

# St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 17th March 2023

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Attendance Weekly 94.3%

Attendance Year 94.2%



*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,

Welcome to the Week 9 edition of our Spring Term newsletter! As ever you will find lots of useful information including about **Prevent**, information about how to source **coloured house t-shirts** (when the children take part in our upcoming inter-house competitions), some advice about **headlice** and our not-to-be-missed **Diary Dates!** Don't forget to check out this week's **Class Updates** (which as you know comes out as a separate document) with information and photos of our pupils enjoying their learning in class, as well as sharing some of the lessons they have been engaging in for British Science Week.

## Inter-house Tag-rugby

You may have noticed from our **Diary Dates** that on Thursday afternoon next week (23rd March), the Key Stage 2 pupils will be taking part in our termly **Inter-house Tag-rugby Competition**, on the Upper Meadow of our school field. The Year 3 & 4 children and the Year 5 & 6 children will be joining together in their House Teams to play each other in a series of 8-a-side 10 minute matches. There will be points for each House Team for winning, drawing and even losing, as well as special certificates for pupils who display any of our 6 School Values (which you can see are identified on the banner at the top of this newsletter) throughout the event. Both myself and Sports Coach Miss Driscoll will be refereeing the matches and the Sports Ambassadors and House Captains will be helping to organise and set up for the event. Points scored will contribute towards our monthly House Trophy.



## Music recitals!

I am excited to announce that we are going to be holding a Music Recital assembly on Monday 27th March at 9am. For this term we are going to give the children who are taking part in music lessons at the school to perform a piece of music (or two) either individually, or in groups to the rest of the school. A lot of the children are feeling quite nervous about this, so on this occasion they are going to perform their pieces to just the other children and staff members. We would then like to do this again in the Summer Term and invite our parents/carers in to watch and listen to their children perform their favourite musical pieces.

I will be speaking to the children about this in Monday's assembly to remind them and make sure they have enough time to prepare!

## Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel

We hope that you're all ready for the Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school walking, scooting, biking and wheeling challenge, starting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March through to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March! Have you checked that your bikes and scooters are road safe? Please use the videos below if not!

Bikes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4qtx60bcNk0>

Scooters: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwQL\\_iorrAg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwQL_iorrAg)



Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing. Active school runs also help to reduce congestion

and air pollution outside the school gate. A 2021 YouGov study showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school. And that children thought active travel was the best way to bring down these pollution levels. Plus there are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!

Please send any good photos you have through to the office [info@st-maryscofe.essex.uk](mailto:info@st-maryscofe.essex.uk). Many thanks for taking part.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards

*Mr C. D. Jarmain*

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

## PREVENT

The Police have a long history of working to prevent vulnerable people being drawn into criminal behaviour. It can be hard to know what to do if you're worried someone close is expressing extreme views or hatred, which could lead to them harming themselves or others.

If you are worried them please Call the ACT Early Support Line on 0800 011 3764, in confidence, to share your concerns with their specially trained officers.

The Support Line is open 9:00am – 5:00pm every day.

For further details please visit [www.actearly.uk](http://www.actearly.uk)

## COLOURED HOUSE T-SHIRTS



For anyone having difficulty finding a coloured t-shirt for the inter-house PE days/ Sports day, Fosters in Bishop's Stortford sell t-shirts for £2.50 and offer a click and collect or delivery service.

<https://www.fostersschoolwear.co.uk/shop/?q=t-shirts>

If any families have unwanted Red, Blue, Green or Yellow t-shirts please think of donating them to our pre-loved uniform stock.

## HEAD LICE



Recently, cases of head lice have been identified across the school and we wanted to make sure you were kept informed.

Whilst head lice are harmless, it is important that children are checked regularly so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly and before they are allowed to spread.

As there has been an outbreak, we suggest that you check your child's head as soon as possible.

Here is some simple advice you may wish to follow to keep head lice outbreaks to a minimum.

- Check your child's hair regularly
- Treat head lice as soon as you spot them
- You should check everyone in the house and start treating anyone who has head lice

Further advice on the treatment of head lice can be found on NHS website.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

# Diary Dates



- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Monday 6th March                         | - | World Book Day Workshop  |
| Monday 13th-17th March                   | - | Science Week at St Mary's  |
| Friday 17th March                        | - | School Council Fundraiser for Comic Relief                               |
| Thursday 23rd March                      | - | Inter House Tag rugby KS2  |
| Monday 20th March                        | - | Soul Stations (for each class in St Mary's Church)                       |
| Monday 20th—24th March                   | - | Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel  |
| Friday 24th March                        | - | Year 1 Dance Festival  |
|  | - | Inter-house running event  |
| Tuesday 28th March                       | - | Year 3 Parent/Carers Presentation at 9am                                 |
| Tuesday 28th March                       |   | Saffron Walden Museum visit—Reception                                    |
| Wednesday 29th March                     | - | Year 3 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<br>Monday 17th April | - | Easter break   |
| Monday 17th April                        | - | Teaching staff INSET Day   |
| Tuesday 18th April                       |   | Term commences for pupils  |

*\* new or amended items added are in blue*

