

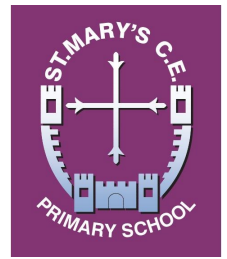
St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 17th October 2025

Telephone 01799 523384

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Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Attendance Weekly 97.6%
Attendance Year 96.9%

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

Run Club

This week saw Run Club tackle the local cross-country event held at Herberts Farm. Our aim was to attend, do our best but most importantly enjoy the experience and soak up the atmosphere. Not only did their legs need to get them round 1.6km course they also endured a walk there and back! It's fair to say the hilly slope was harder than anticipated, the corners were muddy and slippery, but our pupils ran with pride, determination, and perseverance to the very end. A huge shout out and congratulations to the following team and individuals who have made it through to the finals at Carver Barracks:

- Year 6 Girls Team (Georgia, Megan, Kathryn, Hattie, Nula, Blossom and Isla),
- Year 6 – Hugo qualified individually
- Year 5 – Libby and Sebastian qualified individually
- Year 3 – Alycia qualified individually with a 3rd place finish.



Whilst not all our runners will move onto the finals, they are winners in their own way, and we are extremely proud of them all. Well done team!!!

Stars of the week

Chloe—for being a fantastic help in her playleader role

Bobbie—for her effort, hard work and beautiful artwork

Sydney—for organising help in the hall

Max—for his excellent reading

Chloe—for organising help in the hall

Sylvie—for working very hard across all subjects

Alannah—for her wonderful, selfless 'I have a dream' writing ideas

Brogan-Grace—for working hard to build confidence and resilience in all areas of learning

Christianus—for his fantastic effort in writing and amazing prayer for our prayer book

Maja—for consistently demonstrating an outstanding work ethic

Lara—for always contributing to class discussions and showing a positive attitude towards all class learning

Mbalenhle—for always carrying out her duties as a computer monitor diligently

Rose—for her incredible role-play skills during the Black History workshop

Finley—for always being such a pleasure to teach and trying his best in all his work



Multi-skills festival

We have had such a busy last few days (95 pupils have represented our school) – 8 of our wonderful, hard working Year 6 pupils lead a multi skills festival St Thomas More. Their teaching skills were put the test. We can proudly say they were amazing! Year 3 and Year 4 also attended the festival, sampling all the fun activities led by sports ambassadors from all our local schools. It was a fun afternoon had by all.



House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: in 1st place with 80 points was Earth House; in 2nd place with 69 points was Water House, in 3rd place with 63 points was Fire House and in 4th place with 55 points was Air House. Well done everybody!



**1st place
(80 points)**



**2nd place
(69 points)**



**3rd place
(63 points)**



**4th place
(55 points)**

E-Safety & Safeguarding update

Please check out this link to an interesting article taken from BBC News regarding a popular series of children's books: [Spy Dog: Children's books pulled over explicit weblink - BBC News](#)

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr C. D. Jarman

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

Communication Policy

It is very important to us that we work closely in partnership with parents and carers, and communication between home and school is key. We recognise however that it can often be difficult communicating with teachers because they have a very full timetable; and we recognise that parents and carers also have very busy lives. Modern communication methods can mean more efficient sharing of information, though this needs to be structured to ensure that it is manageable for staff whose primary responsibility is to teach young people.



Effective communication between parents and carers and schools is critical for creating a positive learning environment. We expect all parents and carers to communicate in a respectful manner with staff. Disrespectful, abusive, or threatening communications will not be tolerated. In such instances, we will take appropriate action, which may include restricting communication or involvement with the school and involving law enforcement authorities if necessary. Our school community is committed to maintaining a safe and respectful environment for all students, staff, and families, and we appreciate your support in helping us achieve this goal through constructive and respectful communication. Please be aware that often class teachers are particularly busy first thing in the morning and better times to catch the class teacher are at the end of the school day. Alternatively send in an email via the school office and this will be passed on to the class teacher, or other relevant member of staff.

Along with today's newsletter is our Communication Policy - we would ask all parents and carers to read this carefully. It can also be found here: <https://stmaryschurchofengland.secure-primariesite.net/policies/>

Communication with parents and carers is important to us, and we will continue to monitor this policy and our approach to improve the process further. Thank you for your continued support.

Parent/Carers Consultations

Tuesday 11th November and Thursday 13th November



Appointments can be booked from **Monday 3rd November** for the parent consultations via our Parent's Evening System which can be found at <https://stmarys.schoolcloud.co.uk/>.

The booking system closes on Friday 7th November at 12.00pm.

In order to log on securely parents/carers will need to put in their name as given to the school, your child's given name (or chosen first name as given to the office) and your child's date of birth as an 8 digit number e.g. 25/09/2008.

Please use the link below to login into the Parents Evening System to book your appointment.
<https://stmarys.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Please arrive promptly for your meeting. The meetings will be face to face and held in the main school hall from 3.30pm - 6.30pm, with each family having the opportunity to make a 10 minute appointment per child.

Parents who have already had a One Plan Meeting will not be offered a separate parent consultation meeting.

If you need any assistance with booking your appointment, please contact the school office.

Non-Uniform Day— Friday 24th October



We will be celebrating All Hallow's Day with our traditional Light Day on, **Friday the 24th of October**. This is always a bright and joyful event for the children, where we focus on the theme of light used across religions to promote positivity and community. To make the day as vibrant as possible, we kindly ask that you dress your children in colourful clothing - the brighter, the better!

Let's fill our school with all the colours of the rainbow and create a joyful atmosphere for all!

Special Bonfire Night Menu – Wednesday 5th November



Our catering team, Dolce, will be providing a special menu on Wednesday 5th November. You can view the full menu in this newsletter, on the website and the school facebook page.

If you would like to order a lunch for your child on this day, please do so via School Grid. If you experience any issues logging into your account, please speak to a member of the School Office who will be happy to help.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Artists



As we are going to be doing lots of exciting painting activities over the coming weeks and months, please feel free to send in an old shirt or an overall that your child can wear to help protect their school uniform. Please make sure any items are clearly named.

School Photographer—Monday 20th October



On Monday 20th October, the school photographer will be in school during the morning sessions to take individual and sibling photographs. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their clean and smart uniform, including a logo sweatshirt or cardigan. If your child has PE or attends an after-school club on this day, please send their PE kit in so they can change later.

The logo for 'dólce' is located in the top right corner, featuring the brand name in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font on a yellow rectangular background.

Fireworks & Bonfire Night

5TH NOVEMBER 2025

MAINS

BONFIRE BANGER

VEGGIE BONFIRE BANGER (VG)

HOT BAKED POTATO BAR WITH A CHOICE OF FILLINGS (GF)

INCLUDING BANGING BBQ CHICKEN AND WINTER WARMER QUORN KORMA (V)

SIDES

WHIZZ-BANG WEDGES

SPARKLER SWEETCORN

FIREWORK SLAW

GUY FAWKES SALAD BAR

KINDLING KETCHUP

DESSERT

ROCKET LOLLY (VG) (GF)

CHOCOLATE CATHERINE WHEEL (V)

FRESH FRUIT



Friends of St Mary's and St Mary's Primary School
presents their annual

Christmas FAIR

MEET FATHER CHRISTMAS!

(Bookings only and a small fee applies)

Join us, and Father Christmas, for an evening of
crafts, food, cakes and games!

12/12/2025
4.30pm until 6.30pm

St Mary's Primary School

**FREE
ENTRY**





Diary Dates

Key Dates for the Autumn & Winter Term

Monday 13th October	-	Parent/Carer Coffee Morning (8.30—9.30) School Hall
14th—15th October	-	Black History Month Workshops Reception —Year 6
Thursday 16th October	-	Yrs 3&4 Multi Skills Event
Monday 20th October	-	Individual/Sibling Photos
Tuesday 21st October	-	Year 1, 3 & 6 One Plan Meetings
Wednesday 22nd October	-	Year 5 One Plan Meetings
Thursday 23rd October	-	Year 2 One Plan Meetings
Friday 24th October	-	Non-Uniform Day—Light Day
27th—31st October	-	HALF TERM BREAK
Monday 3rd November	-	Parent Consultation Booking System Opens
Wednesday 5th November	-	Dolce Special Lunch Menu
Friday 7th November	-	Parent Consultation Booking System Closes (12.00pm)
Friday 7th November	-	Non uniform day (Friends of St Mary's Christmas Fair)
Monday 10th November	-	Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church (11.00am)
Tuesday 11th November	-	Parent/Carers Consultations (3.30pm—6.30pm)
Thursday 13th November	-	Parent/Carers Consultations (3.30pm—6.30pm)
Monday 1st December	-	Friends of St Mary's AGM (3.30pm—4.15pm)
Friday 5th December	-	FOSM KS2 Disco
Monday 8th December	-	EYFS/KS1 Nativity at St Mary's Church (6.00pm)
Wednesday 10th December	-	EYFS/KS1 Scoot Fit
Thursday 11th December	-	FOSM Panto
Friday 12th December	-	FOSM Christmas Fair (4.30pm—6.30pm)
Monday 15th December	-	Year 5 Parent/Carers Residential Information Meeting (5.00pm)
Wednesday 17th December	-	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
Friday 19th December	-	Carol Service at St Mary's Church (9.30am)
	-	End of Term—1.30pm Finish

