

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 2nd December 2022

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Attendance Weekly - 93.2%

Attendance Year - 95 %

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,

Good afternoon and welcome to the Week 12 Friday Newsletter!

The final few weeks of term continue to be full of fun experiences, with lots of learning going on in each of our classrooms. In this week's newsletter I am going to share some further information about the **Reverse Advent Calendar**, the **Flu Vaccination Catch-Up Clinics**, the **Year 6 Height and Weight Checks** and the exciting news that the **Pixie Post Box...** is now open! There is also a must-read article from Miss Driscoll (our Sports Coach) about our recent successes in the **Archery tournament**, which took place last week. In addition, there is some fundraising news about the recent **Poppy Appeal** (from early November) and the upcoming **Yoga Day** next week. There is also some important **e-safety advice** about online grooming—very much worth reading!

Next week is another busy week, with the amazing **PTA organised and funded Panto** on Monday with two performances of Aladdin—firstly to our Key Stage 1 pupils and afterwards to our Key Stage 2 pupils. On Tuesday, Mrs McInnes (our PE and Sports Leader) has organised a **Yoga Day**—where pupils in Reception to Year 6 will take part in a range of Mindfulness activities. On Wednesday please note that the Year 6 Height and Weight checks take place and on Thursday and Friday two of our classes (**Year 5 and Year 6**) are off to **Saffron Walden library** - followed by our Christmas Jumper day on Friday - phew!

As ever, we have also added to our ever-growing list of diary dates of events taking place this term, which you will find on the very last page of this Friday Newsletter.

Please don't forget to check out our weekly curriculum **Class Updates** (which comes out as a separate attachment and includes information from each class teacher as well as a range of photos of our fantastic pupils taking part in school life).

Once again, do enjoy this week's newsletter!

Archery tournament

Last week St Marys played host to two schools during a local archery tournament. Our archers were amazing and played with accuracy and skill through out the day. Our Year 4 team finished in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Their 1st team also ranked 1st place amongst the other tournaments being held that day with a whopping score of 419 points, moving forward into the next stages of the competition to be held next spring. A huge congratulations to Frank and Vivien who also took 2nd and 3rd place for best individual scores. Whilst our super Year 5's finished third place and had a memorable and enjoyable afternoon.

It was a fabulous day of sports, and every child represented the school with pride and a sense of achievement.



E-Safety Advice

As children continue to find new ways to connect with each other on a range of devices and platforms, it is increasingly important to help them make smarter and safer choices about who they talk to and what they share online, especially with an increase of groomers online.



Often groomers befriend a child. If this is online then it could be someone they have never met. A groomer might pretend they're the same age as your child; because there is a screen between them, your child can't know who the other person is for sure.

If you discover your child is being groomed online, it can be a very distressing time for both of you.

It's important to seek support and guidance as soon as possible and reassure your child that there is help available. www.Internetmatters.org have some useful advice.

You can report any concern about online grooming to CEOP (Child exploitation and online protection) www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre

Have a great weekend!

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarman

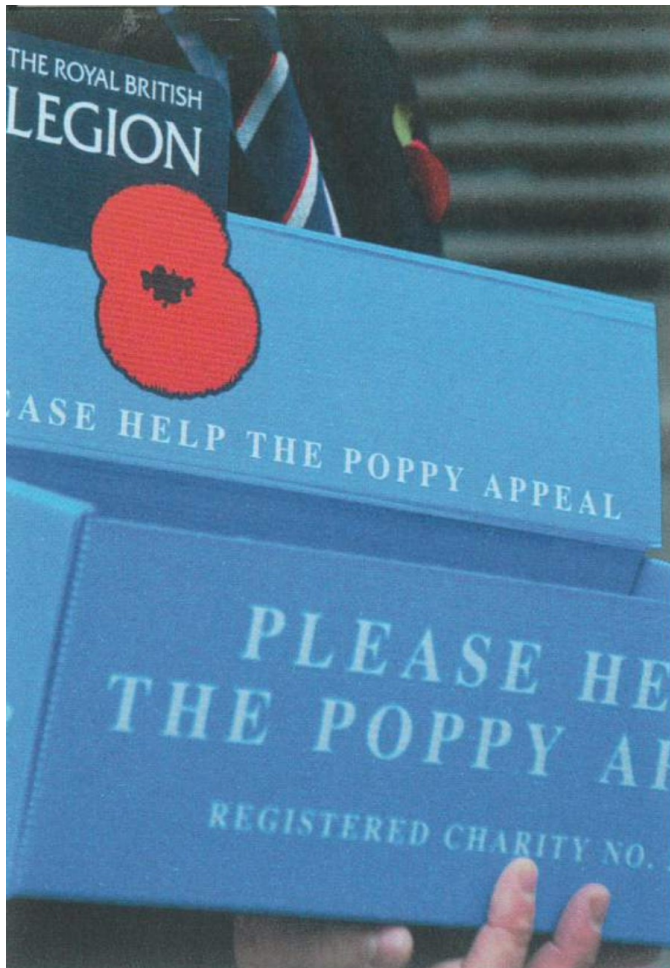
Headteacher of St Mary's Church of England Primary school, Saffron Walden

On the last day of term the PTA will be holding a Christmas Chocolate & Sweet raffle for each class. It was such a success last year, and so nice to send all the children home with a treat that they have won.

Friday 16th December will be a non-uniform day, so the children can wear whatever they like, in exchange for a raffle prize. Any Christmassy chocolates or sweet donations that can be used as prizes would be hugely appreciated please. We will be sure to take special diets into account for those that have known allergies (as long as the school office know).

It can be anything from a small bag of sweets, a chocolate selection box, to a star prize, which would of course be welcomed to add to the excitement. As a PTA event, and as the prizes aren't being consumed in school time or premises, we don't need to worry about the nut-free rule on this occasion.

As there is no Christmas fair again this year, the chocolate/sweet raffle is a treat for all classes, to give them something to look forward to. This will happen in school time, just before they head home for the Christmas holidays. Thanks as always.



— POPPY APPEAL —

Thank you very much for helping with our Appeal.

£ 184 = 18

was collected by you.

Without your help, we would be unable to continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

Yours sincerely

Local Honorary Organiser

District Total (if available) £

Registered Charity No. 219279

Poppy Appeal! A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Poppy Appeal, which took place in early November. As you can see - this year we raised a fantastic £184.18, which has gone to the Royal British Legion and related good causes!

KIDS YOGA UPDATE! Reception - Year 5 will be attending a Yoga workshop session on **Tuesday 6th December**. Please could Years 2-5 come to school in their PE Kits. Reception and Year 1 to wear Forest School clothes.



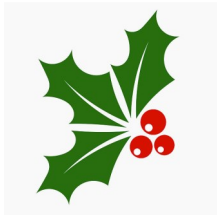
Year 6 will be having their height and weight checks on **Wednesday 7th December**, which will be taking place at school. Information was sent to parents out via Teacher 2 Parents on 23rd November. If you have any questions regarding this, please speak directly to the NCMP team by calling 0300 247 0122.

THE PIXIE POST OFFICE IS NOW... OPEN!

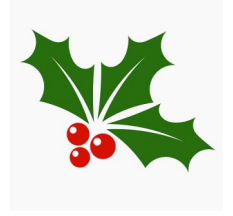
Children can come and bring their Christmas cards to the school office and post in the **Pixie Post Box**.

Please remember to address the envelope with the name and year group the cards is for.





Reverse Advent Calendar



Every year, **Uttlesford Foodbank** give out Christmas hampers full of both basics and Christmas treats to families and individuals living in isolation or poverty. The Reverse Advent Calendar is a way for our children and families to give to others and let their light shine, as well as enabling children to join in with the true spirit of Christmas. To ensure they receive the correct items they have provided us with information to help us. If you could donate some of the items, we would be really grateful.

How?

From Friday 25th November to Tuesday 13th December, please bring in the suggested items from our list.

What?

Friday 25th Nov - Long Life Fruit Juice, Coffee or Tea.

Monday 28th Nov - Custard, Jelly or Christmas Puddings.

Tuesday 29th Nov - Cooking Sauces, Gravy or Stuffing.

Wednesday 30th Nov - Savoury Crackers or Crisps.

Thursday 1st Dec - Christmas Cake or Yule log, Mince pies or Rice Pudding.

Friday 2nd Dec - Boxes of Christmas chocolates or Boxes of Biscuits.

Monday 5th Dec - Tinned ham, salmon, sardines.

Tuesday 6th Dec – Christmas Crackers.

Wednesday 7th Dec – Part Baked Bread Rolls.

Thursday 8th Dec – Small Toiletry Items (shower gel, shampoo, hand sanitiser etc).


Friday 9th Dec - Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Potatoes or Tinned Soup.

Monday 12th Dec – Jams and Spreads.

Tuesday 13th Dec - Anything from this list.



The immunisation team are running clinics for any pupils who missed their vaccine on Tuesday or parents who didn't complete a form but do want their child. If you have any queries regarding this, please call the West Essex directly on 0300 790 0597.



NHS
Essex Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust


FLU VACCINATION CATCH UP CLINICS

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN

We are running flu vaccination catch up clinics throughout Essex for primary school aged children.

For more information on the clinics and to book an appointment please contact the immunisation team on 0300 790 0597.

To find out more about the flu vaccination, scan the QR code or visit:



nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/

#DOYOURBIT EP0996

Diary Dates



- Monday 28th November - Library visit to for Year 1 (10am—11am)
- Tuesday 29th November - Flu Immunisation for Reception—Year 6 pupils
- Thursday 1st December - Library visit to for Year 3 (10am—11am)
- Friday 2nd December - Library visit to for Reception (11am—12pm)
- Friday 2nd December - School Disco for KS1 pupils (2pm—3pm)
School Disco for KS2 pupils (5pm—6.30pm)
- Monday 5th December - PTA Panto
- Tuesday 6th December - Reception—Year 5 Yoga Day (PE Kits to be worn)
- Wednesday 7th December - Year 6 Height and Weight Checks
- Thursday 8th December - Library visit to for Year 5 (1pm—2pm)
- Friday 9th December - Library visit to for Year 6 (10am—11am)
- Friday 9th December - Christmas Jumper Day
- Monday 12th December - Nativity rehearsal to the school at 9.30am
- Tuesday 13th December - Nativity Performance for parents/carers in St Mary's Church (at 6pm)
- Wednesday 14 December - Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 15th December - Library visit to for Year 4 (10am—11am)
- Friday 16th December - PTA Non-Uniform Day
- Monday 19th December - Christmas Service in St Mary's Church at 1.30pm
(Parents/Carers welcome)
- Tuesday 20th December - Last Day of Term (1.30pm finish)