educational trips and visitors to the school, an annual Christmas Panto, Chromebooks, books for each of the classrooms, the new Actival playtime interactive boards, and so much more. Their creativity and ingenuity in providing those important 'added extras' will provide a lasting legacy for all of our pupils for years to come. **Ruth and Gemma are very eager for someone to take up the baton as the next PTA Chair (or Chairs) so if you are interested please contact either the school (using our usual email address) or Ruth and Gemma directly.**

Year 5 Staffing team from September:

Just a quick update. As you will be aware, Mrs Robinson - one of our lovely teachers - has been absent since January, as she has been undergoing Cancer treatment. Therefore, for the Autumn Term, Mr Powlesland will be taking over the role of Year 5 teacher on a part time basis and will be working alongside Mrs McInnes. Mr Powlesland will be teaching in Year 5 every Monday, Tuesday and Friday, with Mrs McInnes teaching in Year 5 on a Wednesday and Thursday. Mrs McInnes will be teaching Forest School to Butterfly class (Reception) and Ladybird class (Year 1) for the Autumn term, and there will not be a Forest School session for Caterpillar class (Year 2).

A **huge** thank you to all of the staff involved who have been incredibly helpful and flexible this year (and into the next). I also thank you for your support in this matter.

Move-Up Afternoon and Meet the Teacher events!

As a part of our end-of-term arrangements each class will experience a Move-Up Afternoon with their new class teacher which will take place on **Monday 18th July**

The Meet the Teacher events (which will be held in the classrooms) will be on the following dates and times:

- **Meet the Teacher event - Monday 18th July** Year 1 & Year 2 (3.15pm)
- **Meet the Teacher event - Monday 18th July** Year 3 (3.30pm)
- **Meet the Teacher event - Tuesday 19th July** Year 4 & Year 5 (3.15pm)
- **Meet the Teacher event - Tuesday 19th July** Year 6 (3.30pm)

Sports Day: (article written by the Year 6 Sports Ambassadors)

Sports Day at St Mary's took place on Wednesday 6th July. Each colour group participated in a fun warm-up to music led by Mrs Shackleton, one of our Year 5 teachers. After the warm-up, everyone was split into their colour groups and sat under their decorated gazebo. Every two races, Mr Jarman gave us a score update; points were given to children who came 1st, 2nd and 3rd and certificates for our six school values of compassion, friendship, perseverance, respect, trust and truthfulness would be presented to children in Key Stage 1 (at the end of the event) and Key Stage 2 (during the next day of school due to finishing late). Lily B (helped by her mum) raised money for the PTA by doing face-painting on a table on the meadow and raised £38.43 for the school! Uniform was sold with donations welcomed. The PTA made bacon



butties (with additional choices) and sold teas and coffees too; they also kindly donated ice-lollies for every pupil at the end of the day. The PTA managed to raise an amazing £360 for the school – wow!

KS1 At the start of the day, KS1 participated in eight races which included: the space hopper race, egg and spoon race, balance race, skipping race, obstacle race, sack race, flat race and finally the relay race.



This was followed by a toddler/preschool children's race and a few parent's and carer's races. Finally, KS1 received the results. In fourth place was the yellow team with 180 points, in third place was the red team with 197 points, second place came the blue team with 198 points, and in first place was the green team with 287 points.

KS2 After a lovely picnic lunch in the sun, where parents/carers and friends of the school were invited to sit and eat with their children, KS2 participated in races such as the egg and spoon, space hopper, balance, skipping, relay, slow bike, obstacle, flat and sack race (which was only for the Year 6 pupils). The KS2 final scores were: in last place was green group with 293 points, next was blue group with 332 points, then came yellow group with 387 points and in first place was red group with a total of 396 points.

Congratulations to everyone who participated, even if you didn't win we are still proud of you!

THE '8 DAY WEEKEND' is a carnival celebration bursting with music, fun and events for the whole family. It takes place on the Common and is organised by Saffron Walden Round Table who are all volunteers and give their time for free to run this EPIC event. Every penny of profit is donated back to the local community and good causes. We hope that you are able to enjoy the carnival at the weekend and the events over the next few days.



Look out for Mrs Shackleton, Mrs Crocker and Mrs North (pictured) who will be volunteering in the week supporting this fabulous community event. <https://www.8dayweekend.co.uk/>



Year 5 and Year 6 Production of Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies

On Tuesday this week, we were treated to a extravaganza of a performance by all of the pupils in Year 5 and Year 6. I have got to say that it was a phenomenal performance; the acting was incredibly mature (and convincing!), the singing was truly amazing, the delivery of the jokes was spot on - with accurate and well-timed punch lines; moreover, the children really looked the part, dressed in authentic clothing from the medieval period. Most importantly, it was so clear to everyone that came that every single one of the children was thoroughly enjoying the performance.



The whole audience of parents, carers and friends of the school, as well as the staff members present, were incredibly impressed with how well the children acted, sang and danced and there were a huge amount of comments afterwards praising the children and staff on their undoubted efforts. A huge well done to all of the children in these two year groups for a high-quality and truly memorable performance. I would also like to say thanks to Mr Clarke, Mrs McInnes, Mrs Shackleton, Mrs Norman, Miss Hunter and Mrs Tickle for all their efforts in preparing the pupils and the impressive production set (and

props). However, particular praise must be singled out for the Director/Producer/Choreographer Mrs Smith, who has so obviously put in so much work behind the scenes (in just four weeks!) to prepare these pupils for such a staggeringly impressive production.

Thank you on behalf of the school.

Have a lovely weekend in the sun; see you all on Monday.

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarman

Headteacher of St Mary's Church of England Primary school, Saffron Walden

KS1 STEM Club



Congratulations to the Reception/KS1 children who completed their last STEM session. Well done for to all our budding scientists who took part in the 9 week STEM club. Mrs Jeewan

PE kit and school uniform:

Just a quick reminder that if you are buying sports kit or school uniform ready for the next academic year in September to check out our School Uniform Policy, which is available on our School Website if you follow this link: <https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/uniform-information/> Please may I ask that in the case of sports kit that tracksuit tops, bottoms and leggings are **plain black** (without large logos and without other colours) and that children wear the purple St Mary's sports top with our special crest. Please also be aware that we have some spare school uniform, which has kindly been donated to the school. Please email us on info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk if you would like to find out if any of this uniform would be available for your child/ren.

*Sweatshirts/cardigans/PE shirts may be purchased at Gray Palmer on the High Street.

Heath & Hygiene

The children are having the best time at the moment playing outside, getting mucky and having fun in the sun but it is also important that they are given the opportunity to bath and shower more frequently as they are getting hot and sticky from the heat. A bath or shower at the end of the day can help them to calm down and be ready for rest and bed at the end of a busy day. Lack of proper hygiene in children can also make them more susceptible to contracting illnesses such as stomach bugs, causing absences from school. For children, good health and hygiene practices go hand-in-hand with effective learning and we want the last couple of weeks in school to be really positive especially with the excitement of transitions to new classrooms and new schools for year 6 pupils. With the additional washing that the outside play brings we would like to remind you that we do have pre-loved uniform available and we can ask the clothing bank for specific items.

Reception & KS1 Splash Party 1-2pm
Wednesday 20th July 2022



We will be holding a fun end of term 'splash' party for Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 on the last Wednesday of term.

The children will need to bring in a bag with their swim wear, t-shirt (if they wish), a change of shoes, a sunhat, a towel and suntan lotion.

To make the splash party safe and fun, we will be filling up the school water trays in the play area and the children will use soft sponges and sports water bottles.

We therefore need to collect lots of soft sponges and empty sports water bottles to make this as much fun as possible. If you have any to donate please bring along to school to the Reception class by Tuesday 19th July.

Please note, NO water pistols or water balloons.

Many thanks for your support.

Mrs Jeewan & KS1 team.



Sports Day



Y5 & Y6 Robin Hood



Diary Dates



- Mon 11th - Thu 14th July - Parents Consultations for Reception - Year 5
- Mon 11th Jul - Thu 14th Jul - Year 6 Residential - Danbury)
- Wed 13th July - Hip Hop Pop Workshop - R -Year 5 (Wear PE Kit)
- Fri 15th July** - **Book, Look, Share our Work (Parents invited)**
8.30-9.00am & 3.15-4pm
- Fri 15th July** - **Reception Class Graduation Assembly 9am - Parents invited**
- Fri 16th July** - **Year 6 Swimming (last session)**
- Mon 18th July** - **Meet the Teacher - Year 1 & Year 2 @3.15pm**
Year 3 @3.30pm
- Tue 19th July** - **Meet the Teacher - Year 4 & Year 5 @3.15pm**
Year 6 @3.30pm
- Wed 20th July** - **Reception & KS1 Splash Party**
- Thursday 21st July - Year 6 Leavers Service - 9.30am @St. Mary's Church
- Thursday 21st July - Last day of term - 1.30pm finish

Book Look/Share Our Work Session - Friday 15th July

Further to the email sent earlier this week, just another reminder that we are holding a **before and after school Book Look/ Share our Work session**, on **Friday 15th July**. This will be **before and after school 8.30am to 9am and 3.15pm to 4pm**.



These Book Look/ Share our Work sessions are an excellent opportunity for our lovely pupils to proudly show off the work that they have been producing in class and also how much progress they have been making throughout this academic year.

Weather Next Week



The weather is due to be really hot and sunny next week. Please can we ask that children have a sun hat, water bottle and sun cream in school. It is essential that these are named.

We also ask that you apply a layer of sun cream before the school day.