

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 8th December 2023

Telephone 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly 92.7%

Attendance Year 95.0%



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,

Christmas fun!

I can hardly believe that we are nearly at the end of this Autumn/Winter term - which seems to have flown by! With only a week and a half to go until we break up for the holidays, we are getting into the Christmas spirit here at St Mary's - decorating our new Christmas tree (thank you PTA for donating our lovely new tree—please see the photos of some of our children decorating it on page 3 of this newsletter), practising the songs, lines and actions to our upcoming Key Stage 1 nativity performance as well as enjoying the PTA Christmas Panto where the children thoroughly enjoyed the fantastic performance of Cinderella—which proved a real hit! Thanks once again to the PTA for arranging and paying for this enjoyable seasonable event. Next week we are excited about watching the final performance of our KS1 Nativity at 6pm in St Mary's Church—we look forwards to welcoming our parents and carers and friends of the school there. Finally thank you so much for all of your donations for two recent, important events: back in November, on Remembrance Week, £278.65 was raised for the British Legion (the most we have raised in quite some time) and also on Christmas Jumper Day, where £117.11 was raised for Children in Need—another very worthy charitable cause. Thank you to everyone from the school community for your support.

St Mary's KS1 Shining Stars!

Well done to the following impressive pupils who are this week's recipients of our St Mary's Shining Star Certificates (how's that for a bit of alliteration?)

Butterflies - well done to Max, Jackson and Dani for all of their hard work;

Ladybirds - brilliant consistent effort in class from both Maya and Franek

Grasshoppers - super effort from Thomas and Lara for being such super stars!



Keep up the great work everyone - look at them proudly displaying their Shining Star Certificates in assembly!

The 2 Johns Online Safety session – Sunday 10 December 7pm

WE have been made aware that the 2 Johns are running an online safety session on Sunday evening (10 December) at 7pm to launch the ESCB online safety week. The virtual session and Q&A will be hosted on Zoom and also [The 2 Johns Facebook page](#). This will be followed by a week of online safety messages and advice on the ESCB social media accounts.

[Find out more about the campaign](#) by clicking this link.



eSafetyTraining
'The 2 Johns'

A moment to... Reflect and Connect:
(by Helen Craig, School Advisor from the Diocese of Chelmsford)



It was on a starry night...

My best friend and I recently had a great trip to the Van Gogh exhibition in London. I loved it! An immersive 3D virtual reality experience showcasing some of his paintings and life. One of my favourite paintings that was brought to life in this way was the 'Starry Night'. For me, it captures the beauty of the stars, little bursts of light that brighten an inky dark sky. The artist is quoted as saying "Be clearly aware of the stars and infinity on high". As I reflected on the exhibition and his words, staring upwards with the stars circling over my head and his words, it reminded me of the difference that you as 'stars' bring to the life of the school. You are important and need to be clearly aware of the light you bring. The star shows the way. The star over the stable at Bethlehem guided the shepherds and the wise men to the place where Jesus lay so as leaders you are guiding your schools onwards.

So, I encourage you, as we head into Advent and hopefully a time of beautiful, clear starry wintery nights, take a moment, look up, smile, and know that your starlight is making a difference to the lives of those you serve.

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarmain

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



POPPY APPEAL

Thank you very much for helping
with our Appeal.

£ 278.65
was collected by you.

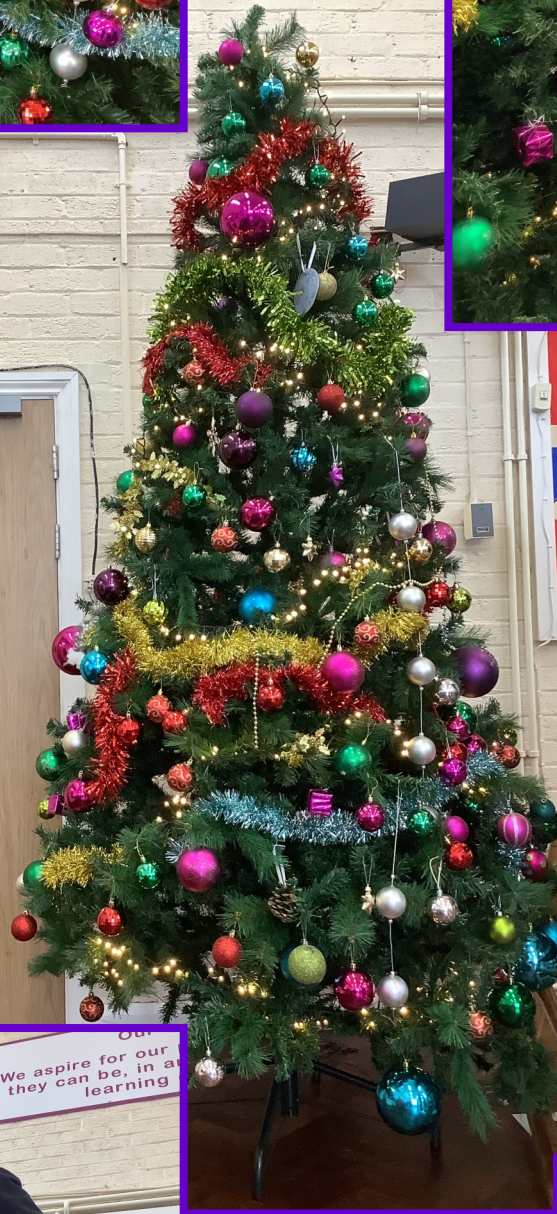
Without your help, we would be unable to
continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

Yours sincerely

Local Honorary Organiser

District Total (if available) £ 40,000

Registered Charity No. 219279



We had such a great time putting on the lights, baubles and tinsel!

This week we decorated our new Christmas Tree!



St Mary's Primary

BREAK the RULES DAY



Rules to be broken include:




- Dye your hair colour
- Bring in an unhealthy snack!
- Wear your own clothes
- Bring in a teddy or toy (don't bring anything too special or too expensive though!)
- Get a fake tattoo (or tattoos!)

Here's how it works:

When?

Friday 15th
December 2023!

*Bring in £1
for each rule
you want to
break!*

	WEEK 1 Weeks starting: 28th Aug, 18th Sep, 9th Oct 30th Oct, 20th Nov, 11th Dec	WEEK 2 Weeks starting: 4th Sep, 25th Sep, 16th Oct 6th Nov, 27th Nov, 18th Dec	WEEK 3 Weeks starting: 11th Sep, 2nd Oct 23rd Oct, 13th Nov, 4th Dec
Mega Mondays 	Hand Stretched Margherita or Pepper Pizza with Garlic Slice (V) Mexican Bean Chilli & Home Baked Tortilla Chips (VG) Jacket Potato with Choice of Fillings (GF) Green Beans, Sweetcorn Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Ice Cream Roll (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Hand Stretched Margherita or Pineapple Pizza with Pasta Salad (V) Vegetable & Noodle Stir Fry (VG) Sandwich of the Day (V) Sweetcorn, Baked Beans (VG) (GF) Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Strawberry & Vanilla Mousse (V) (GF) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Hand Stretched Margherita or Sweetcorn Pizza with Garlic Slice (V) Vegetable Biryani (VG) (GF) Sandwich of the Day (V) Green Beans, Sweetcorn Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Chocolate Crispy Cake (VG) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)
School Favourites 	Oven Baked Sausages Cheesy Pasta Bake (V) Sandwich of the Day Crushed New Potatoes (VG) (GF) Peas, Carrots, Gravy (VG) (GF) Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate Sauce (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Macaroni Cheese (V) Mild Beef Chilli Con Carne (GF) Jacket Potato with Choice of Fillings (GF) Steamed Rice (VG) (GF) Green Beans, Carrots Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Red Velvet Brownie (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Cottage Pie (GF) Neapolitan Pasta (VG) Jacket Potato with Choice of Fillings (GF) Carrots, Peas Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Lemon & Courgette Drizzle Cake (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)
Roast Wednesdays 	Roast Chicken (GF) Baked Bean Potato Pie (VG) (GF) Jacket Potato with Choice of Fillings (GF) Skin on Roast Potatoes (VG) (GF) Carrots, Broccoli, Gravy (VG) (GF) Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Fruit & Jelly (VG) (GF) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Roast Gammon (GF) Cheese & Tomato Pinwheel (V) Sandwich of the Day Skin on Roast Potatoes (VG) (GF) Carrots, Cauliflower, Gravy (VG) (GF) Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Lemon Cookie (VG) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Roast Chicken (GF) Cheese & Onion Pie (VG) (GF) Sandwich of the Day Crushed New Potatoes (VG) (GF) Broccoli, Carrots, Gravy (VG) (GF) Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Ice Cream & Fruit (V) (GF) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)
Tasty Thursdays 	Penne Pasta Bolognese Cheese & Tomato Stromboli (V) Sandwich of the Day Green Beans, Cauliflower Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Oaty Cookie (VG) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Sausage & Baked Bean Casserole Shepherd's Pie (VG) Sandwich of the Day Crushed New Potatoes (VG) (GF) Broccoli, Sweetcorn Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Apple Flapjack (VG) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Hand Stretched Pepperoni Pizza with Pasta Salad Stir Fried Rice & Vegetables (VG) (GF) Jacket Potato with Choice of Fillings (GF) Green Beans, Sweetcorn Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Chocolate Cookie (VG) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)
Fishy Fridays 	Breaded Fish Fingers Vegetable Sausages (VG) Jacket Potato with Choice of Fillings (GF) Chips (VG) (GF), Peas Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF) Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Apple Cake (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Choice of Breaded Fish Fingers or Salmon Fishcake Baked Bean Melt (V) (Vegan option available) Jacket Potato with Choice of Fillings (GF) Chips (VG) (GF), Peas Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF) Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Banana Bread (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)	Breaded Fish Fingers Spanish Omelette (V) (GF) Sandwich of the Day Chips (VG) (GF), Peas Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF) Daily Salad Selection (VG) (GF), Fresh Sliced Bread (VG) Sticky Toffee Pudding (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt (V) (GF)

V = Vegetarian | VG = Vegan | GF = Gluten Free
 For full allergen information, please refer to your School Grid Account. *Gluten Free products are prepared in a kitchen that handles products containing gluten.



CHOICE AUTUMN





SAVE THE CHILDREN'S

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

CONGRATULATIONS

St Mary's Church of England Primary School in Saffron Walden

Thank you for pulling on your most Christmassy jumper and making it the best. Day. EVER!

£ 117.11

Coach Christmas Jumper HQ, Save the Children



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Save the Children Fund is a charity registered in England & Wales (213890), Scotland (SC039570) and Isle of Man (199). Registered office: 1 St John's Lane, London, EC1M 4AR.

Christmas Menu

Monday 18th December

Roast Turkey Lunch
Plant Based Christmas Cracker (VG)
Jacket Potato (Choice of Fillings) (GF)

Accompaniments

Skin on Roast Potatoes
Carrots
Brussels Sprouts
Garden Peas
Sage and Onion Stuffing (VG)
Gravy (VG) (GF)

Festive Chocolate and Orange Rocky Road (VG)
Snowball Cookie (VG)
Fresh Fruit (VG) (GF)

Order to be placed by the School Grid no later than 8.30am Monday 18th December





Reverse Advent Calendar

The Reverse Advent appeal is a way for you to give to others at what can be for some a difficult time of year. This year we will aim to give out 300 Christmas hampers. This year because our stocks are so low we are asking for essentials as well as Christmas items.

Every time you shop just choose an item from the list!
Please make sure all collections are with us
by **Wednesday 13th December at the latest.**
For more info please call Sophie on 07971 631606

Please note we can't accept anything containing alcohol.

Thank you for your kindness!

For a list of drop off points please check our website here
<https://uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>



www.uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk [facebook.com/uttlesfordfoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/uttlesfordfoodbank)
info@uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk tel: 07971 631606

Uttlesford Foodbank is a registered charity 1176230 | Registered in England and Wales



Reverse Advent Calendar Shopping list

Every time you shop just choose an item from the list:

Tinned salmon/ham	Tinned vegetarian meals	Tinned fruit
UHT milk	Cheese crackers	Tinned vegetables
Gravy/stuffing	Biscuits	Tinned meat in sauce
Tinned meat in sauce	Festive puddings	Vegetarian options
Chocolates/sweets	Custard	Washing up liquid
Christmas cake	Toiletries	Tinned potatoes
Fruit juice	Jam	Savoury snacks

Thank you for your kindness!

For a list of drop off points please check our website here
<https://uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

www.uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk [facebook.com/uttlesfordfoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/uttlesfordfoodbank)
info@uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk tel: 07971 631606

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Diary Dates



Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2023:

Saturday 2nd December	- Spirit of Christmas Choir Performance (St Mary's Church) at 1.30pm
Tuesday 5th December	1.30pm School tour for Reception 2024 pupils
Wednesday 6th December	- PTA Panto
Friday 8th December	- Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 8th December	- PTA Key Stage 2 Christmas Disco 5.00pm-6.30pm
Tuesday 12th December	- EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance in St Mary's Church at 6pm
Wednesday 13th December	- Music, RE and MFL Curriculum Day
Thursday 14th December	- Year 3 Ancient Egypt Day
Friday 15th December	- Break the Rules Day
Monday 18th December	- Christmas Lunch (Special Menu)
Tuesday 19th December	- Carol Service at St Mary's Church (time TBC) Parents/Carers Invited
Wednesday 20th December	- 1.30pm—school breaks up for the Christmas holiday
21st December—5th January	- Christmas holiday closure period
Monday 8th January	- Pupils return to school for the Spring term
Friday 12th January	- Year 3 Swimming (12/1/2024—9/2/2024)
Monday 15th January	- Closing date for Reception 2024 admissions
Wednesday 24th January	- Years 5 & 6 Indoor Athletics Tournament (12.30—4.00pm). (Teams to be decided)
Monday 29th January	- Year 6 Bikeability (29/1/2024—1/2/2024)
Wednesday 31st January	- Years 3&4 Indoor Athletics Tournament (12.30—4.00pm) (Teams to be decided)
Friday 2nd February	- Year 1 Learn to Ride
Friday 16th February	- Year 4 Swimming (16/2/2024—22/3/2024)
19th February—23rd February	- HALF TERM
Friday 22nd March	- Year 1 Dance Festival
Friday 29th March—12th April	- END OF TERM HOLIDAYS
Monday 15th April	- INSET DAY