

# St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 5th February 2021

Telephone 01799 523384

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



Website: [www.stmaryssw.org.uk](http://www.stmaryssw.org.uk)

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

Dear parents and carers,

As we begin the month of February and the Winter days become that little bit lighter and brighter, I would like to thank you, once again, for all of your continued hard work in supporting your children's education. These are incredibly trying times, but you all continue to impress me with how well you are managing to juggle the challenges of home-schooling, as well as, supporting both your children's and your own mental health and wellbeing (in addition to the myriad of other daily tasks and jobs—which always just have to be done).

In this week's newsletter I would like to remind you of some of the things that are currently going on in school, some of which are here to support you all both in the support of your children's education,

#### **Home Learning and Wellbeing survey:**

Last week we sent out a link, asking parents/carers to take the opportunity to complete our Home Learning and Wellbeing Survey. Thank you if you have already managed to complete this survey, this feedback is extremely useful to the school and we will use this to closely examine our provision for all of our lovely pupils and see how we can best support you. I am reliably informed that the majority of parents/carers who have completed this so far, took just 5 minutes to complete. When you get a moment, please do complete this survey using this link: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rk4Wt-wmmEy\\_vGdsh5b2nnTRX5eaKFZOrfe9kU2WJpJURDhTSFRXMU5LWVlKTUE3SDIPQJEUDRSVi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rk4Wt-wmmEy_vGdsh5b2nnTRX5eaKFZOrfe9kU2WJpJURDhTSFRXMU5LWVlKTUE3SDIPQJEUDRSVi4u)

We would very much appreciate any feedback that you can give.

#### **Welfare Calls:**

As you will know, last week we started to carry out our weekly welfare calls to every single parent/carer in the school. Please be aware that this week our staff have continued to carry out these welfare calls and have tried really hard to make contact with every single parent and carer of our St Mary's children. This is so that we can check in and see how you are all doing. As we mentioned last week, these welfare calls are just a brief opportunity to have a quick informal 'catch-up', to see if there is anything further we can do to support you. These calls will be made to each household, once a week. **If you get a missed call from the school, please do not worry about calling us back – we will call you back at a later point if we have not managed to get through.** We very much hope that these welfare calls will prove useful over the next few weeks. If we have not managed to make contact, we will continue to attempt to do so. Please note that we will not carry out these calls over the half term break.

#### **Newsletter—Class Pages:**

Please do take the opportunity to browse through the rest of our newsletter this week and in particular the Class pages—it is so lovely to see all of the lovely photos of our pupils, both in and out of school and also of some of the excellent work that they have produced! It is great to read about what they have all been up to and how well the teachers and parents/carers have managed to continue with the children's curriculum.

Enjoy the newsletter and have a great weekend

*Mr C. D. Jarmain*

Headteacher at St Mary's

## February Half Term Support for Uttlesford Families with school age children

In addition to the £15 vouchers for families entitled to free school meals and Uttlesford foodbank services, we are aware of the following schemes that may be of interest if you are in receipt of Free School Meals or identify as vulnerable or at risk of food poverty.

### Changing Lives - Collection point in Great Dunmow

Booking available from 5<sup>th</sup> February

Meal box and activity opportunities. Collection from Foakes Hall

To book a collection slot:

1. Download the BOOKFIT App
2. Search Changing Lives Community Services
3. Request Pick Up Slot
4. We will approve
5. Search calendar for your desired PICK UP SLOT and book via the app.
6. Slots will go LIVE on 05/02/21.



Or contact the changing lives team on [team@changinglivescommunityservices](mailto:team@changinglivescommunityservices) tel. 01279 427 791.

Delivery service available only for families that are isolating or unable to collect.

### Make Lunch - New Life Pentacostal Church, Saffron Walden

Closing date for applications Wednesday 10th February.

Food parcels and activities delivered on Saturday 13th February.

For more information email [swhopecommunityhub@gmail.com](mailto:swhopecommunityhub@gmail.com)

If you are not eligible for these schemes, but are struggling, please call Uttlesford Citizens Advice on 01799 618840 or email [help@uttlesfordca.org.uk](mailto:help@uttlesfordca.org.uk)

**Friendship**

**Truthfulness**

**Perseverance**

**Trust**

**Compassion**

**Respect**

## eSafety and Safer Internet Day on 9th February 2021



With less than one week to go until Safer Internet Day 2021 we are truly inspired by the amount of activities and celebrations that are planned for 9th February 2021.

Here's just a few things you can do to get involved:

**Register your interest in our GUINNESS WORLD RECORD™ attempt** - The UK Safer Internet Centre and 2Simple are seeking the help of children and schools across the country to help break an official GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title for Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, 9th February. The title of the World Record attempt is 'Most pledges received for an internet safety campaign in 24 hours'. To find out more register your interest on our [supporters registration form](#).

**Watch the video content** - Our [Safer Internet Day films](#) are engaging, short videos which aim to help young people delve deeper into their ideas around trust and reliability online. The films act as an extension of the education packs and as such aim to be conversation starters around the topic of reliability and trust online.

**Test your online safety knowledge with our quiz** - From checking headlines to spotting sponsored content, [our Safer Internet Day quiz](#) is designed to help young people test their online safety knowledge. Why not test out your own knowledge, or have a competition with your family to see who is the most online safety savvy.

**See the events happening across the UK** - This Safer Internet Day we have a host of [events happening throughout the UK](#), all of them talking about the theme of reliability online and online safety. Join us on 9th February and take part in our various remote sessions this Safer Internet Day.

Further places you can go for help and support

**For young people** - Depending on the age of your child there are a range of places they can go for help, for younger children they can [call Childline](#) for help and support, and for older children [The Mix](#) offer free and practical advice.

**For parents and carers** - [The O2 and NSPCC helpline](#) can help you with any questions or concerns you may have about keeping your child safe online. They can provide you with advice and help to troubleshoot any problems your family may be facing. You can also take a look at our [collection of resources you can use from home](#).

Friendship

Truthfulness

Perseverance

Trust

Compassion

Respect

## Reception Class Update

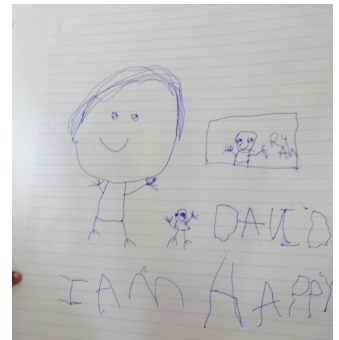
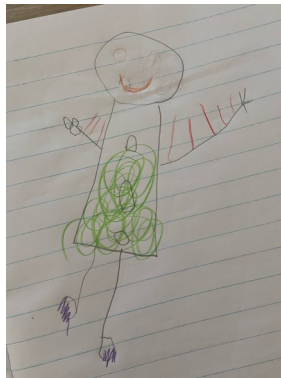


Another busy week Butterflies, learning about real life superheroes that help us every day. This week the children have been firefighters, police officers, doctors, vets, and postal workers. Several told me that they would like to be doctors when they are older - a wonderful choice. We enjoyed reading together 'Real Superheroes. A celebration of key workers.' by Julia Seal which we would recommend. This week the children have been working on learning number bonds to 10, using songs, rhymes, and different activities to support them. We have learnt new maths vocabulary including fair sharing, equal, dividing and halving. In Phonics the children have been reading words with our new set of vowel sounds. We learnt about making sure that we take time out to express ourselves as part of Children's Mental Health week challenges and the children drew themselves and discussed how they felt.

Here are some of Butterflies drawings:

Thank you again for a super week Butterflies. I enjoyed finding out about and seeing some of your pets this week, thank you for sharing!

*Mrs Jeewan.*

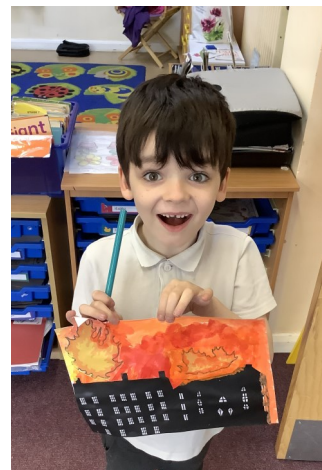


## Year 1 Update



This week in Ladybirds it has been all about the Great Fire of London. The children have been learning the history through the story of Toby and the Great Fire of London and imagining what it would have been like to be there. In Art they created beautiful city-scape silhouettes with the fire in the background. The Maths focus has been 2D and 3D shape and Science gave us an opportunity to get outside and observe British garden birds. Feel Good Friday will give the children an opportunity to wind down from another busy week of remote learning at home or school and reflect on their feelings. Have a fantastic weekend Ladybirds! Just one week to go until half term!!

*Miss Donnelly*





## Year 2 Update

The children have really impressed us with their resilience this week, overcoming their worries and powering on with the work. We have been enjoying our live sessions in the morning and the children are really getting to grips with telling the time, with the help of their wonderful dragon clocks of course! We have thought a lot about how to keep happy in these strange times, finding activities that make us feel good about ourselves.

We have also enjoyed celebrating our individuality - what makes us unique. The children have enjoyed a funny new story about a loveable wallaby and have started to write some great diary entries. Fantastic work, Caterpillars! *Mrs Robinson & Mrs McInnes*



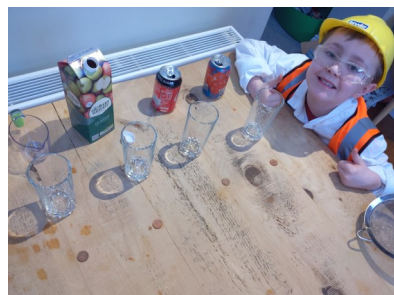
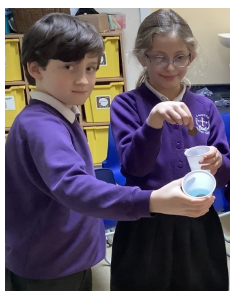
## Year 3 Update

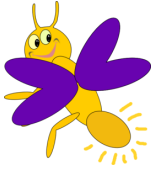
Well done, Grasshoppers. You have worked brilliantly again this week! This week, Year 3 have been writing fantastic suspense stories. These have contained everything from dragons to witches to ghosts to chocolate cake! I have been so impressed with the amazing range of descriptive language that you have all been using within your stories and have been able to picture your stories really well when reading them.

I loved reading the information booklets and posters which you created as part of your geography work this week too. It was great to be able to learn so many facts about the countries in Europe!

On Wednesday, you all carried out your science experiments to find out which liquid would clean copper pennies best with expert care! The reasoning and thought which was put into your predictions was fantastic!

Keep up the hard work Year 3 and have a lovely weekend! *Miss Allin*





## Year 4 Update

This week has been another busy week for Fireflies. It has been fantastic to see how many of you have learnt all about units of measure, length and weight and how you persevered to convert between these different types of unit. You have been doing so well on all of your SPaG and Maths quizzes which shows me how much effort you are putting into your learning.

You have completed your Non-Chronological reports about how to trap a goblin - these were fantastic and included many of the key features that we have identified in each lesson. I am looking forward to reading your instruction texts in the upcoming weeks.

In RE, you showed an excellent understanding of the Trinity and how Christians express this belief in their everyday lives. I enjoyed looking at your fantastic pictures of the Baptism of Jesus and how this represents the Trinity—they showed some tremendous creativity. Throughout this week, loved all of the different Torres Garcia style art you produced, there were some incredibly thoughtful ideas of what is important to you.

Finally, I have enjoyed our discussions on the importance of routine at the current time and also looking after our mental health. You have provided some incredibly thoughtful and inclusive answers regarding everyone being different and coming up with different strategies to manage emotions.

Keep up the brilliant work, one more week until you can all have a well-deserved rest. I hope you have a fantastic weekend.

*Mr Brown*



## Year 5 Update

This week, the Bees class have expanded their writing repertoire by branching out into suspenseful writing! During the unit, we have focused on drawing out the tension in our work—using techniques such as repetition, longer sentences and describing how the suspense is affecting our character's body to really ratchet up the tension to 11!

In Maths, the class have tackled some hard concepts in percentages, particularly how to find percentage decrease (which will serve them well when they want to go shopping for any sales!).

It has also been great to see so many people engaging with our foundation lessons—the thoughtfulness of many of the children's responses in our PSHE lesson was wonderful!

Keep up the hard work Bees—only one more week before you all get to have a well-earned break!

*Mr Clarke*

## Year 6 Update



Another busy week Dragonflies! It has been so great to see your understanding of how to find the 'mean' and how you tackled the missing number problems and the problem solving questions, especially the SPICY tasks! Your maths & SPaG quiz scores continue to amaze me and prove that you are retaining what you have learnt, even throughout this crazy time.

Your persuasive language choices for your 'Estate Agent' posters were great and I am looking forward to reading your gadget persuasive texts next week.

As a class you are such a compassionate, caring group of young people and anytime we focus on how to be kind people, you continue to impress me with your mature understanding of areas such as, discrimination and inclusion. I hope you continue to show and practise this in your lives as you grow older.

As always, your creativeness shone last Friday when you were re-creating real vs surreal art. Your choices of colour and theme are spot on and it is such a pleasure for me to see your interest in art continue to grow. Keep up the good work! *Mr Pike*



**Friendship**

**Truthfulness**

**Perseverance**

**Trust**

**Compassion**

**Respect**



## School Office Opening Timings

The school office is open Mon-Fri from 8.30am - 3.30pm.  
Our contact number is 01799 523384 and email address is [info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk).



## Home Learning & Wellbeing Survey

Thank you to everyone who has completed our Home Learning and & Wellbeing survey so far. We would like to encourage as many parents as possible to complete the survey, as all your feedback will help us to support parents and children during this difficult & challenging time.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rk4Wt-](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rk4Wt-wmmEy_vGdsh5b2nnTRX5eaKFZOrfe9kU2WJpJURDhTSFRXMU5LWVVIKTUE3SDIPQIJEUDRSVi4u)

[wmmEy\\_vGdsh5b2nnTRX5eaKFZOrfe9kU2WJpJURDhTSFRXMU5LWVVIKTUE3SDIPQIJEUDRSVi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rk4Wt-wmmEy_vGdsh5b2nnTRX5eaKFZOrfe9kU2WJpJURDhTSFRXMU5LWVVIKTUE3SDIPQIJEUDRSVi4u)

## Diary Dates



Mon 15th - Fri 19th Feb	-	Half-term
March (Dates TBC)	-	Parent Consultations (Details to follow)
Thursday 4th March	-	World Book Day (Dress up as your favorite book character) TBC
Mon 29th Mar - Fri 9th Apr	-	Easter Holidays
Monday 12th April	-	INSET Day (non pupil day)
Tuesday 13h April	-	First Day of Summer Term
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