

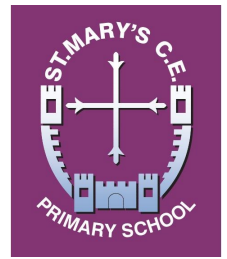
St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 3rd October 2025

Telephone 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Attendance Weekly 95.9%
Attendance Year 96.7%

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 to this weeks newsletter, as we commence the slightly chillier weather in October!

Thank You for Supporting Our Census Day Lunch!

We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the parents and guardians who signed their children up for school meals on Census Day! Your participation plays a vital role in supporting our school. The number of children who receive a school meal on Census Day directly impacts the funding our school receives for the upcoming year. By simply opting in for lunch, you've helped ensure we can continue to provide high-quality education, resources, and meal programs for all our students. **Every meal counted – and we're so grateful for your support!** We hope the children enjoyed their special lunch, and we're proud to work together with families to build a stronger school community.

CENSUS DAY
THURSDAY
2ND OCTOBER

Stars of the week

- Alex**—for working hard to catch up on material he missed
- Sophie**—for all her contributions in class and working hard
- Chloe**—for amazing effort, focus and attention to detail in her work
- Ela**—for putting in so much effort to all that she does
- Teddy**—for working hard—well done
- Chloe**—for her effort in reading at home and at school
- Barney**—for focus, working hard and his growing confidence
- Marcel**—for being a really caring buddy
- Isobel**—for always showing safe, respect and effort
- George**—for always being a role model inside and outside the classroom
- Teddy**—for producing some wonderful writing in English and showing great focus
- Gracie**—for always contributing to class discussions, being willing to 'have a go' and being a great role model to others



School Council Fundraiser – Bag2School (article by Mr Brown, School Council Lead)

Our School Council have been busy helping with our recent *Bag2School* collection! Families were invited to donate unwanted clothes, shoes and textiles, and the children helped gather and organise the bags ready for collection. They even helped load up the van with all the donations – a brilliant team effort!



Bag2School is a fantastic initiative that raises money for schools while promoting the reuse of clothes and shoes. Many people around the world rely on second-hand clothing as their main source of good quality clothes, and collections like this make a real difference. By taking part, our school is helping to reduce waste, support families in need, and contribute to a more sustainable future. A huge thank you to everyone who donated—together we are not only raising funds for our school, but also supporting the circular economy.

House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: in 1st place with 52 points was Water House; in 2nd place with 46 points was Air House, in 3rd place with 44 points was Fire House and in 4th place with 28 points was Earth House. Well done everybody!



**1st place
(52 points)**



**2nd place
(46 points)**



**3rd place
(44 points)**



**4th place
(38 points)**

Dolce Survey

On Monday the school office will be sending out a short survey to all of our parents/carers on behalf of Dolce (our school catering company) to find out about your children's views on our school meals. We would strongly encourage you all to complete this survey so that we can continue to improve our school meals offer.



Have a great weekend.

Mr C. D. Jarman

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

Health Advice Drop-in for 5-19 year olds

Monday, 6th October, 3rd November & 1st December 2025
3.30 - 4.30pm

Saffron Walden Library 2 King Street, Saffron Walden CB10 1ES

Drop-in sessions for parents/carers and young people to get advice and support for school aged child with a member of our school health team, where you can discuss things which may be concerning you. No booking needed.

Areas of support

- Managing worries, low mood, stress or anger issues
- Bullying and friendship issues
- Diet / Nutritional support
- Improving sleep
- Day and night wetting
- Behavioural concerns
- Personal hygiene
- Sexual health
- Information and signposting regarding medical conditions

t: 0300 247 0122

w: essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

Commissioned by

Please bring in all donations by Monday 6th October 2025



Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the month leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 160 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

- Tinned Meat & Fish
- Cooking & Pasta Sauces
- Tinned Beans & Soup
- Tinned Veg & Fruit
- Coffee & Tea
- UHT Milk
- Cereal & Oats
- Long Life Juice & Squash
- Microwave Puddings
- Noodles & Rice
- Instant Mash & Stuffing

0300 102 7980 (option 1)
uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1176230)



Mental Health Support Teams in Schools



Are you looking for effective ways to help you,
help your young person, navigate anxiety
and help them manage their worries?

The Mental Health Support Team is
running 2 online parent groups in NOVEMBER

When?

Tuesday

4th 11th 18th 25th

November

1-2pm

When?

Thursday

6th 13th 20th 27th

November

9.30-10.30am

Where?

zoom link will
be sent to
you via email
for each
session

Choose sessions
on Tuesday OR
Thursday

Attendance at
all four sessions
is expected

Notes for each
session are
emailed for you to
try out the ideas
each week

Next steps:

- scan QR code
- complete form
- practitioner
will telephone
to confirm
details



For any questions email: mhstadmin@mindinwestessex.org.uk

Information for parent/carers





Coffee Morning

MONDAY 13TH OCTOBER

8.30am—9.30am

SCHOOL HALL

Everyone Welcome!

Come along and have a chat with Mr Jarmain (the Headteacher), Mrs Robinson (Inclusion Lead), Jo Crocker (Welfare and Support Officer), KT Haynes (Stort Valley Schools Trust), Jess Dowling and members of the Friends of St Mary's team and a MIND practitioner

AUTUMN TERM

THE ESSEX LOCAL OFFER SEND ROADSHOWS

Help us
improve our
information

Tell us about your
experience to help us
make our website work
better for you

The Essex Local Offer

Find out exactly what support
is available in your area to
help your child with special
educational needs and
disabilities (SEND).



Are you a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex Local Offer Roadshows.

You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book. Children are welcome!



Drop in between 9:30am and 12:30pm



This term we are in Loughton, Burnham on Crouch,
Brentwood and Harwich



Scan the QR Code for all the information, including dates and venues or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>

In Partnership with





Diary Dates

Key Dates for the Spring/Summer Term

Tuesday 30th September	- Little Wandle Workshop—9.00am or 6.00pm
Wednesday 1st October	- Year 3 Saffron Walden Museum visit (9.00-12.00pm)
Friday 3rd October	- EYFS/KS1 Teddy Bear Run (1.30pm)
Monday 6th October	- Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church (9.30am)
Friday 10th October	- World Mental Health Day—wear something yellow
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
27th—31st October	- HALF TERM BREAK
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 (3.00pm—4.30pm)
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

