

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 24th January 2025

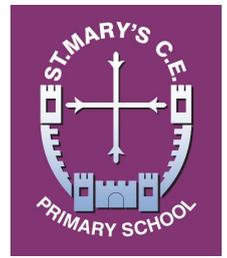
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Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly 91.5%

Attendance Year 95.4%



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,

As we approach the end of our third week of the Spring Term (full of rather Wintery weather, mind you!) I am delighted by the superb attitude displayed by our pupils. This was particularly personified by a group of our older pupils in Key Stage 2, as I was privileged to have been able to join the Year 5 and 6 Indoor Athletics Team, who visited Dame Bradbury's School on Wednesday this week. Their attitude and behaviour was exemplary and their performance levels were outstanding and I was extremely proud to have been there to watch them in action. Please do take the time to read the article below written by Ms Driscoll, our Sports Coach, who must also take all the credit for training our team so brilliantly. The team finished closely behind the winners, in second place. I am delighted to see our school sport provision go from strength to strength.



Do enjoy this week's newsletter and don't forget to check out our Diary Dates (on the last page of this newsletter) and our separate 'Class Updates' so you can see what our children have been up to in class, during the week.

Indoor athletics (by Miss Driscoll)

On Wednesday 22nd January Year 6 and 5 demonstrated perseverance and sheer grit finishing 2nd place over all at the indoor athletics competition. Both classes and after school club trained exceptionally hard. The hard work definitely paid off with some outstanding performances on both the track and field events. A special shout-out to James R, who wowed the entire hall with his speed and technical skill on the Over-Under relay event and almost flew through the tunnel on his final lap. Well done team! And a special thank you to Mr Jarmain for all his support, wise words and encouragement to keep striving forward.



Stars of the Week

- Eva** - for showing respect at all times.
- Alicia** - for challenging herself in maths & reading.
- Aalyian** - for his great work in class.
- Zachary** - for his continued excellent work.
- Kayhan** - for his super RE work.
- Maya** - for her love of reading.
- Mbali** - for her consistent hard work.
- Chloe** - for extended class learning.
- Megan** - for her hard work & participation.
- Oscar** - for his hard work in maths.
- Luke** - for participating in class discussions.
- Charlie** - for outstanding effort this week.



House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: In 1st place with 172 points was Earth House; in 2nd place with 150 points was Air House; in 3rd place with 140 points was Air House and in 4th place with 124 points was Water House. Well done everybody!



**1st place
(172 points)**



**2nd place
(150 points)**



**3rd place
(140 points)**



**4th place
(124 points)**

Collection for Ged—School Crossing Patrol Officer

As you may be aware the amazing Ged (Our School Crossing Patrol Officer) will be retiring in January and his last day will be on Friday 31st January 2025. We will all be very sad to see Ged go! Some parents have asked if they can contribute to a collection for him and if you would like to please bring this to the school office no later than Wednesday 29th January. Please note that we can only accept cash.

Warm regards

Mr C. D. Jarman

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

RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch



Would you like to be involved in the world's largest garden wildlife survey? The children in Reception and Year 1 will be practising their bird spotting skills and helping to look after our feathered friends during their forest school sessions this half term. They thought it would be great to get more people involved. If you would like to learn more, head to:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>

Here, you can register and get sent all of the information you need to get on board. Then it's just a question of finding your spot between 24-26 January, recording the birds you see land for an hour and sending the data off to RSPB online or in the post.

Having lost 38 million of our garden birds over the last 60 years, it is clear that they are facing plenty of challenges. Let's do our bit to look after them. Happy spotting and let us know how you get on!

Thanks

Mrs McInnes, Forest School Leader



HOLIDAY CAMPS

Join us for 5 hours of Fab Science fun in the holidays! Camps run 10am to 3pm and are open to all children aged 5-11 years.

For more information visit the Fab Science website.



£37

per child

Sibling
discount
available

ELECTRICKERY

Explore circuits, test out fruit batteries, investigate conductivity, complete challenges, make burglar alarms and see sparks fly with the Van der Graaff generator!



Monday 17th February
Cambridge (Queen Edith)

Tuesday 18th February
Saffron Walden (RAB)

Wednesday 19th February
Bishop's Stortford (Thorn Grove)

Thursday 20th February
Herford (St Joseph's in the Park)

Friday 21st February
St Albans (Garden Fields)

BOOK NOW AT: WWW.FABSCIENCE.CO.UK

...AND WE DO
FAB SCIENCE
PARTIES TOO!

SPRING TERM
starts **SUNDAY 5th JANUARY 2025**
at **CARVER BARRACKS**
10:15am – 11:30am



£35 for first child, £25 for subsequent, Reception and Year 1
(for Spring term only)

2 FREE taster sessions – Just turn up!



Learn new
skills

Increase
confidence

Be part of
a team

**WENDENS
AMBO**



Make new
friends



Improve
fitness

**Mini Rugby
Club**



Have fun!



Girls & boys from Reception to Year 6



TEAMWORK – RESPECT – ENJOYMENT – DISCIPLINE – SPORTSMANSHIP



membership@wendenrugby.com

Mental Health Support Teams in Schools



Are you a parent/caregiver looking for effective ways to help your young person navigate anxiety and manage big emotions?

Look no further; The Mental Health Support Team
is here to support you!

Evidence-based
intervention,
based on
Cognitive
Behavioural
Therapy (CBT)

Parent support
group - online
4 weekly
sessions, led by
two friendly
practitioners

Helping you to help
your young person
develop coping
strategies and take
charge of their
well-being

Online Group
Thursday 6th,
13th, 20th, 27th
March
1-2pm

Online Group
Thursday 6th,
13th, 20th, 27th
March
6-7pm

Online Group
Friday 7th, 14th,
21st, 28th
March
9.30-10.30am

Scan the QR code to sign up to ONE group
Attendance at all 4 sessions is essential
Questions? Email mhstadmin@mindinwestessex.org.uk



Information for parent/carers



Registered Charity No. 1091154



Diary Dates

Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024:

Monday 20th January	-	Year 2 Library Visit
Wednesday 29th January	-	Year 1 Saffron Walden Museum School trip
	-	Year 5 Saffron Hall Music Workshop at School
Thursday 30th January	-	Year 3 Active Maths Festival (PE Uniform required)
Thursday 30th January	-	Pre-loved uniform sale before and after school
Mon 3rd - Fri 9th February	-	Children's Mental Health Awareness Week
Friday 14th February	-	Year 3 Swimming Starts (5 weeks)
Week beginning 17th February	-	Half Term Break
Monday 24th February	-	Pupils return to school at 8.30am
Friday 28th February	-	Non uniform day Rainbow Raffle
Wed 26th February—Tues 4th March	-	Book fair
Tuesday 4th March	-	Shrove Tuesday pancake lunch
Wednesday 5th March	-	Bringing Books to Life Workshop
Thursday 6th March	-	Parent/Carer Book Look 8.30 to 9.00 and 3.15 to 4.00
Monday 10th March	-	Reception and Year 6 NHS Screening
Tues 11th March and Thurs 13th March	-	Parent/Carer consultations from 3.30pm
Friday 28th March	-	Year 1 Dance Festival @ Great Sampford Primary
	-	Year 6 Swimming Starts
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

Please note all new or changed dates are in blue

