

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 10th January 2025

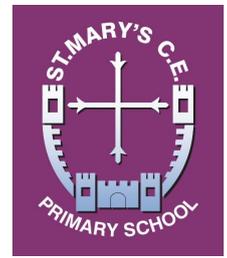
Telephone 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly 95.9%

Attendance Year 95.5%



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 back to our Spring Term, here at St Mary's. It has been so lovely to see so many of you on the school gate (in the rather cold and Wintery conditions!) and I am delighted that the children have settled in so beautifully already! Don't forget to check out the Diary Dates (on the last page of this newsletter) and to read through our Class Updates –which is sent separately to this newsletter. Here's to a fantastic and very productive Spring term!

Stars of the Week

Zachary—for always trying hard in his lessons

Alfie—for his fantastic perseverance and focus in maths

Maisie - for respecting the new class rules

Freya G— for her amazing postcard writing in English

Oscar— for pushing himself in his work and focus in particular, writing

Freya — for great answers during carpet discussions

Mark - for settling into Year 2 really well

Kiara - for challenging herself with medium maths tasks

Isla— for making regular contributions in class

Laura—for contributing to class discussions

Claudia—for her fantastic focus and presentation whilst doing long multiplication

Thomas— for sharing his fantastic geography knowledge with the whole class



House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: In 1st place with 47 points was Earth House; in 2nd place with 35 points was Air House; in 3rd place with 30 points was Fire House and in 4th place with 29 points was Water House.

Well done everybody!



**1st place
(47 points)**



**2nd place
(35 points)**



**3rd place
(30 points)**



**4th place
(29 points)**

SEND Coffee Morning

Our next Coffee Morning is booked for Wednesday the 21st January at (9:30 to 11:00) where will be discussing how to support children with meltdowns followed by a craft activity. All are welcome – please let the office know if you would like to attend.

Warm regards

Mr C. D. Jarman

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

Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) Coffee Morning

Thank you to those who braved the cold weather this morning and joined us for what will be one of many 'Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) Coffee mornings. The ideas were flowing, and the enthusiasm was there in abundance. This is exactly what we hoped for! If you couldn't make it this morning and are still interested in finding out more about FOSM, then please get in touch with Amie or Jess at the school. We're here to answer your questions! Also, look out for some exciting dates for the diary coming your way soon... All the best and keep warm—Amie and Jess.

"Welcome to the Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) Coffee Morning!"

The FOSM aim – "To provide inclusive, exciting and memorable experiences for the children of St Mary's school, whilst having fun along the way!"

Have a cuppa and a biscuit or two!
Love Amie and Jess x

Primary School Applications for September 2025

(Children born between 01/09/2020—31/08/2021)



Applications for Reception September 2025 open on **Monday 4th November**.

For all information about applying for a school place and to make an application please visit the Essex County Council website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Closing date is Wednesday 15th January, 2025

Foodshare

The food-share on a Tuesday morning is an partnership between school and TouchPoint www.thetouchpoint.org

One of the volunteers for TouchPoint kindly delivers the food to school early on Tuesday morning, which we then help to distribute on a Tuesday to the school community at school drop off.

We never know what we will get each week as it is dependant on the supermarket surplus.

We know that some of the children like to get treats and baked goods if they are on offer, please can we ask that these are taken off site for consumption at home.

Please can we remind you that this is for the whole school community and we suggest you take 1 – 2 items per family.

We think this is a great initiative and we are so pleased that so many families are enjoying using the produce that is delivered.

TouchPoint also run the foodshare at the Baptist Church at 10am on a Friday. They often have lots of fruit, veg and bread available and free refreshments, it is well worth a visit.

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



INTO THE WILD!

OUTBACK EDITION

Thursday 16th
January 2025



MAINS

Bear's Battered Chicken Gryll
Didgeridoo Dog (VG)
Coral Reef Wrap Bar (V)
Boomerang Baked Potato (V) (VG) (GF)

SIDES

Canberra Chips
Gold Coast Corn
Kanga-Roos Spaghetti Rings
Bush Tucker Salad Bar
Kookaburra Ketchup

DESSERT

Jam Tim Tam (VG)
Sunshine Sorbet (VG)
Fresh Fruit (VG) (GF)





Diary Dates



Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024:

Monday 6th January	- Pupils return
Friday 10th January	- Friends of St Mary's coffee morning 8.45am
Wednesday 15th January	- Closing date for Reception 2025 applications
Thursday 16th January	- Census Day—Special School Lunch
Wednesday 22nd January	- SEND Coffee Morning (9.30am—11.00am)
Wednesday 29th January	- Year 1 Saffron Walden Museum School trip
Thursday 30th January	- Pre-loved uniform sale before and after school
Mon 3rd - Fri 9th February	- Children's Mental Health Awareness Week
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
Thursday 6th March	- Parent/Carer Book Look 8.30 to 9.00 and 3.15 to 4.00
Tues 11th March and Thurs 13th March	- Parent/Carer consultations from 3.30pm
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

Please note all new or changed dates are in blue

