

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 12th March 2021

Telephone 01799 523384

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



Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly - 98.6%

Attendance Year - 98.1%

Let Your Light Shine as You Grow Matthew 5: 15-16

Dear parents, carers, and friends of the school,

It has been another great week here at St Mary's and I am so proud of how well the children have adapted to being back in school. It has also been so lovely to finish off the week with Red Nose Day and good to mark this year's Superheroes theme by the children wearing items of red clothing, as well as enjoying themselves today by spending 20 'full-on' minutes by either running around, dancing (or moving however they want) in a range of circuits whilst listening to a range of high-energy tunes, including I Like to Move it, On My Mind, Head and Heart, Shake it Off and Money Dance (to name but a few).

We will share a full page of Red Nose activity photos and some pupil comments in next week's newsletter!

Just a reminder that next week the parent/carer consultations will be taking place using our new online Cloud system - the booking system is now closed, If you still need to make an appointment, please contact the office.

Lastly, do remember that we will be breaking up for the Easter holiday **next Friday at 1.30pm, as usual.**

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr C. D. Jarman

Headteacher at St Mary's





The team at **Make Lunch** are currently preparing some Easter holiday food provision for any families that may be struggling financially.

Please note that you do not need to be in receipt of free school meals to receive this help. If you would like to take up this offer please fill out the attached form and return it to school by **Thursday 25th March**.

Make Lunch will be delivering the food parcels on Saturday 3rd April. This time the parcels will include all of the ingredients to make the following lunches:

Create your own pizza

Salmon and cheese, broccoli pasta

Sausage Casserole

As an activity, they will be providing an Easter egg hunt pack from the Real Easter Egg Company.

Best wishes

Hayley Bloxham

Welfare & Support Officer

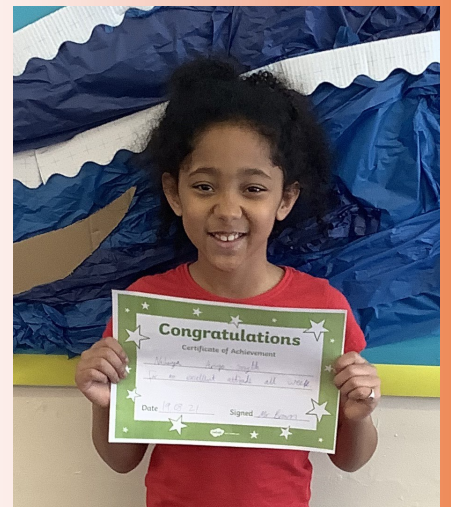
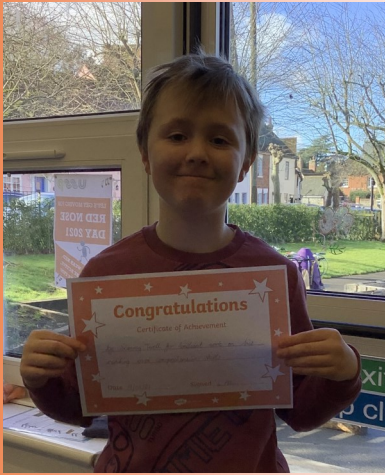
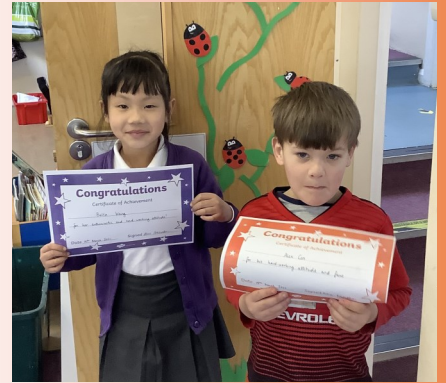
Active Essex Holiday & Food Programme

Active Essex are pleased to be delivering the Essex ActivAte holiday activity and food programme across Essex on behalf of Essex County Council. Through the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays Essex ActivAte will deliver a blended offer of support which will include face to face holiday activity for primary school aged children, an outreach offer for secondary school aged children, nutrition education for all of the family, a schedule of fun sessions and activities taking place virtually through the Keep Essex Active YouTube channel as well as holiday activity packs.

Over Easter we are launching over 65 ActivAte clubs across Essex, including specialist clubs for SEND pupils and mental wellbeing hubs. These clubs are completely free for young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals or working families who need additional support this Easter holidays. Clubs will include fun activities, arts and crafts for at least 4 hours a day over the 8 days of the Easter holidays. Plus every child attending will get a healthy, tasty lunch!

Please see attached leaflet for more information and for Easter club booking links please check out the Active Essex website <https://www.activeessex.org/activateeasterbooking/>.

Stars of the Week





Reception Class Update

Well done for another busy week Butterflies. We have been really impressed with how many of you have been making super progress with your reading and writing skills. This week you were able to write a word, list or sentence. We have continued to find out about different minibeasts—this week we have looked at different beetles and how to look for signs of Spring. Butterflies enjoyed making their own 'view finders' and we went on a Spring hunt around Forest school and the meadow and then talked about what we saw or heard.

Today, we have learnt about being safe online and read some great books to help us, click on the links below to watch the stories or visit the very useful e-safety websites. The websites have important information for parents and children as well as animations and simple, accessible stories for 3-7 year olds include:

NSPCC Net Aware <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> (see what apps your children are accessing and what the age guidance are)

Jesse and friends online safety <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends-videos/>

Digiduck Stories by childnet <https://www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories> and

Education People online safety recommended books: <https://www.theeducationpeople.org/blog/online-safety-storybooks/> **Stories:**

Chicken Clicking <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMqptWPBzMs>

Goldilocks online <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOqQou75Cxc>

Digi Duck's Big Decision <https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/DigiDuck-eBook.pdf>



Our Star of the Week is Tommy W



Year 1 Update

Ladybirds have enjoyed their first week getting to know their new teacher Mrs Potter and have impressed her very much with their hard working attitude and enthusiasm for learning.

They have been learning all about Miss Donnelly's home town of Durban in topic lessons and comparing it to Saffron Walden. We hope Miss Donnelly can keep in touch and send us some pictures from South Africa when she is settled back at home.

We have focussed on key skills in English and Maths and can see how hard the children have worked over lockdown and how much they have learned!

Below are some pictures of this week's Science experiment, trying to find the best materials to make Teddy an umbrella for all this rainy weather we have been having. The Ladybirds use excellent Scientific questioning to design and perform an experiment to find the most waterproof materials.



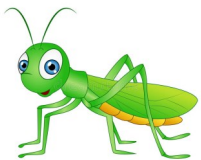
Year 2 Update



Caterpillars have worked really hard this week on some challenging tasks so well done. We've also found some new activities that we love including Toilet Tag and Just Dance Eye of the Tiger. We've been warming up for Friday's Red Nose Day fun by choosing some tracks and practising some moves. Remember to wear something red, bring in £1 and get ready to boogie round the playground! We have also been busy learning about the Easter story and how Jesus came back to life. Look out for our video showing off the Easter eggs we have decorated together!



Year 3 Update



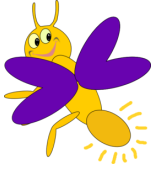
Well done for working so hard again this week, Grasshoppers! The perseverance and resilience you have shown whilst completing your assessments this week has been amazing. They will really help to identify what you have retained and what has been forgotten over lockdown too so that we can work on this during the summer term!

In PE this week, you have shown brilliant control when dribbling in basketball. You are all becoming much more steady and I have been really impressed with how much your throwing and catching skills have developed too!

I have loved reading your mythical creature creations in English too (even if some of them were a bit scary!). You have used your creativity fantastically to come up with a huge range of different mythical creatures and have used your descriptive language brilliantly in your writing for these.

It was lovely to see you all dressed up for Red Nose Day on Friday too and I hope you enjoyed our fun run/dance/skip as much as I did!

Year 4 Update



Well done on another fantastic week! I am so impressed by how all the children have settled back into school. Throughout this week, the pupil's attitude towards their learning has been fantastic.

In our English lessons, we have continued to look at persuasive writing. In these lessons, we have done a range of activities, including debates and learnt about emotive language and rhetorical questions and how they can help write a persuasive piece.

In our topic lessons, we have continued to look at our 'Around the World' theme, focusing specifically on Japan and Japanese culture. The pupils enjoyed locating Japan on a map and researching information about the country such as Food, weather and famous landmarks.

Lastly, in our RE lessons, we have looked at Easter and used our art skills to create Easter-themed stained-glass windows. I was very impressed with the pupil's patience and creativity around this activity.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and a well-deserved break.

Year 5 Update



The Bees class have done extremely well this week, coping bravely with a barrage of assessments in Maths, Reading and Grammar! However, they've also managed to squeeze some fun in too!

They had a great time learning about reversible change through the medium of...chocolate! The class worked on methods to change the state from a solid to liquid and then back again. Ask them why this occurs and see if they can explain what they found out about particles and states of matter!

The class also enjoyed expanding their understanding of structure when drawing; they drew the bone structure of the hand and used this to fashion a realistic limb! Next, they're going to try and manipulate the structure to give different hand shapes.

Well done Bees for all your hard work in your assessments. Have a great weekend and we'll see you on Monday!

Year 6 Update



What a busy week we have had, well done for getting through all your assessments. It has been really useful to see what knowledge you have retained over lockdown and what areas we need to focus on a bit further. As we have marked them together, hopefully you also have a better understanding of what areas you need to practise and it would be great to see you pushing yourselves to do some extra at home (SATs Companion will help with this).

In R.E, your Easter themed poems were really creative and interesting to read. Working in groups helped you share ideas and develop your ideas further. I hope your adults enjoy hearing an example of this about Palm Sunday in the upcoming Easter service video.

Our focus on HIT (high intensity training) fitness sessions in P.E was a bit of a shock to the system for you after months in lockdown but you all pushed yourself to complete each activity and beat your own scores. We will be continuing this next week by creating your own short HIT sessions! It was also great to see you in your mini cricket games showing your competitive sides whilst enjoying the game. I loved seeing you all in your red outfits running around the playground in support of Red Nose Day, as always your compassion for others shone through.

In Art, your block print designs were really creative and showed the different natural disasters we have been researching. I look forward to seeing your final designs and your 'natural disaster' prints over the next few weeks.

Diary Dates

Tue 23rd March	-	Y1 & 2 Games Club & Y3 & 6 Gymnastics Club (3.15pm-4.15pm)
Thu 25h March	-	Y4 & 5 Gymnastics Club (3.15pm-4.15pm)
Tue 23rd & Thu 25th Mar	-	Virtual Parent Consultations (3.30pm-6.30pm)
Fri 26th Mar	-	Last day of term - finish at 1.30pm
Mon 29th Mar - Fri 9th Apr	-	Easter Holidays
Monday 12th April	-	INSET Day (non pupil day)
Tuesday 13th	-	First Day of the Summer term - pupils return
Tuesday 13th April	-	Silly Science Workshop (Whole School)
Monday 3rd May	-	Bank Holiday- School Closed
Monday 31st May	-	Bank Holiday- School Closed
Mon 1st - Fri 4th Jun	-	Half-Term
Friday 25th June	-	INSET Day (non pupil day)
Wednesday 21st July	-	Last Day of Term - Finish at 1.30pm

