

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 3rd May 2024

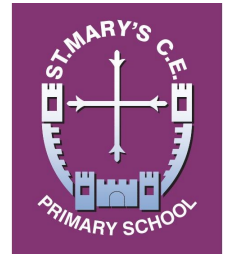
Telephone 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly 94.3%

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,

Cultivating Change and Our Eco Garden

Annabel, Sally and Rosie from **Cultivating Change** came into school on Wednesday this week to deliver an assembly to the whole of the school. They then kindly donated a large number of seeds, seedlings and very young plants - which will now need a bit of nurturing to help them to grow. They also left us with two brand new hand trowels and a large bag of compost which were handed over to our extremely eager Eco Committee (see photograph). The great news is that the Cultivating Change team are very keen to support us to begin growing our own plants and vegetables throughout the school year, so that we can fully use our Eco Garden to its full potential. I am sure you will agree that is amazing news!

These are our next steps:

- 1) As a school we now need to decide how and when to plant the new seeds that we have been given—the ladies from Cultivating Change recommended that this should be within the next two weeks.
- 2) We need to complete the weeding and digging over of the seven raised beds in the Eco Garden area as quickly as possible so that we can start planting our new seeds. Any help from willing parents on a Tuesday lunchtime would be gratefully received. Mrs Holyomes, one of lovely parents, is going to help on Tuesday next week and I've asked the Eco Gardeners to ask a friend to help them next Tuesday which should speed things up. Mrs McInnes has also been utilising the help of the Reception and Year 1 pupils to help with this! Between us a HUGE amount of progress has been made already! We have also had a kind offer from one of our Reception parents (Mr Tom Seal) who is a qualified gardener, so he will be able to give us some further technical support.
- 3) Start planting the seeds! This will be in the raised beds in our Eco Garden; some will also be grown in pots in our classrooms.
- 4) Paint the sleepers and picket fenced areas around the Eco Garden area. **Again, any volunteers who would be happy to help with this would be very gratefully appreciated (now the weather is showing positive signs!) If you are interested please let the school office know or email in on info@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk**



This is what Annabel, Sally and Rosie said after their visit to the school on Wednesday: *'Thank you so much for everyone's time yesterday, we were so delighted to come and deliver our Cultivating Change assembly and speak to your wonderful children. We were really impressed with how well behaved and engaged the children were and we loved seeing them all joining in with the singing and actions of our 'Live with Nature' song. We were really pleased to donate the seeds, trowels and compost to the Eco-Committee and we can't wait to visit again and see your progress with the school's garden. We will be in touch next week with Katie to follow up and make a plan for next steps. We will send her the links to our growing videos and share Annabel's contact details so she and Katie can liaise directly regarding any gardening specific questions.*

Stars of the Week

A HUGE well done to these Key Stage 1 Shining Stars for their outstanding efforts!

Ranveer—for always showing a St Mary's attitude to learning

Kayden - for effort and progress in phonics

Filip -for his great progress in phonics

Sofia—for coming into school with a smile on her face and making great effort in phonics and writing



Some lovely news!

I am delighted to report that earlier this week we appointed Louise Robinson to the new role as SENCo at St Mary's from the start of June. Louise will be familiar to many of our St Mary's families as she has taught at this school for a number of years. Louise will be taking over the role when Emma North (our current SENDCo and Inclusion Leader) sadly leaves us at the end of this month for her role at her new school. I am sure you will join me in wishing Louise and Emma the very best of luck in their new roles. Mrs Robinson will be continuing her role as class teacher in Year 5 until we recruit a new teacher for that position.

I look forwards to seeing our lovely pupils back at St Mary's **on Tuesday 7th May** (following the slightly longer bank holiday weekend). Let's hope the weather improves and we get a day or so of sun!

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarmain

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



NSPCC website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

Contact the NSPCC Helpline

You can contact the NSPCC Helpline by [calling 0808 800 5000](tel:08088005000), [emailing help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk) or [completing our report abuse online form](#).

Due to an increase in demand across our service, our voice Helpline is currently available 10am–6pm Monday to Friday. You can still [email help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk) or [complete our report abuse online form](#) at any time for free. You don't have to say who you are.

If you think a child is in immediate danger, please [call the police on 999](tel:999) straight away.

SEND

Children and Young People awaiting diagnostic assessment for Autism on an Essex neurodevelopmental pathways are now able to register to access some Short Breaks provision.

Families awaiting diagnostic assessment on Essex neurodevelopmental pathways can enjoy free days out at some of the most popular attractions in Essex with Short Break Tickets, get free or discounted admission to over 1.100 attractions at venues across the UK with a Max Card and enjoy activity days and family days at Essex Outdoors.

To find out more visit <https://shortbreaks.essex.gov.uk/.../essex-short-breaks.../>

We are currently awaiting receipt of all tickets for the 2024 season and anticipate that they will be received within the next 3 weeks. Tickets will be made available for Colchester Zoo, Hertfordshire Zoo, Barleylands and Wyvernwood.

[Essex Short Breaks offer now open to children and young people awaiting diagnostic assessment for Autism](#)

West Essex Inclusion project - Urban Limitz!

Trampolining and soft play session for children age 8 – 14 with SEND and open to children living in Harlow, Epping and Uttlesford

Urban Limitz, Harlow Leisurezone, Second Ave, Harlow, CM20 3DT

Wednesdays 18:00 - 19:00: 1 May, 8 May, 15 May, 22 May,

29 May * this session will start earlier at 17:00 and end at 18:00

Escape into Urban Limitz Adventure Trampoline Park, the ultimate indoor obstacle arena. Tackle each of the multi level challenge areas, jump, bounce and free-style your way to fun. This **relaxed** one hour session will allow your child to engage with others, have fun in the park and try out new activities and obstacle courses!

This session is for children and young people aged 8-14 with SEND and open to children living in Harlow, Epping and Uttlesford.

Activity waivers must be in place with Leisurezone - All parents/carers must complete the medical questionnaire before their child attends the session.

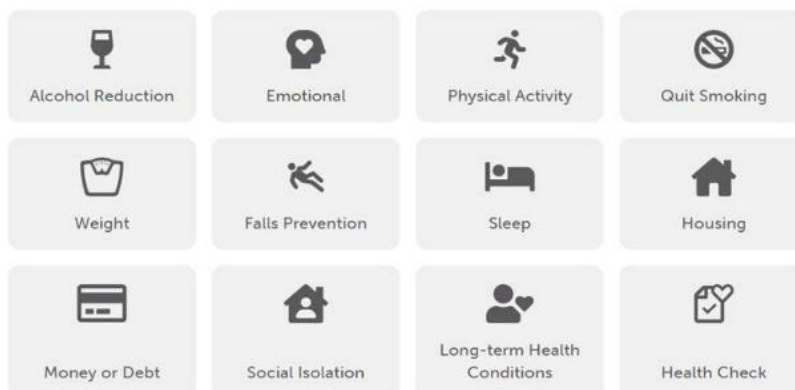
If you have any questions or need to speak with someone regarding your child's complex needs or specialist healthcare please email fferrari@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Essex Wellbeing Service

In Essex we are fortunate to have many services available to provide support to us, but sometimes it can be difficult to know where and when to access it. The Essex Wellbeing Service is an early intervention offer that supports everyone in Essex to live healthy and socially connected lives.

<https://www.essexwellbeingsservice.co.uk/>

You can complete an online assessment and have it tailored to your individual needs in the following area's:





ACL

COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING

Positive Parenting

08/05/2024

12:30 - 14:30

FREE

Harlow Library



SCAN ME

For further information & to enrol **SCAN/PHONE/WEBSITE**
email queries to ACLfamilylearning@essex.gov.uk



'Family Learning'
aclessex.com



0345 603 7635



Essex County Council



Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools after 19th August 2024.

Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.

For example: a 5 day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court.

Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Ukraine - 3.5 million refugees in crisis

But you can help!

**Collection on
Saturday 11th May 2024
9am - 1pm
Saffron Walden Common Car Park**

**All cash donations will go towards the purchase of
pallets of food - £500 per pallet. Donate £5 here**

Goods needed include:

- **Everyday food items including pasta, rice and gluten free items**
- **Toiletries and clothing for all ages**
- **Cleaning materials**
- **Cooking utensils, torches, batteries**



Rotary
Saffron Walden



UK-AID
Fostered Aid for Deprived Children



<https://rotary-sw.org/>

<https://www.uk-aid.org/how-you-can-help/>



Diary Dates



Key Dates for the Summer Term 2024:

Thursday 2nd May	-	Yr4 Rapid Fire cricket tournament
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

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.

