

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 13th January 2023

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Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Attendance Weekly - 98%

Attendance Year - 94%

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 second Newsletter of the Spring Term—and what a busy and productive week it has been, here at St Mary's! Please read on to find out more about our delicious Census Day Lunch (which is on Thursday next week), our Spring Term clubs, some safety information about children who walk home alone, important information about Conflict and Bullying, our School Council 'Bag2School initiative', another reminder for parents/carers to apply for reception places ready for September 2023, information about how to get a free smoke alarm, and a reminder about our Diary Dates for this term—which are always on the last page of our Newsletter each week. Don't forget to note these down in your own busy calendars—this term will go by before we know it!

An Anglo Saxon visitor!

On Monday this week, BusyBee class had a special historical visitor! Hatt popped in to see the pupils to ask for willing volunteers to join him on his quest through Europe!

Hatt talked to the class about the three different types of Anglo Saxons—the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes—and how they had come from the lands of Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands! He also explained that they were experienced farmers who lived off the land and that they were able to make equipment such as ploughs and tools to help them in their work. He informed them that they would grind wheat to make flour so they could make bread. Also, the pupils found out that some Anglo Saxons were skilled craftspeople who made decorative jewellery such as brooches and necklaces.



The Busybees also found out that children in Anglo Saxon times didn't go to school. Instead they learned skills from their parents. Boys learned farming and craftsmanship from their fathers, while girls would often learn how to spin cloth and look after the home. Adults also enjoyed sports such as hunting, horse-racing and playing musical instruments. Hatt even whet the children's appetites by referring to the famous tale of Beowulf—which the children will be finding out more about as the term progresses.

Hatt finished off by talking to the children about his clothing, including his strange shiny metal helmet, simple but effective sword and large axe, as well as his warm and cosy animal furs—which helped keep him warm on cold winter days as well as making him look even more magnificent! He said that Anglo Saxons were mostly a peaceful race, but they were prepared to fight and defend themselves if they needed to.

Pleasingly, pretty much every member of Busybee class voted to join Hatt on his epic quest—so unfortunately they will not be returning to school in the foreseeable future—sorry parents and carers!

I am sure you will join me in wishing Hatt and his merry band of Anglo Saxons the very best of luck!

Do enjoy this week's newsletter and have a great weekend!

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarmain

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

Reception 2023—2024

If you have a child born on or between 1st September 2018—31st August 2019 you must apply for a school place by Sunday 15th January, 2023. Information about applying via Essex County Council can be found on the school website—<https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/admission-arrangements/>



Get your FREE smoke alarm

Contact us to arrange a free home safety visit:

0300 303 0088

www.essex-fire.gov.uk/book



Walking Home Alone

We have been made aware of some reports of an unknown man who has been hiding in bushes and then jumping out and approaching primary aged children on their way home. This has been reported to the police, but we wanted to make you aware and to suggest that if your child walks to/from school without an adult, that you discuss safety with them (eg, keeping to main roads, not using cut throughs and what to do if they are approached).

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/away-from-home/at-school/#homealone>

Conflict and Bullying

What is bullying? It is a question school's often get asked about.

There is no legal definition of bullying, but it is usually defined as repeated behaviour which is intended to hurt someone either emotionally or physically, and is often aimed at certain people because of their race, religion, gender or sexual orientation or any other aspect such as appearance or disability.

Sometimes people think that bullying and conflict are the same thing, but they aren't. Conflict is a natural part of human relationships and navigating interactions with others can sometimes be tricky. Occasionally conflict can escalate into a disagreement that's so strong we become really emotional. Even though conflict can cause us stress and can hurt, conflict is not bullying. With bullying, the person (or group of people) who is doing the bullying means to hurt the other person. The bullying behaviour is usually repeated, or threatened to be repeated, over and over.

As parents and carers, we all want our children to be happy and safe and it is natural to worry about bullying - particularly if we have experienced bullying ourselves, or we think our child may be more vulnerable to bullying. Schools have a legal duty to prevent all forms of bullying and harassment, St Mary's (VA) Primary School has an anti-bullying policy and a behavioural policy which can be found here: www.stmaryssw.org.uk/policies/

If you are worried about your child, please speak to their Class Teacher or TA in the first instance or Mrs Crocker - The Schools Welfare and Support Officer.

For more information from the anti-bullying alliance and their parent / carer information, please visit: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk



Census Day Lunch
Thursday 19th January

Beef Burger in a Bun

or

Creamy Macaroni Cheese (v)

Seasoned Potato Twisters

Garden Peas

Coleslaw

Chocolate Brownie & Ice Cream





Spring Term Clubs

MONDAYS (16.01.2023—27.03.2023)

- KS2 Drama (12.30pm-1.10pm)

TUESDAYS (17.01.2023—28.03.2023) *No clubs on 28.02.2023*

- Yrs 1 & 2 Cosy Readers (3.15pm-4.00pm)
- KS2 Dodgeball (3.15pm—4.00pm)

WEDNESDAYS (18.01.2023—29.03.2023)

- KS2 Choir (12.30—1.00pm—Starts 25.01.2023)
- Yrs 2—6 Yoga (3.15pm—4.00pm)

THURSDAYS (19.01.2023—30.03.2023) *No clubs on 02.03.2023*

- Yrs 5 & 6 STEM (12.30pm—1.00pm)
- KS2 Girls Football (3.15pm—4.00pm)
- KS2 Boys Football (3.15pm—4.00pm)
- KS1 Board Games (3.15pm—4.00pm)

FRIDAYS (20.01.2023—31.03.2023)

- KS1 & KS2 Karate (3.15pm—4.00pm)

Dear parents/carers,

The school council announced before Christmas that St Mary's will be taking part in Bag2School, a clothing-drive run by a charity that sources clothes for people around the UK.

Your child will be bringing home with them a Bag2School bag. We ask that if you have any spare clothing after this Christmas break, please consider putting it in the bag and sending your child into school with it.

On the 27th of January, the Bag2School charity will arrive, weigh our bags, give us money for the total weight and then whisk the clothes away to those who need them most!

Please note: no school uniform or work clothing are allowed as part of the collection.

Thank you for taking part if you can!

St Mary's school council



Brought to you by
St Mary's School Council!

Diary Dates



- Friday 13th January - Year 4 Swimming commences
- Week commencing**
- Monday 16th January - Spring Term Clubs recommence
- Tuesday 17th January** - **Year 1 visit to Saffron Walden Museum**
- Thursday 19th January - Census Day and Special Lunch
- Tuesday 24th January - Sportshall Indoor Athletics tournament at Dame Bradbury's School
- Wednesday 25th January - Sportshall Indoor Athletics tournament at Dame Bradbury's School
- Week Commencing**
- Monday 6th February** - **Children's Mental Health Week**
- Friday 10th February - Safer Internet Day
- Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February - Half term holiday
- Monday 20th February - Pupils return to school (from 8.30am)
- Week Commencing**
- Monday 20th February** - **One Plan Meetings**
- Friday 24th February** - **Book Looks (8.30am to 9.00am and 3.15pm to 4.00pm)**
- Tuesday 28th February - Parents/Carers Consultations
- Thursday 2nd March - Parents/Carers Consultations
- Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day
- Monday 6th March** - **World Book Day Workshop**
- Friday 31st March - Easter Service in St Mary's Church (all parents/carers welcome)
- Friday 31st March - Last day of Spring term
- Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April - Easter break
- Monday 17th April - Teaching staff INSET Day

** new items added are in blue*

