

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 18th November 2022

Telephone 01799 523384

Email: info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Attendance Weekly - 94.2%

Attendance Year - 95.7%

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,

It has been another incredibly busy week here at St Mary's! This week we have been learning a lot about **Anti-Bullying Week** and carrying out lots of activities about how to be kind and how to look after one another. We had our first **Governor's Day** of the academic year, held a **Little Wandle Reading and Phonics and Encouraging Independence workshop** for parents and carers and we ended the week with a fun spotted clothing day to raise money for **Children in Need!** Please do read on to find out more!



Children in Need:

Today, all of the pupils and staff at St Mary's came to school in a variety of spotted clothing to support this excellent cause to raise money for disadvantaged children. I was staggered to read that this was the 42nd Children in Need fundraising event—and that they started in 1980 - which has made me feel distinctly old!

I am delighted to report that we have currently raised £173.96 (with funds still being counted and brought to the school office as we speak). Thank you all for your support for this very worthy cause. Thank you also to Mr Clarke and his Year 6 pupils for organising this incredibly important charity event and the wonderful poster a few week's ago.

Governor's Day

On Wednesday this week, St Mary's held its first Governor's Day of this academic year (the second is due to take place later in the year, in June). A large number of St Mary's governors visited the school to experience the school day and to see our pupils, staff and our wonderful St Mary's curriculum in action! Our lovely governor's spent time in each of our classrooms in a wide variety of lessons; whilst there they spent time talking to the children, hearing readers, discussing their learning, sharing lunchtime in the dinner hall and on the playground and even listened to our lovely choir practising at lunchtime with Mrs Potter and Miss Hunter.



It was a really successful day and the children and staff team showed off our school at its very best! Well done everyone!

Little Wandle Phonics, Early Reading & Encouraging Independence workshop.

On Tuesday this week, the school held a morning and after school workshop to help parents and carers find out more about our new Little Wandle Phonics and Early Reading Scheme. Mrs Jeewan did a fantastic job of explaining our new approach to phonics, sharing resources (such as new books, flash cards and posters) as well as some of the videos which demonstrate how the school staff are teaching our youngest pupils to read.

After Mrs Jeewan had completed her talk, I also gave a talk to parents and carers about how you can encourage your children to be more independent with some (hopefully!) handy hints and tips, including things you can do at home, as well as on the way to school. Thank you to everyone who attended. Some of the feedback is on our school website in the Reading and Phonics section.



Healthier lunchboxes

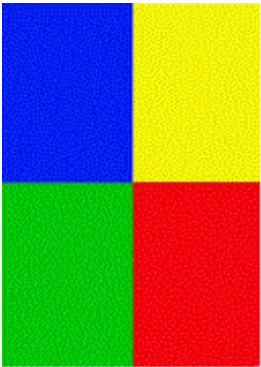
It's hard work thinking of ideas for school packed lunches and time consuming too. Whether squeezing it in before the school run in the morning or before bed on busy midweek evenings, preparing your child's lunchbox can seem like just another thing on the list.

School meals are a great choice, but if you do make a packed lunch for your child then please take a look at these quick, easy, healthier lunchbox ideas and tips.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>



New House Names!



As you know, here at St Mary's we have house colour groups that we have used for many years now - Red, Yellow, Green and Blue. We are looking to develop this further by creating some fun and engaging names for our houses and we would love you to be involved! We are hoping that this will really boost how the children feel about belonging to their house and make our inter-house events even more

inspiring. We look forward to reading your ideas. Remember to make the names long-lasting and memorable - examples from other schools include significant scientists, influential women, memorable people who live/have lived in Saffron Walden, names of parks/forests/trees or even local street names.

Don't forget to fill in the survey which was sent earlier this week. The next step will be to look at all of the ideas with our house captains and narrow them down for the final selection process.

Support for Ukraine

The Rotary Club of Saffron Walden is working with Essex charity UK-Aid to collect food and other much needed items which UK-Aid transports to Rotary Clubs in Chisinau, Lviv and Kyiv (and others) who then distribute the goods to the those in need. If you are able to help and donate a list of what is needed can be found at

<https://www.uk-aid.org/news/article/ukraine-crisis.html>. Please leave any donations with the school office any time up until Friday 25th November. Thank you in advance.

Sickness/Medical Appointments



If your child is sick please call the School Office absence line on 01799 523384 before 08.30am. You need to call each day that your child is sick. **If your child vomits or has an upset tummy then we have a 48 hour no return rule, so if he/she vomited on Sunday night then it would be Wednesday morning before they could come back to school.** If your child has a medical appointment, please email the school office a screen shot of the appointment card to the school office

[\(info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk\)](mailto:info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk).

We would ask, where possible, not to book medical appointments/check ups during the school day.

Have a great weekend!

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarmain

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.

6.12.22

15.30hours to 17.00hrs

[Little Goslings, North Street, Great Dunmow](#)



Diary Dates



- Tuesday 8th November - Parents/Carers Consultations
- Thursday 10th November - Parents/Carers Consultations
- 14th-18th November - Anti-Bullying Week
- Tuesday 15th November - EYFS/KS1 Little Wandle Phonics/Early Reading workshops at 9.00am and 6.00pm
- Wednesday 16th November - Governors Day (Autumn Term)
- Friday 18th November - Children in Need— non uniform day
- Wednesday 23rd November - Open Morning for New Reception Parents/Carers
- Tuesday 29th November - Flu Immunisation for Reception—Year 6 pupils
- Friday 2nd December - School Disco for KS1 pupils 2pm—3pm
School Disco for KS2 pupils 5pm—6.30pm
- 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
- 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)