

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 31st March 2023

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly 95.6%

Attendance Year 94.3%



Our motto: 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,

It has been an extraordinarily busy week here at St Mary's and I can barely believe that we have reached the end of this Spring term! This week's newsletter and Class Updates share some of the things that our pupils and staff have been up to—both in and out of school, which include: Dance Competitions, Music Recitals, Year 3 and Year 4 Parents Presentations, a PTA Easter Hop (fundraising event), an Easter Service and an end of term Awards Assembly! We have certainly crammed it all in this week. Please do read on to find out more and don't forget to take a look at our class updates where you can find lost of this information as well as a selection of photos of our pupils in action!

Music Recital Assembly:

On Monday this week a number of our pupils nominated themselves to play a piece of music that they have been learning in the termly music



lessons. Before these performances I discussed our 6 St Mary's values with the whole school, particularly how we must also show respect such as by listening carefully, quietly and sensibly, and how we must show friendship and compassion if there is a note or chord (or two!) which goes wrong whilst they are playing. We also talked about the importance of perseverance—a vital attribute in music practice and performing. We also discussed how the performer needs to be able to trust the audience to listen sensibly and support them (by giving them a clap at the start and also at the end—when they take

their bows). I also said how impressed I was with their bravery in coming up to perform in front of over 200 people—not to be underestimated!

I would like to say well done to the following pupils who performed during this assembly:

Anna R (who performed Au Clair de la Lune on the piano)

Penny BS (who performed London Bridge on the piano)

Ollie C (who performed Country Road on the acoustic guitar)

Maisie BT (who performed Hedwigs Theme, from Harry Potter on the piano)

Ozan M (who performed Ten Little Dancers on the piano)

Holly O (who performed Hedwigs Theme on the piano)

Barney S (who performed We Will Rock You on the guitar)

Frank Holyomes (who performed Ode to Joy on the piano)

Maisie BT and Issy A (who performed a duet of Twelve Bar Blues)

Daisy Shaw (who performed Europa—her own creation—on the piano)



We will be hosting another Music Recital assembly towards the end of the Summer term, where we will invite the parents and carers of our performers so that they can join in the fun! We will let you know the date at the start of the Easter term!



Big Walk and Wheel

Congratulations St Mary's for taking part in the Big Walk and Wheel! You will be pleased to hear that we scored an average daily participation score of 66.95% and logged a massive 703 journeys. Regionally we came 24th in the area out of 99 schools and nationally we came 167th out of 611 schools. We hope that you enjoyed walking/scooting/cycling to school and that it has inspired you to do this more often. Unfortunately, we didn't win any prizes this time around but there's always next year!



Easter Service

On Thursday, the school visited St Mary's church for our Easter Service. The service was organised by Miss Allin (our RE and Worship Lead) along with the Worship Council (which is made up of 14 pupils, 2 from each class) who performed the prayers and readings. Two of our Worship Councillors, Quillan and Ava, introduced the readings, the hymns and the prayers and everyone agreed that they both did a brilliant job!

The School Choir also sang two songs—Colours of Day and Sing— and they sang both of these songs beautifully—a comment shared by a large number of parents and carers and staff members after the event. In fact I have got to say that the singing at St Mary's is getting better and better each year—and I have no doubt that the creation of the new School Choir a while back has definitely had a positive impact. Thanks must therefore go to Mrs Potter (our Music Lead) and Miss Hunter for the hard work that they put into this incredibly important area of our school.



Awards Assembly—Our Shining Lights:

In today's end of term Celebration & Awards Assembly I presented 14 pupils with special values certificates for consistently showing our 6 values throughout the term. Class teachers chose a pupil from their class who always display these 6 values and I also chose a pupil from each class who I have observed around school showing these important values.



The pupils who received these certificates were:

Ela M and Casey P (from Reception, Brogan-Grace D and Frederic C (from Year 1), Barney K and Joseph GP (from Year 2), Georgia T and Marcel P (from Year 3), James R and Pippa-Rose B (from Year 4), Lena O and Kaitlin B (from Year 5) and Barney S and Angelina M (from Year 6).

A HUGE well done to all of these pupils! Who will be chosen at the end of the next half term?

Year 3 and Year 4 Parents Presentations

This week we introduced a new concept here at St Mary's which we have called our 'Parents Presentations'. These presentations are for pupils in lower Key Stage 2 to practice and hone their speaking and listening skills in front of a live audience and also so that they can share their learning to their parents and carers. There was an excellent turn out for both events and both classes did brilliantly! Everyone present enjoyed hearing about Ecosystems, the water cycle and river systems, a wide variety of creative writing and poetry, some tricky maths, artwork and even a class rap with an anti-bullying message! Well done to Mr Pike, Mr Brown, Mrs Smith, Mrs Tickle, Miss Dye and Miss Mayne for all of the hard work they have put in to preparing the children and well done all of the pupils in both classes for showing so much courage and determination!



Inter-house Tag Rugby Competition:

I am delighted to reveal that the results of the Year 3/4 Tag Rugby competition which took place last week were:

- 1st place—Blue Team
- 2nd place—Yellow Team
- 3rd Place—Red Team
- 4th Position—Green Team

I am equally delighted to report that the results of the Year 5/6 Tag Rugby were:

- 1st Place— Blue Team
- 2nd Place— Yellow Team
- 3rd Place— Green and Red Teams



The staff also chose a number of children who stood out as showing St Mary's six values of **Friendship, Truthfulness, Perseverance, Trust, Compassion and Respect**. All of the following children received a special St Mary's values certificate.

In Year 3 and Year 4 they were: Mbalehle N, James R, Zachary C, Lily-May, Laura VDP, Henry C, Harry A, Mary Ellen F, Bobby W and Blossom C—all of whom will be receiving a special values certificate.

In Year 5 and Year 6 they were: Isoa M, Freya R, Owen S, Will B, Casey A, Tommy A, Grace G, Amelia G, Ruby S, Anna R, Buddy M, Lucas D, Maisy A, Maisy BT, Justin DR, Lena O, and Kaitlin B.

Well done to all of the children involved. The behaviour of all the children was impeccable and they showed fantastic sportsmanship and attitude as well as brilliant teamwork. I was a very proud headteacher!

Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance is essential in order to raise standards of pupil attainment and to give every child the best educational experience possible.

Children who have low attendance often fall behind their peers academically. Research shows that they can struggle to catch up often leading to big gaps in their learning.



Following the Covid -19 Pandemic, some families became more cautious about sending their children to school, especially if they were living with clinically vulnerable relatives.

We have attached the advice on childhood illnesses leaflet (later in this newsletter) and we would encourage you to visit the link below for guidance on when to keep your child off school due to illness.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If you do keep your child at home due to illness, it's important to phone the school **EVERYDAY** of the absence before 8:45am.

Please note that the school has an answerphone service where you can leave your child's name, year group and a brief reason for the absence.

I hope that you all have a lovely Easter break and I look forwards to seeing all of our pupils and families back at St Mary's at **8.30am on Tuesday 18th April**. Please don't forget that Monday 17th April is an INSET day for school staff only.

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarmain

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

PTA Non-Uniform/Sweet Raffle—Friday 21st April

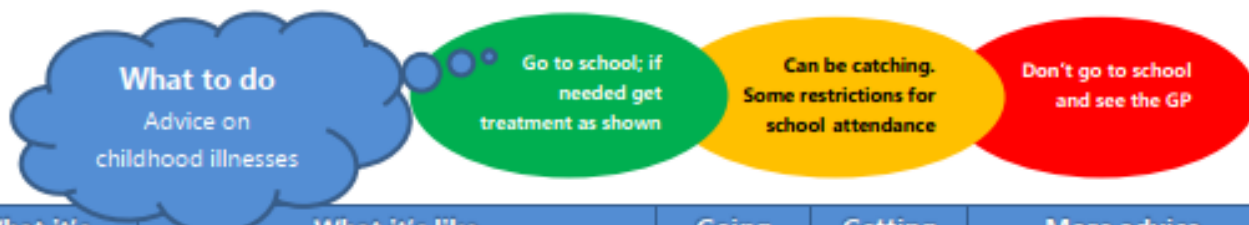


We'd like to give you advance notice of a PTA-led event in celebration of the coronation of King Charles III. On **Friday 21st April**, the children at St Mary's Primary School will be permitted to wear non-uniform in exchange for a contribution to the Sweet-Treat Raffle. In recognition of the coronation, we are asking for sweet treats of any kind, but preferably in the colours red, white and blue. The raffle will take place just before the coronation weekend, so the children will be able to bring home their treats for the bank holiday.

School Dinner Accounts



Please can we politely that ask all KS2 parents pay any dinner arrears and top up their school dinner accounts over the Easter Break. All dinner accounts should be kept in credit at all times.



What it's called	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Chicken Pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters	●	Pharmacy	Back to school 5 days after on-set of the rash
Common Cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat	●	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)	●	Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat	●	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
German measles	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards.	●	G.P.	Back to school 6 days from on-set of rash
Glandular fever	high temperature, sore throat; usually more painful than any before and swollen glands	●	G.P.	Child needs to be physically able to concentrate
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)	●	G.P.	Only need to stay off ill feeling too ill for school
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)	●	Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness	●	G.P.	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, and watery inflamed eyes. Small red spots with white or bluish white centres in the mouth, red, blotchy rash	●	G.P.	Back to school 4 days from on-set of rash
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty	●	G.P.	
Scabies	Intense itching, pimple – like rash Itching and rash may be all over the body but commonly between the fingers, wrists, elbows, arm	●	G.P.	Back to school after first treatment
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash	●	G.P.	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/ diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea	●	Pharmacy	See GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus	●	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsillitis	Intense Sore throat	●	Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow
Whooping cough	Violent coughing, over and over, until child inhales with "whooping" sound to get air into lungs	●	G.P.	Back to school after 5 days of antibiotics or 21 days from onset of illness

See www.patient.co.uk for further information on each of these conditions

This leaflet has been produced in partnership between



This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals however, if you are unsure about your child's wellbeing we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

60TH BIRTHDAY BASH WEEKEND!

COME AND
CELEBRATE WITH US

15th April 2023
11:00 - LATE

Springate, Chickney Rd, Henham, CM22 6BQ

- Rugby finals
- Live music
- Beer festival
- Bouncy castle
- Delicious food
- Temporary tattoos
- and much more...

Camping spots available

Shuttle bus service from
the club to Saffron
Walden and local villages
from 6pm

Book your space on the
day!





Diary Dates



- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Tuesday 28th March | - | Year 3 Parent/Carers Presentation at 9am |
| Tuesday 28th March | | Saffron Walden Museum visit—Reception |
| Wednesday 29th March | - | Year 4 Parent/Carers Presentation at 9am |
| | - | Year 6 Dance Show at Saffron Hall (4.15pm-6pm) |
| | - | PTA event Bunny Hop Bounce |
| Thursday 30th March | - | Easter Service in St Mary's Church 10.00am (all parents/ carers welcome) |
| Friday 31st March | - | Last day of Spring term— 1.30pm finish |
| Monday 3rd April to
Monday 17th April | - | Easter break |

Key Dates for the Summer Term:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Monday 17th April | - | Teaching staff INSET Day |
| Tuesday 18th April | | Term commences for pupils |
| Friday 21st April | - | PTA Non-Uniform Day/Sweet Raffle |
| Monday 8th May | - | Bank Holiday (for King Charles' Coronation) |
| Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May | | SATS Week (for Year 6 pupils) |
| Friday 16th June | - | PTA Quiz |
| Monday 3rd July at 7.00pm | - | Saffron Walden County High Year 7 Transition evening for Parents and Carers |
| Thursday 20th July | - | PTA Danceathon |

** new or amended items added are in blue*

