

# St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 19th January 2024

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Attendance Weekly 96%

Attendance Year 95.2%



*Our motto: 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,

Welcome to this week's newsletter. It's been a very cold week, but the good news is that next week's forecast is looking a little more promising. I hope you find this week's newsletter informative and enjoyable!

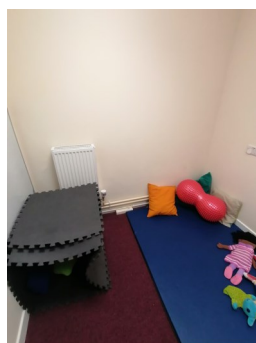
## New School Library and Redeveloped Calm Room

Local multi media artist Jessica Pearce painted the 360 degree mural to make the Calm Room space inviting and relaxing.

'I created the illusion of space by painting a distant horizon with a landscape on Audley End estate which children were likely to be familiar with. The palette of soft greens and blues were chosen as they're known to be most calming to the nervous system'. The comfy wall pads at floor level in the Calm Room were made by Jonathan Bromley of JB DIY services. The new Library Murals are inspired by the pupils and teacher's favourite characters - it was an absolute joy to see the children's reactions over the week as the mural developed !



The Calm Room before and after the painting work has been completed



## Stars of the week

Well done to the following Key Stage 1 pupils for receiving this week's Shining Star Award Certificates!

Super work to the following pupils:

Matthew—for challenging himself in Maths all week

Kaan—for putting so much effort into his learning and being an 'active listener'

Ernie—for being a wonderful learning partner

Luella—for a fabulous first week back at St Mary's and settling in so well

Becky for being a reliable and hardworking member of Caterpillar class so quickly



## Children's Mental Health Week Feb 2024- Mind in West Essex Family Event

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 5-11 February 2024. The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'.

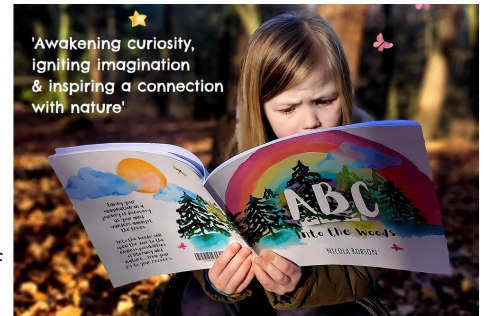
My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem. Please see the local offer from MIND.

For further information visit: [www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk](http://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)

## Winter Warmer guide

Attached with this week's newsletter is a winter warmer guide packed full of interesting information about the many benefits of being outside (even when it's super cold), how to dress properly and suggestions for activities to do together. This resource can be found at [www.blossomandstardust.com](http://www.blossomandstardust.com) and there are plenty more resources there for free or small donations if you are interested.



Here's to wrapping up, getting outside and having fun!

Kind regards

*Mr C. D. Jarman*

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



## **Children's Mental Health Week**

Mind in West Essex is encouraging children and young people to use their voices, share what matters to them and encourage those around them to listen.

The aim of this event is to bring the community and families together to explore this year's theme of

### **'My Voice Matters'**

We will be hosting various fun activities for children and adults at each venue facilitating conversation and support for everyone.

These events will take place in Harlow, Dunmow, Saffron Walden, Loughton and Touchpoint Stansted. Please contact your local hub for further details.



**Wednesday 7th February 2024**

**3:30-5:30pm**

**Come and drop in for some snacks & a chat, all ages welcome.**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

Mind in West Essex  
1 & 2 Bakehouse  
Court, 19 High  
Street, Saffron  
Warden, CB10 1AT

Mind in West Essex  
The Uttlesford  
Community Hub,  
45 Stortford Road,  
Great Dunmow,  
CM6 1DQ

Touchpoint  
Crafton Green  
72 Chapel Hill,  
Stansted,  
CM24 8AQ

# Severe winter in Ukraine - 3.5 million refugees in crisis

**But you can help!**

**Collection on  
Saturday 3rd February 2024  
9am - 1pm  
Saffron Walden Common Car Park**

**All cash donations are going towards the purchase  
of generators.**

**Donate £5 here**

**Goods needed include:**

- **Everyday food items including pasta, rice and gluten free items**
- **Toiletries and warm clothing**
- **Cleaning materials**
- **Cooking utensils, torches, batteries and crockery**



**Rotary**  
Saffron Walden



<https://rotary-sw.org/>

**UK-AID**  
Fostered Aid for Deprived Children  
[www.uk-aid.org](http://www.uk-aid.org)



<https://www.uk-aid.org/how-you-can-help/>



# Diary Dates



## Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Monday 15th January   | - | Closing date for Reception 2024 admissions   |
| Thursday 18th January – Spring Term Census Day – THEME is Dolce Diner   |   |  |
| Wednesday 24th January  | - | Years 5 & 6 Indoor Athletics Tournament (12.30—4.00pm).<br>(Teams to be confirmed) |
| Monday 29th January   | - | Year 6 Bikeability (29/1/2024—1/2/2024)  |
| Wednesday 31st January  | - | Years 3 & 4 Indoor Athletics Tournament (9.30—11.45am)<br>(Teams to be confirmed)  |
| February  | - | LGBTQ+ Month   |
| Friday 2nd February   | - | Year 1 Learn to Ride   |
| Monday 5th to Friday 11th February  | - | Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week  |
| Tuesday 6th February  | - | Safer Internet Day   |
| W/C Monday 12th February  | - | One Plan Meetings this week  |
| Tuesday 13th February   | - | Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Lunch   |
| 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  |
| 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   |
| Thursday 7th March  | - | World Book Day   |
| Friday 8th March  | - | Bringing Books to Life Workshops (Whole School)                                    |
| Monday 11th – Friday 15th March   | - | British Science Week   |
| 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  |
| 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  |