

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 3rd November 2023

Telephone 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly 95.6%

Attendance Year 95.7%



Our motto: 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,

Shining Star Certificate winners for this week

Congratulations to our Key Stage 2 Shining Stars, who were presented with our special St Mary's Certificates of Achievement during our Celebration Assembly On Thursday. You can see these 8 pupils (two from each KS2 class) proudly showing off their newly received certificates. A HUGE well done to Sammy, Lucas, Ava, Ozan, Blake, Aydin, Eva and Aoife. Look at how delighted they all are!



Goodbye to Mr Tait

On Tuesday our Caretaker, Mr Tait officially retired and left St Mary's after 3 years working here. We said goodbye to Mr Tait at the very start of our Light Day assembly and presented him with a special gift, some balloons and a card written by staff and pupils at the school. I am sure you will join me in keeping John in your thoughts and prayers as he embarks upon the next chapter of his life in retirement. John assures me that he will be doing lots of fishing and continuing his practical handiwork, which I am sure will include lots of carpentry!

Please also join me in welcoming Mr Dean Camp, our new Site Manager, who started officially on Wednesday. Dean is not only a former pupil of our school, but his children both attended St Mary's too! Many of you will already have seen Dean on the school gate and have kindly welcomed him already.

New Governor Vacancy:

As previously mentioned St Mary's is looking to recruit a new parent or carer for a position on our Governing Board. Governors fulfil a vital role in the strategic leadership of the school and are closely involved in a number of key areas, which include the curriculum, finance, safeguarding and personnel matters, in addition to premises management. Currently, Governors also attend two Full Governing Board meetings each term, two annual Governor Days, as well as a number of Committee meetings - in addition to monitoring meetings/visits, linked to their area/s of responsibility.



If you are interested in taking up this important position on the governing board, we would ask that you email the school by **12 noon on Wednesday 15th November**, on the school's info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk email address to register your interest. We would particularly like to hear from any parents or carers with a curriculum, finance or HR background; however, we would welcome interest in this position from any candidates with other areas of experience. If the school has more than one candidate who would like to take up this role, then the school will need to carry out a Parent/Carers Governor Election - which would involve the candidate producing a short description of

themselves, including some simple personal information and also, most importantly, why they would like to take on the role of a Parent/Carer Governor at St Mary's. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email the school on info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk or email John Westnedge, the chair of Governors on chairofgovernors@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk and we would be delighted to answer any questions that you may have.

New Solar Panels

Over the last month, as the last part of our Energy Efficiency and Decarbonisation works, the school has had a huge number of solar panels fitted to our school roofing areas. This is fantastic news and means that the school will be able to provide its own electricity—and even sell some back to the grid! I thought I'd share some photos with you—hope you're not scared of heights!



Light Day

Earlier this week, on Tuesday the school came together to celebrate Light Day following the Christian message that Jesus is the Light of the World. All of our pupils attended school wearing an array of bright and vibrant clothing. The Worship Council helped to facilitate this event, including reading the key prayers and each class produced some work linked to Light Day and this important



Christian message, and this work was then shared with each and every class and the choir also sang beautifully.

Thank you to Mrs Jeewan, our Worship Lead, for organising this important Christian event.

SEND Update—What the Local Offer is

The Local Offer gives information about support available in Essex for children and young people aged between 0 to 25, with Special Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

You can use the Local Offer to:

- understand what to do if you're new to SEND
 - browse for local support such as support groups, fun activities or specialist healthcare
 - find out what to do in a complex situation, for example if you need to appeal a decision
- get advice for young adults with SEND, such as housing and employment support

For more info visit: www.send.essex.gov.uk



Mr C. D. Jarmain

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

NHS FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

Your child's Annual Flu Vaccination Is Now Due, please click the below link to complete a consent form.

The NHS Immunisation team, will be visiting the school on: **Thursday 23rd November** for the annual flu immunisation session.

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/SKUfKZTyKK>



The deadline to complete your child's consent form is Tuesday 21st November. We cannot guarantee any forms submitted after this date will be accepted at the school session.

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family members and friends by preventing the spread of flu. The vaccine is free and most children have it up their nose (nasal spray) which is quick and painless. **The nasal spray is the most effective vaccine for children.** If you do not wish for your child to receive the spray due to it containing porcine gelatine and would prefer for them to have the injectable vaccine, please contact us on the number provided below.

Since the programme was introduced, most children offered the vaccines in schools have had the immunisation. **If you have any queries, please contact the immunisation team on: 0300 790 0597 – Essex, Southend, Thurrock**

Clubbercise Inter-House Competition

Tuesday 21st November

On Tuesday 21st November all St Mary's children will be taking part in an inter-house Clubbercise competition, we shall be dancing the afternoon away with Mrs Shackleton in the school hall.

All children are invited to wear their house colour sports day T-shirt, or another top of that colour should they not have one. Please could these be worn with black bottoms the same as they would for a PE lesson with trainers. Should your child have any neon accessories for example, neon face paint, bright socks, tutus, hair-bands, sweat bands etc that they would like to wear they are more than welcome.

PTA WORD PARADE—Wednesday 22nd November



As part of this term's PTA fundraising, we are coordinating the first-ever 'Word Parade' at St-Mary's on Wednesday 22nd November. This is a fun event where children come into school 'dressed' as a word of their choosing. It could be through a costume, an accessory, face paint, or however they choose to represent their chosen word. In exchange, we are asking for a suggested minimum donation of £2 per child, which can be brought into school on the day.

The children will get lots of opportunities to share their word throughout their day, whether in collective worship, the playground or in class. At the end of the school day, each class will choose their favourites and the PTA will select an overall winner from KS1 and KS2. We will share all the fun via the school newsletter that week. This should not feel like a contest though; rather, the key idea is that children get to think about a word, how they want to represent it and then get lots of opportunities to talk about it in school.

We will send a reminder nearer the time, but wanted to give you plenty of notice to prepare with the children. There are a couple of rainy weekends ahead of us no doubt, so this could give you something to do then! Any questions or comments, please write to pta@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk

Looking forward to seeing the creative ideas on November 22!

Poppy Appeal/Remembrance Service

Year 6 will be selling poppies and other items before and after school to raise money for The Royal British Legion.

Items for sale

Poppies—50p

Snap bands—£1.00

Zip pull—50p

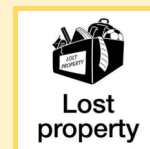
Bracelet—£1.00

Poppy keyring—£1.00



NEW LOST PROPERTY BOX

We have a new Lost Property box for parents/carers to look through for any items that may have been lost at school.



It will be in/or outside the school reception area every day from 3.15pm - 3.30pm only.

Parent/Carers Consultations

Tuesday 7th November for all year groups

Wednesday 8th November for Reception only

Thursday 9th November for Years 1 - 6

Appointments can be booked from **Monday 30th October** for the parent consultations via our Parent's Evening System which can be found at <https://stmarys.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. The **booking system closes on Monday 6th November at 12.00pm.**

In order to log on securely parents/carers will need to put in their name as given to the school, your child's given name (or chosen first name as given to the office) and your child's date of birth as an 8 digit number e.g. 25/09/2008.

Please use the link below to login into the Parents Evening System to book your appointment. <https://stmarys.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Please arrive promptly for your meeting. The meetings will be face to face and held in the main school hall from 3.30pm - 6.30pm, with each family having the opportunity to make a 10 minute appointment per child.

If your child has a One Plan there is no requirement to book an appointment, as you would have already had your 30 minute meeting.

If you need any assistance with booking your appointment, please contact the school office on 01799 523384





**WORLD SCIENCE DAY FRIDAY
10TH NOVEMBER 2023**

SHOP OPEN 6TH -10TH NOVEMBER

LET'S HAVE FUN!

SCIENCE GADGET SHOP

**23 GADGETS
TO CHOOSE
FROM!**

**Love science experiments?
Visit our science gadget
shop to purchase some
amazing gadgets and
experiments to take home!**

October Active Essex School Updates



If you are a school that wants equal rights for girls to access football, then we have the perfect programmes for you!

For primary schools we have a Disney Inspired Shooting Stars and for secondary schools we have Barclays Game On

[Click here for more information](#)



Department
for Education

Opening Schools Facilities Expression of Interest Now Open!

We are supporting schools to provide more out of school opportunities for their school children and community users through this funding. Priority will be given to projects encouraging **women and girls** to be more active, those that help **disadvantaged and culturally diverse communities**, and those supporting **special educational needs, disabilities or long-term health conditions**.

Link for more info and how to register [here](#)

Deadline: Friday 3rd November 2023



PE School Sports Premium Webinar Recording

This half term our Wednesday Webinar topic was the **Primary and School Sports Premium** and we are aiming to help primary school staff understand how to make the most out of theirs- [Link here](#)



CPD

Active in Mind Workshop Face to Face sessions (Aimed at Secondary Schools and Years 5/6)

Designed to introduce educators to the programme, enabling them to self-activate and make use of free to access resources and interventions for the benefit of pupils in their school. This enables them to understand the role of physical activity in improving young people's mental health- [Click here](#)

We also have **Sport Specific Workshops** – Supporting Secondary PE Teachers and this month's is **badminton**- [click here to book](#)



KS1 Awards

We want to recognise excellence in the delivery of physical activity, P.E and school sport in Key Stage 1. Many of you had been awarded this previously but yours may have potentially lapsed so please check the following page to find out how to reapply [Click here for more information](#)

Deadline: Friday 17th November 2023



#MoveWithUs updates

Count with Courtney

As Essex celebrates the Year of Numbers, Our #MoveWithUs ambassador and Great Britain Gymnast **Courtney Tulloch**, is setting you challenges that incorporates numbers and movement! **Launching on November 13th**

More info [here](#)

Don't forget the #MoveWithUs Mascot competition:

[click here for the template](#)

Deadline: Friday 10th November 2023



Reducing Parental Conflict Training

Free 1 Day Face-to-Face Training

10am-4pm



Arrive from 9:30am for a 10am start.

One day face to face training for practitioners completing direct work with families who may experience parental conflict.

South – Monday 8th January 2024

Highcliffe Delivery Site, 29A Rettendon View, Wickford SS11 8JE

Mid – Friday 26th January 2024

Chetwood Family Hub, 76 Shirebourn Vale, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford CM3 5ZX

North – Friday 9th February 2024

Berechurch Family Hub, The Ormiston Centre, School Rd, Colchester CO2 8NN

West – Thursday 22nd February 2024

Treehouse Children's Centre, Parnall Road, Harlow CM18 7NG

To Book please email:

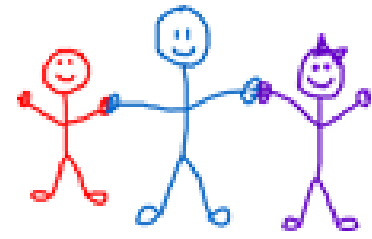
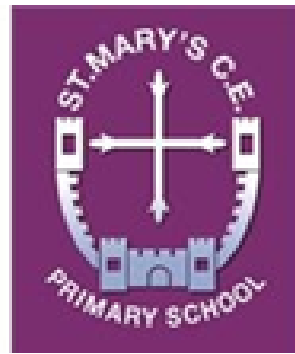
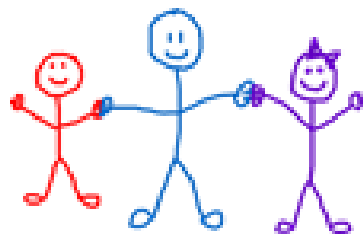
Healthyrelationshipsteam@barnardos.org.uk

With your completed expression of interest form.

Please be aware that you will need to attend the full days face to face training as well as the online 2-hour consolidation session to complete the training.

care.think.do.

WE CHANGE LIVES BY TRANSFORMING HEALTH AND CARE.



St. Mary's C of E (VA) Primary School
Castle Street, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1BQ

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS 15th JANUARY 2024

If you have children starting school in September 2024
please come and join us for our

OPEN MORNING

Come and visit our wonderful school where you will have the opportunity to
meet our staff and pupils and see our learning and teaching in action

Thursday 16th and Monday 20th November 2023

9.30am – 11.00am

Bookings can be made online via the school website
(<https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/admission-arrangements/>)

*We aspire for our pupils to be the best they can be, in an inclusive Christian
learning environment.*

Tel: 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Diary Dates



Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2023:

W/C Monday 30th October	-	One Plan Meetings held this week
Monday 30th October	-	PTA Xmas card due
Tuesday 31st October	-	Light Day—children can wear bright/light clothes
Friday 3rd November	-	Book Looks/Share our Work sessions (8.30am to 9am & 3.15pm to 4pm). Year 5, 3.15-4.00pm ONLY
Tuesday 7th November	-	Parent Consultations—Years R—Year 6
Wednesday 8th November	-	Year 3 Dodgeball Tournament
	-	Parent Consultations—Reception Only
Thursday 9th November	-	Parent Consultations—Years 1—Year 6
Friday 10th November	-	Remembrance Day assembly/service at St Mary's at 11am
Monday 13th - Friday 17th November	-	Make a Noise About Bullying (Anti-Bullying Week)
Wednesday 15th November	-	Governors Day
Thursday 16th November	-	Reception 2024 Open Morning (9.30—11.00)
Monday 20th November	-	Reception 2024 Open Morning (9.30—11.00)
Tuesday 21st November	-	Inter-House Clubbercise Challenge
Wednesday 22nd November	-	PTA Word Parade
Thursday 23rd November	-	Flu vaccines (delivered by NHS Immunisation Team)
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
Tuesday 12th December	-	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance in St Mary's Church at 6pm
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

* *new or amended items added are in blue*