

# St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 28th February 2025

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)

Attendance Weekly 95.6%

Attendance Year 95.3%



*Our motto: Let Your Light Shine... as You Grow inspired by Matthew 5: 15-16*

**Compassion**

**Friendship**

**Perseverance**

**Respect**

**Trust**

**Truthfulness**

Dear parents, carers and friends of the school,

Welcome to this week's newsletter, as we inch our way into Spring and what, we hope, will bring some warmer weather! In this week's newsletter you will find some information about **Class WhatsApp groups**, our **St Mary's Stars of the Week**, some **individual fundraising** carried out by one of our pupils, information about the upcoming **Book Fair and World Book Day celebrations**, the **Parents/Carers Consultations** in March, as well as our **House Point Champions** this week. Don't forget to check out our weekly **Class Updates** and our **Diary Dates** (on the final page of this newsletter).

## Stars of the Week

**Mohammad**—for amazing effort learning his times tables at home

**Andreya**—for her brave efforts this week

**Kathryn** - for her wonderful and enthusiastic singing at Saffron Hall

**Alex**—for working hard in all lessons this week

**George**—for excellent reading over half term

**Sebastian**—for a well planned DT project

**Sophie**—for her great PSHE work during mental health week

**Ava**—for working hard in her maths and scoring well in her assignment

**Sylvie**—for her neat and creative writing in English this week

**Linda**—for using advanced vocabulary in English

**Frank**—for figuring out a way to stop the read-only error on the Chromebook drives



## Parent/Carer WhatsApp Groups

To aid communication between parents and carers we are aware that many of our classes or groups of parents have set up Class WhatsApp groups, which we must stress **operate independently of the school**. We know these groups can offer a great way to support and communicate with each other about class and school-related matters.



We completely understand that parents and carers find WhatsApp groups a really useful way of communicating with and supporting each other - especially over a busy academic year. As you will know, the messages in these WhatsApp groups come from parents and carers in their personal capacity. Please note that the school **does not post directly on any WhatsApp parent/carers groups**.

At St Mary's, we strongly believe it is important to work in close partnership with parents and carers to support their child's learning and development and to maintain a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents / carers. To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community (which includes staff, pupils and parents/carers and governors); details regarding this can be found in the Respect Policy on our school Website: [www.stmaryssw.org.uk/policies/](http://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/policies/)

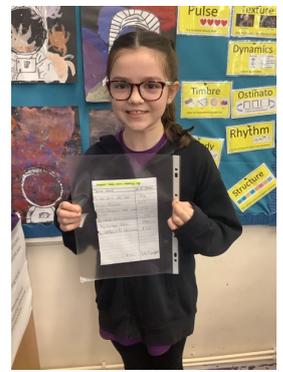
Recently, the school has been made (often via screenshots) of some occasions when parents and carers have posted unkind comments, including about St Mary's pupils and staff on these WhatsApp groups. Please may we politely ask that if you have something to discuss with the school that you speak to us directly, either via your class teacher or the school office, as there may be other contextual information behind matters which parents / carers may be unaware of. We would therefore kindly ask that adults model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times—I am sure that you will agree that the behaviour we demonstrate to our children will be the behaviour that they demonstrate to others when they are old enough to own their own devices.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

### **Amazing achievement— Eco Garden fundraising**

During half term, Nuala (from Busybee class) raised money for the school's Eco-garden by doing a Read-a-thon. She was doing this she said, 'because sometimes people want to do their part in the fight against climate change but can't due to the cost and I don't think it's fair for that to be the case!' Nuala raised a whopping £142.55 for the eco-garden!

Well done Nuala!



### **House triumphs!**

These are the results for this week: in joint 1st place with 40 points was Fire and Water Houses and in joint 2nd place with 30 points was Earth and Air Houses.

Well done everybody!



**1st place  
(40 points)**



**1st place  
(40 points)**



**2nd place  
(30 points)**



**2nd place  
(30 points)**

Have a great weekend.

Warm regards

*Mr C. D. Jarman*

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

## Parent/Carers Consultation Meetings (11th March and 13<sup>th</sup> March)

Appointments for the parent consultations are available to book from **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** via our Parent's Evening System which can be found at <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. Please book your appointment before the **booking system closes on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 12.00pm.**

**If your child has already had a One Plan meeting then there is no requirement to book an appointment, as you would have already had your 20 minute meeting.**

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



## WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATIONS

### LIST OF EVENTS

**Thursday 27th February—Tuesday 4th March**

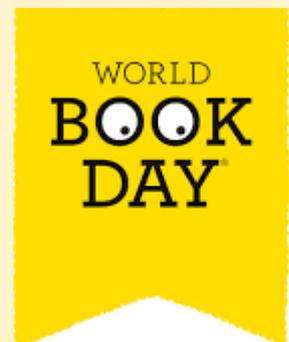
**Scholastic Book Fair (3.15pm—3.30pm) School Hall**

**Wednesday 5th March**

**Bringing Books to Life Workshop**

**Thursday 6th March**

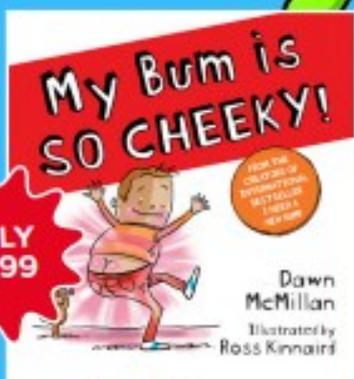
- \* **Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character**
- \* **Special World Book Day Lunch—please order a lunch via the School Grid no later than 8.55am on Thursday 6th March**



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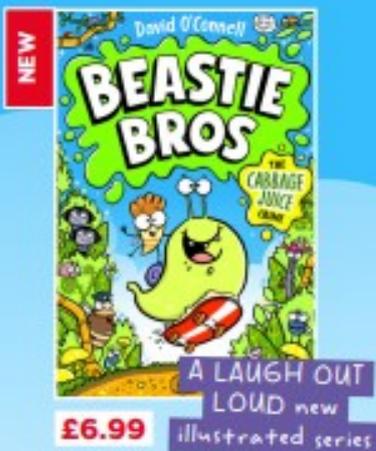


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£6.99

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£12.99 ~~£9.99~~

IN CINEMAS FEBRUARY 2025

Date:

Thursday 27th February —  
Tuesday 4th March  
3.15pm—3.30pm

Scan the QR code to pay online!



WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

# WORLD BOOK DAY

6TH MARCH  
2025



## MAINS

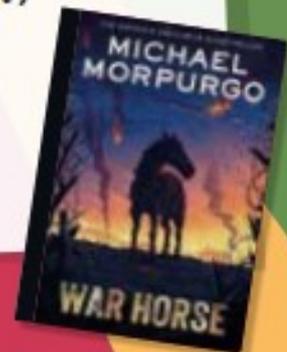
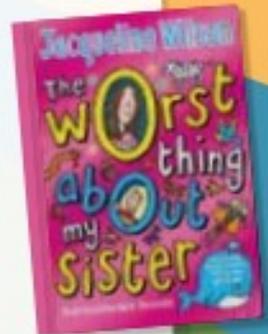
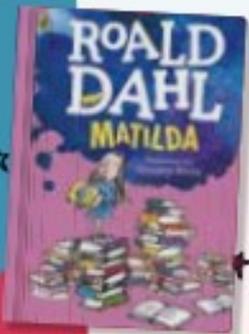
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs & Pasta  
Katsu-in-the-Hat Quorn Dippers & Rice (V)  
Wheres Wally's Wrap bar (V)  
Jaqueline Wilson Jacket Potatoes (V) (VG) (GF)

## SIDES

Walliams Super Sleuth Slaw  
Golden Snitch Sweetcorn  
Snozzycumber Salad Bar

## DESSERT

Mr Messy's Ice Cream & Sprinkles (V)  
Queen of Hearts Jam Tart (VG)  
Fresh Fruit (VG) (GF)



dolce

SPRING TERM

# ESSEX LOCAL OFFER ROADSHOWS

Help us  
improve our  
information

Tell us about your  
experience to help us  
make our website work  
better for you

The Essex Local Offer

Provision available to children and young people aged 0 to 25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)



Are you a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex Local Offer Roadshows.



You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book. Children are welcome!



Drop in between 9:30am and 12:30pm



Book your place on free workshops

Scan the QR Code for all the information, including dates and venues or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>



In Partnership with



ACL



## Join Our Community – ADHD & ASD!

Become part of a community that understands and supports. Our FREE online ADHD, and ASD sessions are more than just learning opportunities—they're a chance to connect, grow, and thrive together.

Understanding ASD in children (a bitesize, online, 1 week session)  
Understanding ADHD in children (a bitesize, online, 1 week session)  
Understanding ADHD & ASD In Girls (online, 4 sessions over 4 weeks)

Whatever your situation, our non judgemental sessions have got it covered.

Sign Up!  
Scan the QR code, or  
Visit our website [aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com)  
and type **ASD** or **ADHD** in to the  
'Find a course...' box



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Essex County Council



# Diary Dates

## Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024:

Week beginning 17th February	-	Half Term Break
Monday 24th February	-	Pupils return to school at 8.30am
Tuesday 27th February	-	Year 5 Saffron Hall Visit
Friday 28th February	-	Year 3 Swimming Starts (5 weeks)
Friday 28th February	-	FOSM Non uniform day Rainbow Raffle
Thursday 27th February—Tues 4th March	-	Scholastic Book Fair - School Hall (3.15pm—3.30pm)
Monday 3rd March	-	Secondary School National Offer Day
Tuesday 4th March	-	Shrove Tuesday pancake lunch
Wednesday 5th March	-	Bringing Books to Life Workshop
Thursday 6th March	-	World Book Day (Children are invited to come to school as their favorite book character)
	-	World Book Day Special Lunch
	-	Parent/Carer Book Look 8.30 to 9.00 (Years 1—6 only) and 3.15 to 4.00 (all year groups)
Monday 10th March	-	Reception and Year 6 NHS Screening
Tues 11th March and Thurs 13th March	-	Parent/Carer consultations from 3.30pm
Friday 14th March	-	Year 5 Saffron Hall Visit (packed lunch required)
Tuesday 18th March	-	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Scoot Fit
Wednesday 19th March	-	Year 5 Dance Festival @ Saffron Hall (4.00pm—6.00pm)
Friday 28th March	-	Year 1 Dance Festival @ Great Sampford Primary
	-	Year 6 Swimming Starts
Monday 31st March	-	Year 5 Residential Meeting for Parents/Carers (5.00pm—5.30pm)
Thursday 3rd April	-	Rainbow Raffle draw
Friday 4th April	-	Easter Service at St Mary's Church 11am
Friday 4th April	-	Last day of term—finish at 1.30pm
Mon 7th April—Mon 21st April	-	EASTER BREAK
Wednesday 16th April	-	Reception 2025 National Offer Day
Tuesday 22nd April	-	INSET DAY
Wednesday 23rd April	-	Pupils return to school at 8.30am



*Please note all new or changed dates are in blue*

