

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 26th April 2024

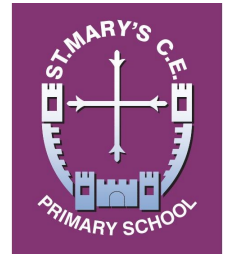
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Attendance Weekly 94.6%

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,

It is well known that getting outdoors even for a small amount of time can enrich our daily lives as well as the lives of our children. Just being in nature creates a calming environment which enhances our learning experiences and sparks joy and curiosity and a boost to our wellbeing.

We are so fortunate at St Mary's to have such wonderful outdoor facilities, including the upper and lower meadow, the Forest School area, an outdoor classroom, the adventure playground, the Trim Trail and a brand new Eco Garden. Earlier this week, the new Eco Squad (made up of Penny, Thomas, Ozan and Laura) helped me to begin the fun de-weeding process in our Eco Garden area (see photos below). We all had a great time removing some rather large and stubborn weeds and we saw some intriguing bugs as well! Our aim is for each class in our school to use the **seven new sleeper beds** to begin to grow a variety of different flowers and then, later, vegetables so that we can help to nurture them and watch them grow and then decide what we will do with our produce!



We have also been really fortunate that through **TouchPoint** we have been introduced to **Cultivating Change** who have provided us with some seeds to plant. Some members of staff from the Cultivating Change team will be coming into school in a few weeks time to deliver an assembly to the whole school to talk about their important work. We are also delighted to report that we have also had a very generous donation from our local **Homebase store** which has allowed us to purchase some new gardening tools which the children can now use and which will help us over the coming months. We would like to express our thanks to all of these organisations.

Finally, as we are starting to approach the summer months it would be lovely to make the front of our school look really colourful and full of joy. Therefore, if anyone from our school community has any summer bedding plants they would like to donate so that we can have lots of new hanging baskets at the front of school, or that can be added to our lovely new sleeper beds also at the front of the school (pictured below, far right) and which I'm sure you will all agree are looking glorious with all of the spring bulbs and winter bedding plants, that would be great! We'd also love donations of gardening gloves, or even a water butt (in good working condition). If you could help with any of these then please let the school office know. If you'd be interested in helping to 'de-weed' the Eco Garden area every Tuesday lunchtime with the Eco Squad then that would also be great!

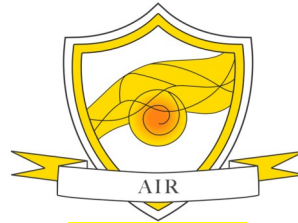




**1st place
(104 points)**



**2nd place
(78 points)**



**3rd place
(68 points)**



**4th place
(65 points)**

House triumphs!

In 1st place this week with 104 points was Water House (Blue); in 2nd place with 78 points was Fire House (Red); in 3rd position with 68 points was Air House (Yellow); and in 4th place with 65 points was Earth House (Green).

Well done everybody!

Key Stage 2 Archery Tournament

Yesterday our KS2 Archery winners attended the Uttlesford finals at Lord Butler Leisure Centre. They played with immense focus and determination and had wonderful team spirit. Year 3 and 4 played against 16 other teams and finished in a respectable 6th place whilst Year 5 finished 5th. Whilst we didn't leave with any medals, we did have a number of archers who managed some great individual scores - Well done!

A huge thank you to Mrs Holyomes who attended the event with us. And Miss Driscoll for her excellent training of our team.



Have a fantastic weekend and let's hope for some sun and warmth!

Come on Summer!

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarman

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



Diary Dates



Key Dates for the Summer Term 2024:

Friday 26th April	- Homework sent out to pupils
Thursday 2nd May	- Yr4 Rapid Fire cricket tournament
Monday 6th May	- BANK HOLIDAY (School Closed)
Thursday 9th May	- Ascension Day- book Church 2.00pm
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 – Chris J and Bryna attending
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)
Thursday 6th June	- 9.30am New Reception Parents Meeting
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





Diary Dates



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

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
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.

