

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Thursday 23rd June 2022

Telephone 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Attendance Weekly - 96%

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,

Fab fencing!



Thank you so much to Mr Adam Dowling, who answered the school's call a few week's back, for any parents/carers with extensive DIY/landscaping skills to help out with some projects around the school site. Adam (pictured with the new fencing), who is an experienced builder, had kindly volunteered his time - free of charge - over the last two weekends to come into the school to build two new picket fences. One, which overlooks the school field (at the back of the car-park) and the other, at the front of the school, are very nearly completed. I am sure that you will agree with me that they look absolutely amazing.



On behalf of the school **thank you so much** for your time, Adam (and also to mum and the children for letting us borrow him for the last few weeks!)

Staff members leaving:

At the end of this term, Teaching Assistants Mrs Trust (who has been at St Mary's for seven years) and Mrs Boyce (who will have been at the school for approaching two and a half years) are both leaving St Mary's for new and exciting challenges. Mrs Trust is embarking on a new career utilising her talent and passion as a cake maker extraordinaire. Anyone who has sampled one of Jo's delicious cakes will agree that she has an undoubted talent in this area and her culinary expertise will now be put to use filling lots of tummies with her creative produce! Mrs Boyce is also leaving us (having joined literally a couple of weeks before the first COVID lockdown struck!) to begin a career as an Admin and Youth Worker for Saffron Walden Community Church, nearby on Castle Street. Both Jo and Katie are keen to stay on at the school to volunteer as readers and help out where necessary—so we will still get to see their smiling faces!

We would like to thank these fantastic members of staff for all of their hard work and dedication to St Mary's, particularly over the last few years during the challenges of the pandemic. Please join me in wishing them both the very best of luck in their future careers. The school is currently in the process of recruiting for these positions and further information will be communicated in upcoming newsletters in July, when we communicate the class staffing positions.

Quick-Cricket Tournament:

Last week, 9 pupils from Year 4 took part in a cricket tournament at Saffron Walden Cricket Club. The children played a series of faced-paced and carefully adapted games, based on the key cricket skills of bowling, batting and fielding and I can tell you that there was a lot of intricate tactics involved! Over the course of the Friday morning, St Mary's played St Thomas More, Wimbish, Newport, Bentfield, Elsenham and Manuden and won a fair few games! All the children involved thoroughly enjoyed themselves and learned a lot about the skills and techniques needed in cricket and they cleverly adapted their games as the tournament progressed.



Well done to Fraser, Freya, Harlee-May, Justin, Maisie, Maisy, Riley, Sammy and Theo for working so well as a team and showing lots of sportsmanship plus our **Key Behaviour Words of Safe, Effort and Respect** were clearly evident throughout the event.

PTA Quiz

Huge congratulations to the PTA team for raising over £600 from hosting the PTA Quiz Night, which took place a few weeks ago. It was a really fun evening and was well-attended by parents, carers and friends of the school. Thanks to Gemma and Ruth (Co-Chairs) for organising and helping set up and run the event, Hayley Leverett for being a dab hand at the cheeseboards and running the bar and Richard Peet (a former, long-standing governor at the school) for acting as Quiz Master on the day! Well done, too, to Mr Ricketts for solving the corkscrew conundrum so efficiently! Crisis averted!



The gauntlet has been well-and-truly thrown down—who will beat the Teacher's Table next year?!

Year 4 Multiplication Checks:

Following hot on the heels of the Year 1 pupils, who completed their Phonic Checks a couple of weeks ago, and the Year 6 and Year 2 pupils, who have completed their SATs over the last half term, last week the Year 4 pupils completed their annual Multiplication Checks—which always take place every June. The pupils in Year 4 have to take a series of timed questions to test their knowledge and recall of the times tables—up to 12x12. Mr Brown was very proud of how hard all of the children have worked to improve their multiplication facts over the year. Well done to all of the pupils in Year 4, as well as Mr Brown and the Year 4 staff team and also mums and dads who have supported by practising at home to learn these incredibly important facts—which I am sure you will agree help in so many areas of maths (and life in general!)

Junior Choir Recruitment:

Along with this newsletter today, there is a flier for a Junior Choir Taster Evening, which is taking place at St Mary's Church Parish Rooms at 6-7.30pm on Friday 1st July. We would encourage as many of our lovely pupils to take part in this as possible—we have lots of lovely singers who would really benefit from this opportunity and thoroughly enjoy it.

Do remember that the school is closed to all pupils all day tomorrow (Friday 24th June) as it is a **Staff INSET day**. The school will re-open as normal on Monday morning at 8.30am. Do have a lovely weekend.

Mr C. D. Jarmain

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

A flier for a "Taster Evening" for the St Mary's Church Junior Choir. The text on the flier reads: "Taster Evening Friday 1st July 6-7.30pm, Parish Rooms St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden. Are you between 7 1/2 - 13 years, enjoy singing and interested to know what it is like to be a member of St Mary's Church Junior Choir? Come along and meet our friendly group. There's lots to gain..." It lists activities: "Singing and music theory training", "Ribbon awards", "Pocket money (you get paid!)", "Outings and singing in cathedrals", and "Social activities and games". At the bottom, it says: "To Register (essential before the day) or for more information, please contact Oliver King: domstmarysw@gmail.com". The background of the flier shows children in red choir robes singing from a book.

CSE – Child Sexual Exploitation.

CSE can take on many forms, it can happen online, in person or via a mobile phone. Young people are 'groomed' and tricked into thinking they are in a normal healthy relationship so they may not know what is happening. They may post or send images of themselves in return for some sort of payment or gift or even just a sense of belonging.

A change in behaviour is often seen as normal teenage behaviour, but it could be a sign of something more serious.

For further info please visit:

www.knowaboutcse.co.uk

www.NSPCC.org.uk



Parent/Carer Consultations - 11th - 14th July 2022

Appointments can now be booked for the end of year parent consultations via our Parent's Evening System which can be found at <https://stmarys.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. These extended parental consultations will be held throughout the day and late into the afternoon in July, with each family having the opportunity to make a 15-minute appointment per child. See dates and timings below for each year group.

Please book your appointment before the **booking system closes on Wednesday 6th July.**

| | Mon 11 th July | Tue 12 th July | Wed 13 th July | Thu 14 th July |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Morning 8:30-11:00am | Year 2 | Year 3 Year 4 | Year 1 (CP) Year 5 (JS) | Reception |
| Afternoon 1:15-5:00pm | Year 5 (KMCl) | Year 2 | Reception Year 3 | Year 1 (LN) Year 4 |

NB: Please note that there are no parent consultations for Year 6 pupils as they receive a full end of year report instead; however, if you would like to discuss anything regarding your Year 6 child please make an appointment with Mr Clarke via the School Office.

In order to log on securely parents/carers will need to put in their name as given to the school, your child's given name (or chosen first name as given to the office) and your child's date of birth as an 8 digit number e.g. 25/09/2008.



Please use the link below to login into the Parents Evening System to book your appointment.

<https://stmarys.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Essex Music Services - Instrument Lessons at School

Essex Music Services are pleased to offer small group/1-to-1 instrumental lessons at our school provided by our team of high-quality tutors. Learning a musical instrument can have many positive effects on a child's social, personal and educational development as well as giving them a great sense of enjoyment and achievement.

For further details and to book lessons to start in September, please see the link below:

<https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/music-lessons/>



Diary Dates



- Friday 24th June - INSET Day - School Closed
- Thursday 30th June - SCARF Life Education Visit (Reception, Year 1, 2 & 3)
- Monday 4th July - Year 6 Performance Dress Rehearsal
- Tuesday 5th July - Year 6 Performance 6pm - Parents Invited
- Wednesday 6th July - Sports Day (parents, carers & friends of the school welcome)
Reception & KS1 - 9.30-12.00pm & KS2 - 12.00-3.00pm
Picnic lunch on the Meadow - 12.00-12.45pm
- Mon 11th - Thu 14th July - Parents Consultations for Reception - Year 5 (Timings TBC)
- Mon 11th Jul - Thu 14th Jul - Year 6 Residential - Danbury
- Friday 15th July - Reception Class Graduation Assembly
- Monday 18th July - Summer Reading Challenge Assembly (SW Library)
- Thursday 21st July - Year 6 Leavers Service - 9.30am @St. Mary's Church
- Thursday 21st July - Last day of term - 1.30pm finish

Community News

Please take a look at our newest addition to our school website; a Community News page, where you will find information on local events and services. See link below:

<https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/community-news-and-events/>



Salad Days Magazine

Salad Magazine is now online, please see the latest copy on the link below.

<https://saladdaysmag.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/salad-days-94.pdf>

Taster Evening

**Friday 1st July 6–7.30pm, Parish Rooms
St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden**

Are you between 7½ – 13 years, enjoy singing and interested to know what it is like to be a member of **St Mary's Church Junior Choir**?

Come along and meet our friendly group. There's lots to gain....

- Singing and music theory training
- Ribbon awards
- Pocket money (you get paid!)
- Outings and singing in cathedrals
- Social activities and games



To Register
(essential before the day)
or for more information, please contact
Oliver King: domstmaryssw@gmail.com