

# St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 9th February 2024

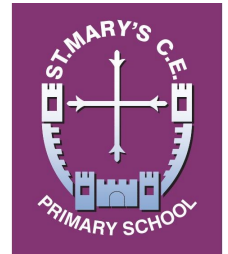
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Attendance Weekly 93.9%

Attendance Year 94.7%



*Our motto: Let Your Light Shine... as You Grow inspired by Matthew 5: 15-16*

**Friendship**

**Trust**

**Truthfulness**

**Compassion**

**Perseverance**

**Respect**

Dear parents and carers and friends of the school,

## St Mary's Mental Health Week Art Exhibition

Throughout this week, each class/child has been creating a piece of art based around this year's theme 'My Voice Matters'. **To share this art, the school hall is going to be open each afternoon from pick up (3:15pm) until 4pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February** for you to come and see the amazing creations from each year group. Please enter through the front door of the school.



## Stars of the Week

Well done to these fantastic Key Stage 2 pupils for displaying our 3 Core Skills of **Safe, Effort and Respect** this week.

- Year 3: Bobbie - for being compassionate and kind to her peers.  
Sebastian - for showing fantastic effort in all his subjects.
- Year 4: Isla - for her confidence and sharing her ideas and answers  
Teddy - for focus and challenging himself in maths.
- Year 5: Vivien - for her conscientious approach to her learning and continuous hard work.  
Toby - for his hard work and wonderfully positive energy in class.
- Year 6: Riley - for being really engaged in class discussions this week.  
Justin - for pushing himself when converting units of measurement.



## World Book Day School Fundraiser

We will be holding a school fundraiser during the week of World Book Day (8th March), where the children will come dressed as their favourite book character and take part in a sponsored run or read. We hope this gives the children the chance to more choice in what they seek sponsorship for - and of course that family and friends show their support! More details will follow shortly.

## Can Parents/Carers retain the quiz crown?

On March 15, we will hold the annual PTA Quiz (19:00 - 22:30). Join us for a fun evening of trivia as the parents/carers do battle with the teachers (and Governors we hope, too!). We will have a cash bar and all tickets include a delectable cheeseboard. You can only purchase tickets through Classlist: [https://app.classlist.com/parent/#/events/view/1099760686?s=859640953&utm\\_source=SCHOOL&utm\\_medium=SHARED\\_LINK](https://app.classlist.com/parent/#/events/view/1099760686?s=859640953&utm_source=SCHOOL&utm_medium=SHARED_LINK)

## Year 4 Indoor Athletics success

We wanted to share this lovely photo of the Year 4 Indoor Athletics team, who finished in an incredibly impressive 2nd position in the tournament at Dame Bradbury's school against a number of local primary schools.

Here they are proudly displaying their 2nd place certificates, which they were awarded this morning by Miss Driscoll, our Sports Coach. Excellent efforts everyone!





### **Dolce Catering Parents Survey**

As you may have seen earlier in the week Dolce has sent out a parents survey. Please be aware that this survey closes next **Friday 16th February**. Please click on the link below if you would like to participate. <https://forms.gle/ud4khUS4N4pWSeL78>

### **MIND**

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, we were fortunate to have MIND join us on Wednesday Morning at the start of the school day.

They had a number of good conversations with some of our children and their families, and provided some useful resources around conversation starters and other booklets on services and support.

If you missed them and would like to know more please visit [www.mindinwestessex.org.uk](http://www.mindinwestessex.org.uk)



### **Reflect and Connect by Diocese of Chelmsford School's Advisor, Richard Hopkins.**

Friday 2 February 2024 was the Christian feast of Candlemas. It is officially the end of Epiphany, when Christians are encouraged to stop looking back to the birth of Christ and to start looking forward to his passion, crucifixion, and resurrection. It is a timely reminder that sometimes it is good to stop looking back and start looking forward with hope for what is to come. It is often right to look back, but only if it inspires us for the future. Nostalgia is a powerful emotion, and probably influences our behaviour far more than we care to admit. When I dropped my eldest child off for his first day at our local Church of England primary school in 2002, I hadn't set foot in a primary school since 1975. I was overcome by nostalgia – believe it or not, it was the smell that got me. How could the smell of a school in Essex be exactly the same as the smell of a school in Yorkshire all those decades before? Either way, for me it was the smell of happiness, and it prompted me to become a primary school teacher a couple of years later. The Christian faith is ultimately an exercise in hope. Christians put their trust in Christ for their salvation and can live their lives in the joy of this hope.



As we turn our backs on Christmas and Epiphany, and look forward to Lent and Easter, my prayer is that all our school leaders will be able to face the future with hope. Hope doesn't erase our schools' many challenges, but it makes them easier to navigate. In the words of the Apostle Paul in Romans chapter 15, 'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.'

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

*Mr C. D. Jarman*

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

## **COMMUNITY SCHOOL NURSE DROP IN SESSIONS**

Drop-in sessions held once a month around the Uttlesford District, support and advice offered by a School Nurse and the 5-19 Healthy Family Support Practitioner.

Parents can ask advice about behaviour and emotional needs, bed wetting and soiling issues plus other health needs that may be impacting on both home and school life.

**SPANGLES FAMILY HUB, St John's Rd, Stansted Mountfitchet, Stansted CM24 8JP**

**15:30 – 17:00**

**9<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**(Please note the date change above due to Christmas holiday)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024**

**2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**

**DORDAN PAVILLION The Causeway, Dunmow CM8 2AA**

**15:30 – 17:00**

**7<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**8<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**SAFFRON WALDEN HOSPITAL ~~Radwinter~~ Rd, Saffron Walden**

**Clinic Room outpatients department 15:30 – 17:00**

**5<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**4<sup>th</sup> June 2024**





# February WHAT'S ON... Half Term



## Alice In Wonderland

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb  
2pm | £15 | £13 Concs.  
£52 Family

Follow Alice and the White Rabbit as they set off on a colourful, topsy-turvy adventure and meet a host of outlandish characters!



## Kids Craft - Dragons

Tue 20<sup>th</sup> | Wed 21<sup>st</sup> & Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb | 10am - 2pm | 4+ | £1 per child

Make a Chinese Dragon Celebrate the new Chinese year of the Dragon. Drop in between 10am and 2pm. No need to book tickets.



## Exciting Science

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Feb  
11am & 2pm | £16.50  
4+

This Brand New, Exciting & Educational show will amaze & astound all ages from 4 years & upwards, as we put the "Exciting" back into "Science"!



## The Amazing Bubble Man

Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb  
2pm | £16.50 | £14.50 Concs. | £58 Family

"It's a fantastic show. Louis Pearl playfully forms bubbles beyond imagination, and engages the audience with his easygoing slapstick."

Family Cinema



## Wonka

Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Feb  
11am & 2pm | £8 | £6 Concs. | PG

An impoverished chocolate-maker with big dreams befriends a young orphan. Wonderful and vivid prequel to the much loved classic.



## Aquaman and The Lost Kingdom

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Feb  
11am & 2pm  
£8 | £6 Concs. | 12A

Aquaman battles Black Manta who threatens his family and undersea kingdom in this action packed adventure sequel.

To book your tickets please visit  
**southmillarts.co.uk**  
or call our Box Office: 01279 710 200





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- ✓ Help the environment by replacing a car journey
- ✓ Help your school win some fantastic prizes

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# Diary Dates



## Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024:

February	-	LGBTQ+ Month
Monday 5th to Friday 9th February	-	Children's Mental Health Awareness Week
Tuesday 6th February	-	Safer Internet Day
W/C Monday 12th February	-	One Plan Meetings this week
<b>3.15pm—4.00pm</b>	-	<b>St Mary's Mental Health Art Exhibition—School Hall</b>
Tuesday 13th February	-	Shrove Tuesday - Pancake lunch
<b>3.15pm—4.00pm</b>	-	<b>St Mary's Mental Health Art Exhibition—School Hall</b>
Friday 16th February	-	Year 4 Swimming (16/2/2024—22/3/2024)
Friday 16th February	-	Reception & Year 1 'Little City' visitors/event - TBC
Friday 16th February	-	last day of term
Monday 19th – Friday 23rd February	-	Half Term Holiday
Monday 26th February	-	Start of second half of Spring Term
<b>Tuesday 27th February</b>	-	<b>Year 5 USSP Dance Show at Saffron Hall (4.15pm-6.00pm)</b>
Wednesday 28th February	-	Book Fair
Friday 1st March	-	Parents/Carers Book Look (8.30am to 9am & 3.15pm to 4pm)
Tuesday 5th March	-	Parents/Carers Consultations
Thursday 7th March	-	Parents/Carers Consultations
Friday 8th March	-	World Book Day
	-	Bringing Books to Life Workshops (Whole School)
	-	<b>PTA Sponsored Fun Run</b>
Monday 11th – Friday 15th March	-	British Science Week
Friday 15th March	-	<b>PTA Quiz (7.00pm—10.30pm, School Hall)</b>
Thursday 21st March	-	2Johns Online Safety sessions today (Yrs 1&2 – 9.30am to 10.15am; Yrs 3&4 – 11am to 12.05pm; Yrs 5&6 – 1.30pm to 3pm; staff – 4pm to 5.15pm; parents/carers – 8pm to 9.30pm).
Friday 22nd March	-	Year 1 Dance Festival
Wednesday 27th March	-	<b>PTA Easter Bonnet Parade</b>
<b>9.30am—10.00am</b>	-	<b>Year 3 Parent &amp; Carer Presentation (School Hall)</b>
Thursday 28th March	-	Easter Service in St Mary's Church at 11am
Friday 29th March—12th April	-	END OF TERM HOLIDAYS
Monday 15th April	-	INSET DAY