

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 11th March 2022

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Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly - 97%

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,

Message from the Headteacher:

This week gardening club were excited to plant some new trees on the path to the nursery, which are particularly welcome given that we have sadly lost a couple recently in the storms as well as two trees bordering the steps down to the field which were identified as being diseased during the Summer term.

These new trees were generously given to the school free of charge from the Woodland Trust as part of the Queen's Jubilee Green Canopy project which is donating trees to people all over the country. We received 15 native British saplings of 3 varieties - Rowan, Hazel and Crabtree. They came complete with protective tubing and poles for support as they grow. The children worked really well together, measuring out the plots, digging the holes and planting the trees. We look forward to seeing them grow!



If you would like to get involved with the Queen's Jubilee Green Canopy project, here is the link with more details: <https://queensgreencanopy.org/get-involved/>

I would like to pass on my thanks to the amazing Mrs McInnes—who organises and facilitates our Forest School provision (in addition to our Gardening Club) here at St Mary's as well all

of the fantastic pupils who make up our Gardening Club.



Year 4 Dance exploits!

A huge well done must go out to all of the Year 4 pupils who took part in an annual Dance festival at Saffron Walden County High School, on Wednesday this week, after school. The children from Firefly class performed an impressive routine to the music of the famous disco classic Carwash to a packed auditorium which included parents, carers, pupils and staff members from a large number of local primary schools—which included schools from Saffron Walden, as well as some of the surrounding villages.



I am incredibly proud that all **32 members** of the Firefly class attended, as I know that this would be have incredibly daunting for children of such a young age—especially as none of the schools present had been able to practise on such a large stage beforehand! I know that the children got lots out of this event and that they very much enjoyed being cheered on by lots of their parents, carers and other relatives! Riley said: *'I enjoyed watching the other children dance—they were superb! I think the festival was phenomenal and I hope that other children in the school can experience the wonderful dancing like me and my classmates!'* Emma stated: *'I had lots of feelings jumbled up! It felt spectacular once we were on stage. Learning the dance was really fun and I feel like we want to do it again. All the dances were good—I can't decide which was my favourite one!'* Theo reported: *'getting ready for the dance show (with Mrs Colman and our teachers) was really fun and amazing! The moves were hard... but it was definitely worth it!'*

I am also delighted to report that the children's behaviour was exemplary and they also supported all of the other performances by clapping, cheering and getting fully behind their peers. These children showed all of the resilience, effort and respect that we love to see from our St Mary's pupils. Mrs McInnes, our Sports Leader, quite rightly praised these pupils in assembly yesterday for representing the school so impressively.

A big thank you must go out to Mr Brown and Mrs Trust, Miss Driscoll, as well as Jackie Colman and Carron Shaw for all of their hard work in getting the children up to 'performance level!'

Book Look and Share our Work sessions:

Yesterday - at the start and end of school - St Mary's welcomed our parents, carers and friends of the school to our termly Share our Work session, following the Parents/Carers consultations, which took place last term. Once again, it was so lovely to see so many members of the school community coming in to school and it was also lovely to give our wonderful pupils the opportunity to show off all of the hard work that they have been putting in, since the start of this academic year.



The staff truly hope that you all find these sessions useful and good way to be able to see what your children have been doing in class and also provide an informal opportunity to meet your children's class teachers.

Thanks for your continued support for the school and your children.

Pink Fun Run

This term we are excited to say that we will be holding our termly inter-house fun run but with a twist. The school, along with the fantastic support of the PTA, have decided to run a Pink Fun Run on Tuesday 29th March in support of our lovely Mrs Robinson who is currently going through treatment for breast cancer.



The PTA are kindly setting up an online donation page for the charity Breast Cancer Now who offer the Someone Like Me service - a peer support system that Mrs Robinson has benefited from hugely to date. Donation buckets will also be available on the day.

More information to follow next week...

Have a lovely weekend. Please do remember that the last day of term is **Thursday 31st March at 1.30pm.**

Mr C. D. Jarmain

Headteacher of St Mary's, Saffron Walden

Dear Parent / Carers

Please find attached a link to a guide for ROBLOX produced by www.nationalonlinesafety.com

We have been made aware that a number of KS1 and KS2 children are playing Roblox and have access to characters that they are referencing in the playground (Pennywise is often mentioned from the horror movies IT). There is also content on YouTube with clips of these scary characters featured in Roblox.

Whilst Roblox doesn't have a minimum age rating we would urge you to monitor what online games your children are playing on and what they are accessing on the internet.

The 2 Johns offer a lot of advice and they have a Facebook page – EST E safety Training or visit www.esafetytraining.org for further information and guidance.



Joanna Crocker

Welfare and Support Officer

Inclusion Team.

PTA KRISPY KREME DOUGHTNUT SALE—FRIDAY 18TH MARCH

Back by popular demand, The PTA will be selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts on the meadow/playground after school next Friday 18th March! We are selling either individually at £1 each, in bundles of 4 for £3.50, or boxes of 12 for £10. PLEASE PRE-ORDER TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT, as this was really popular last year. For those of you registered on 'Classlist', we have created 'tickets' for you to be able to buy these in advance and pay using Paypal, so please check the app to buy these. You should also have received an email.

If you haven't downloaded the Classlist app yet, please do by clicking the link below. You just need to log in, add your children to their class, and you will be able to make your order online, and will be set up for future events and sales...

<https://classlist.page.link/xkVuCSv6FVcH8dhL6>

We can also take cash on the day, but we can't guarantee availability. We'd definitely welcome pre-orders, as so much easier to click and collect, and ensure we have ordered enough.

This is a fundraiser, and earns the school money, so please support this if you can. Any problems, please email pta@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk



Diary Dates



Mon 14th - Fri 18th March	-	British Science Week
Tuesday 15th March	-	Tinies visit St. Mary's Church
Wednesday 16th March	-	Young Carers Action Day (wear funky or odd socks)
Wednesday 16th March	-	Dermot O'Leary live webinar
Friday 18th March	-	PTA Krispy Kreme Doughnut Sale
Thursday 24th March	-	Y3 Colchester Zoo Trip
Thursday 24th March	-	Y4 Cambridge Science Centre
Thursday 24th March	-	PTA Mothers Day Gift Shop
Monday 28th March	-	PTA Easter Rainbow Raffle
Tuesday 29th March	-	Pink Fun Run
Wednesday 30th March	-	Y1 Stansted Mountfitchet Castle Trip
Thursday 31st March	-	Last day of term - 1.30pm finish
Friday 1st April	-	INSET Non Pupil Day
Mon 4th - Mon 18th April	-	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 19th April	-	First day of Summer Term - Pupils Return
Thursday 21st April	-	Lily-Jo Project Visit (Mental Health Workshop)
Monday 25th April	-	Y2 Audley End Miniature Railway Trip
Monday 2nd May	-	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Mon 9th - Thu 12th May	-	Year 5 Residential - Danbury
Mon 9th - Thu 12th May	-	Year 6 SATs Week
Friday 13th May	-	Year 6 Swimming start (TBC)
Thursday 19th May	-	CENSUS Day Special Lunch Menu
Mon 30th May - Fri 3rd June	-	Half-term
Wednesday 8th June	-	New Reception 2022 Parents Information Meeting
Thursday 9th June	-	Kittle Photography Visit - Class Photos
Friday 24th June	-	INSET Day - School Closed
Monday 4th July	-	Year 5 &6 Performance Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 5th July	-	Year 5 &6 Performance 6pm - Parents Invited
Wednesday 6th July	-	Sports Day
Mon 11th Jul - Fri 14th Jul	-	Year 6 Residential - Danbury
Thursday 21st July	-	Year 6 Leavers Service - 9.30am @St. Mary's Church
Thursday 21st July	-	Last day of term - 1.30pm finish