

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 10th May 2024

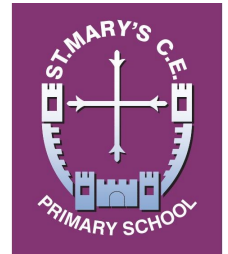
Telephone 01799 523384

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Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly 94.4%

Attendance Year 94.3%



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

Friendship

Trust

Truthfulness

Compassion

Perseverance

Respect

Dear parents and carers and friends of the school,

Ascension Service

Well done to everyone involved in the Ascension Service in St Mary's Church yesterday afternoon. In the Service the children listened to Reverend Jeremy talk about when Jesus left the Disciples and ascended into Heaven and how amazing that must have been. He showed them some of his keys and then dropped them and talked about

how gravity affects things and how some things rise (ascend) upwards—like bubbles! Later on, the pupils then got into a huge circle outside the church and then a selection of pupils from each class then blew some bubbles and everyone watched as the bubbles ascended upwards (some not so much!) and then all of the children had to be very disciplined and let them go! Mrs Jeewan said that the children's behaviour was outstanding – especially on such a hot afternoon! We thought we'd share some photos of this lovely event with you all!



Parent/Carer Invitation to lunch



During the Summer term, we are giving parents/carers the opportunity to come into school during a lunchtime to eat a school meal with your child. On page 4 of this newsletter is a detailed information poster, with dates and the important details about ordering your dinner. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



Art - online exhibition for our very own Reception artist!

Congratulations to Quentin in our Butterfly class for having his fantastic Ninja Horse artwork exhibited in the Young Artists' Summer Show at the Royal Academy of Art! What an amazing achievement for a 5 year old child! Take a look at what he has produced (see picture to the right).



Ninja Horse
Quentin Johnson

Judging status:
Accepted — online exhibition and display at the RA

Stars of the Week

Well done to these fantastic St Mary's pupils for showing our values and 3 Core Skills of **Effort, Safe** and **Respect!**

Lili - for producing an excellent piece of descriptive writing.

Phoebe - for working so hard in all subjects.

Georgia - for amazing focus and effort in all areas of the curriculum.

Charlie - for a huge improvement in reading comprehension.

Blakely - for working hard and always trying his best.

Holly - for always being a pleasure to teach and having a positive attitude.

Eddie - for being a compassionate learning partner.

Emma - for working hard and completing lots of levels in her maths.





Message from the PTA

Dear parents & carers, the Friends of St-Mary's PTA is organising the school's summer fair on July 6 to raise money for much-needed IT equipment in support of all our children's everyday learning at school. **We need your help** to make sure the event is a huge success! Please consider getting involved in any / all of the suggested ways below and let us know if you have any ideas for the event. As always, you can reach us on Classlist or at pta@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk.

Event Sponsorship

We are seeking potential sponsors for the event. This could be your company, the company you work for or those you know might be interested. We will promote all sponsors as part of the communications for the event. We welcome all donations (monetary, gifts or in-kind). Please let us know if you are able to be or contact a potential sponsor, but also reach out to those you know who might be able to make a contribution. The more people we get involved, the better the prizes on the day!

We are also seeking people who will reach out to potential sponsors in the town. If you don't mind making some cold calls in support of our event, please get in touch.

Preparing our activities / stalls

We need some help to create some of our activities on the day. We'd like to run the following activities, but need volunteers to help make them. Please come forward if you can help us make:

1. Hoop the bottle / Hoopla
2. Smash the rat
3. Coconut shy
4. Jellybeans in the jar / Guess the weight of the cake (you don't have to volunteer for both)

Volunteers on the day

We will need an army of volunteers on July 6 to make the event work well. We need helpers for the BBQ, drinks stand and all the various activities. We will have some of the children getting involved, (most likely Year 6!) but will need adults at each stall to supervise and make sure everything is running smoothly. If you can spare some time on the day (the event will run from 10:00 – 16:00), please let us know and we will add you to the volunteer list.

Complete this short form to express your interest and availability: <https://forms.gle/YmMzCfx1UktaKKwW7>

Thank you so much everyone! We will be in touch again soon. PTA team

Year 6 SATs—13th—16th May

Next week, we are inviting Year 6 into school early for a pre-SATs breakfast! We've found it's a nice time for the class to get prepared for the exam that day & to have a bit of a relax before going into their tests. Mr Clarke will open the school doors for **Year 6 pupils at 08:00**. We hope to see all the Year 6 children there! I am sure it goes without saying, but the very best of luck to all the pupils and staff members (particularly Mr Clarke) who have been working so hard to prepare these pupils for their SATs assessments next week. **Make sure you get a good rest this weekend!**



Warm Weather Reminder:

Hats, Sunscreen and Water Bottles:



As the weather is beginning to get warm & sunny, please can we ask that your child/ren have a high factor sun cream applied before they come to school each day. They should also bring a sun hat and water bottle both clearly named. Children should also now be wearing their Summer uniform. Thank you for your support in this





**1st place
(67 points)**



**2nd place
(61 points)**



**3rd place
(60 points)**



**4th place
(52 points)**

House triumphs!

In 1st place this week with 67 points was Fire House (red); in 2nd place with 61 points was Water House (blue); in 3rd position with 60 points was Earth House (green); and in 4th place with 52 points was Air House (yellow).

Well done everybody!

Eco Garden and Cultivating Change—growing our new seeds initiative

As you are aware from the newsletters recently, we have been getting our Eco garden ready for action by tidying all of the raised beds and getting our gardening tools in order - many thanks to all those people who have helped us with this! This Tuesday, the Eco Gardeners chose a friend to help them tidy and prepare the rest of the beds and we were also helped by two of our kind parents: Mrs Goddard and Mrs Le Riche (please see the photograph on the right and below). The progress everyone made was quite unbelievable! What a transformation!



What now?

We have also been visited a couple of times by the wonderful charity Cultivating Change and they have been educating the children on the many benefits of gardening as well as donating a huge amount of seeds to us to get us started on our planting journey. We will be planting the seeds in our wonderful raised beds over the next



week or so but they would also like us to get as many children as possible joining in at home and getting the whole family involved. With this in mind they have donated enough seeds for every family to grow a sun flower and a pumpkin at home and we are going to run a competition with prizes to be won! Just pop by School Office to pick up your envelope of seeds and you're good to go...

Instructions on how to grow your plants have already been emailed to Parent/Carers - don't worry if you don't have a pot as you can grow your plants in recycled pots (yoghurt pots, cut down milk bottles, juice cartons or fruit punnet). Just make sure you make a couple of drainage holes at the bottom of the pot and keep your pot on a saucer or tray. Pots are also available for free at most gardening centres in their recycling area. Then keep watering your plant to help it grow - again you don't need to have a watering can, an old water bottle will work just as well.

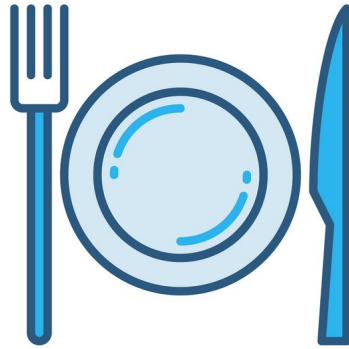
Best of luck and remember to send in any photos to the office! We will be in touch later on about measuring your plants and announcing the winners.

Kind regards Mrs McInnes, Mr Jarman, The Eco Committee and Cultivating Change

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarman

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



Parent Invitation Lunch

We would like to invite parents/carers to join their child for lunch, tasting one of our delicious and nutritious school dinners provided by the Dolce catering team.

Reception:-	Tuesday 21st May and Thursday 23rd May—12.00pm
Year 1:-	Tuesday 4th June and Thursday 6th June—12.10pm
Year 2:-	Tuesday 11th June and Wednesday 12th June—12.20pm
Year 3:-	Tuesday 18th June and Wednesday 19th June—12.30pm
Year 4:-	Tuesday 25th June and Thursday 27th June—12.30pm
Year 5:-	Tuesday 2nd July and Friday 5th July—12.30pm
Year 6:-	Tuesday 9th July and Wednesday 10th July—12.30pm

Cost/lunch—£3.00

Payment made via School Money 1 week before lunch required
Spaces are limited to 8 adults/day on a first come first service basis
Menu is available on the school website

Please let the school office know about any allergies, intolerances or dietary requirements in advance

Monday 13th May - Sunday 19th May is:



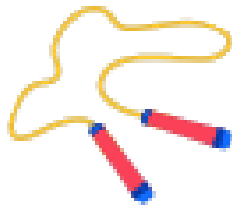
Mental Health Awareness Week



This years theme is:

Movement!

We miss so many opportunities to get our bodies moving, so we're challenging you to find your [#momentsformovement](#) and add more movement to your day throughout **Mental Health Awareness Week!**



Sun

Go for a walk! An icon of two feet walking.

Mon

Hula-Hoop for 5 minutes

Tue

Race with friends

Wed

Use a skipping rope

Thu

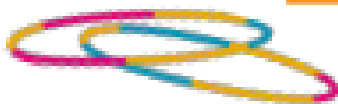
60 second star jumps

Fri

It's Friday - dance!

Sat

Try a new movement activity!





Mental Health Awareness Week

2024

This year's theme is..

Monday 13th May -
Sunday 19th May

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Getting up & moving is not only great for your **body**, but your **mind** too!

It also helps us feel less frustrated!

It gives us energy!

It builds your brain power!

Grab a friend and find your **#momentsformovement** and get active during Mental Health Awareness Week!





Diary Dates



Key Dates for the Summer Term 2024:

Monday 6th May	-	BANK HOLIDAY (School Closed)
Wednesday 8th May	-	Yr5 Cricket Festival
Thursday 9th May	-	Ascension Day– at St Mary’s Church 2.00pm
	-	Yr2 Three Tees Cricket
Monday 13th to Thursday 16th May	-	Yr6 SATs Week
Thursday 16th May Census Day	-	Special Lunch
Friday 17th May	-	Yr1 Learn to Ride & Reception Scoot Fit TBC)
Monday 20th May	-	Yr5 Residential Parent Meeting (5pm)
Tuesday 21st May	-	Yr6 Residential Parent Meeting (5pm)
Tuesday 21st May (all day)	-	Cricket Tournaments for Year 5 and 6
27th—31st May	-	HALF TERM BREAK
Monday 3rd June	-	(8.30am) Pupils return to school
Monday 3rd June	-	Yr4 Multiplication Checks to be completed - next 2 weeks
June 2023	-	Yr 1 & Yr 2 Phonics Screening checks
Monday 3rd June to Friday 7th June	-	Yr6 Residential Trip
Wednesday 5th June at 9.30am	-	New Reception Parents/carers Meeting (new intake)
Friday 7th June at 1.30pm	-	Bishop Roger visiting St Mary’s to bless the school
Monday 10th to Wednesday 12th June	-	Year 5 Residential Trip
Monday 10th June	-	One Plan Reviews this week
Tuesday 11th June	-	Crucial Crew Event for Year 6 pupils
Monday 17th to Friday 21st June	-	Disability Awareness Week
Monday 17th – Friday 28th June	-	ASSESSMENT WEEKS
Tuesday 18th June	-	Governors Day
Thursday 20th June	-	Class Photographs (Kittle)
Thursday 27th June	-	KS2 Athletics (Carver Bks)
Thursday 27th June	-	Year 6 Bridging Day (TBC)
Friday 28th June	-	French Theatre Sans Frontieres Visit (Yrs 2—5)
Friday 28th June	-	Year 6 Secondary School Transition/Taster Day (all day)
Friday 28th June (1.30pm)	-	Year 5 Quiz (for 4 Year 5 pupils, 2 boys and 2 girls)
Friday 28th June	-	Homework due in
Wednesday 3rd July	-	Sports Day (all day)
Saturday 6th July	-	School Fete (all day)
Monday 8th July at 10.30am	-	Yr5 & Yr6 Dress Rehearsal Performance to whole school
Tuesday 9th July at 6pm	-	Yr5 & Yr6 Performance in School Hall Parents Invited (6pm)
Friday 12th July	-	School reports out
Friday 12th July at 9am	-	Reception Graduation Assembly
Friday 12th July	-	PTA KS2 End of Year Disco (5pm to 6.30pm)

Please note all new or changed dates are in blue.





Diary Dates



Key Dates for the Summer Term 2024 (continued...):

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Monday 15th | - Friday 19th July - Book Fair Week TBC |
| Monday 15th July | - Moving up afternoon |
| Monday 15th July (at 3.15pm) | - Meet the Teacher Event for Yrs 1 & 2 |
| Monday 15th July (at 3.30pm) | - Meet the Teacher Event for Yr 3 |
| Tuesday 16th July (at 3.15pm) | - Meet the Teacher Event for Yrs 4 & 5 |
| Tuesday 16th July (at 3.30pm) | - Meet the Teacher Event for Yr 6 |
| Thursday 18th July | - Yr6 Leavers Lunch |
| Tuesday 23rd July | - End of Term/Y6 Leaver's Service at St Mary's Church |
| Tuesday 23rd July | - Last day of the academic year (1.30pm finish) |

Please note all new or changed dates are in blue.



MAY HALF TERM HOLIDAY EVENTS AT HANNINGFIELD RESERVOIR

MONDAY 27TH	TUESDAY 28TH	WEDNESDAY 29TH	THURSDAY 30TH
BANK HOLIDAY NO EVENTS	DROP OFF DAY: 9AM-4PM £30 PER CHILD	POND DIPPING: 10AM-11AM 11AM-12PM 1PM-2PM £5 PER CHILD	NO EVENTS
FRIDAY 31ST	SATURDAY 1ST	SUNDAY 2ND	FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE HTTPS://WWW.ESSEX WT.ORG.UK/EVENTS:  Essex Wildlife Trust
NATURE TOTS MAY SPECIAL: 10AM-12PM £7 PER CHILD	EVENT AT THAMESIDE NATURE PARK: 30 DAYS WILD LAUNCH 10.30AM-4PM		