

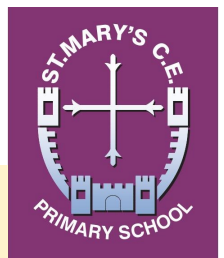
St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 21st November 2025

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Attendance Weekly 95.2%
Attendance Year 96.5%

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,

Primary science Quality Mark:

I am delighted to report that the school has recently achieved the Primary Science Quality Mark. We are absolutely thrilled with this recognition and most appreciative of the time, expertise and thoughtful feedback provided by the reviewers. The PSQM process has been a valuable journey for us — helping us to reflect on and strengthen our science curriculum and also celebrate the great learning that takes place every day.



I would especially like to thank Mrs Holmes (our Science Leader) who has put an incredible amount of effort into this application process, as well as the hub leader for her guidance and encouragement offered throughout the process. The structure of the PSQM cycle and the quality of professional development available through it have been instrumental in supporting Mrs Holmes, our wider staff and enhancing our science leadership.

We are very proud to have earned this award and look forward to continuing our engagement with PSQM as we build on this success and plan our next steps in science development.”

St Mary's Shining Stars of the week

Daya—for always being brave and asking for help when needed

Megan—for always being respectful

Micky—for working very hard across all subjects

Aoife—for her effort and vocabulary choices in writing

Millie—for her kindness with the younger children at lunch

Alfie—for always being ready to help

Andrea—for consistently showing the school values

Louis—for his thoughtful observations and independent work

Teddy—for fantastic progress and use of vocabulary in his writing

Lavinia—for her effort and perseverance across all subjects

Ernie—for producing wonderful writing in English

Matthew—for great presentation in Maths and a wonderful attitude to learning

Antoni—for his focus and attention during independent work as well as his super speedy times tables answers

Woody—for pushing himself in our HIIT sessions

Calum—for impressing all adults with his reading in school and at home

Edmund—for always trying his hardest in everything at school

Rose—for being a kind and compassionate friend



House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: in 1st place with 69 points was Fire House; in joint 2nd place with 64 points was Earth and Water Houses, and in 3rd place with 47 points was Air House.

Well done everybody!



**1st place
(69 points)**



**2nd place
(64 points)**



**3rd place
(64 points)**



**4th place
(47 points)**

Have a great weekend.

Mr C. D. Jarman

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

Admissions September 2026

Children born between 01/09/2021—31/08/2022



As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 10 November 2025**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2026.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2026**.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year. All of the application information is available on the website above

FOSM KS2 Disco—Friday 5th December



We're excited to announce that the **KS2 Disco** will be held on **Friday 5th December 2025** from **5:00pm to 6:30pm** in the school hall! Children can look forward to an evening of **music, dancing, fun, and festive cheer** with their friends - a great way to kick off the Christmas season!

Tickets are now available to purchase online here:

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/KS2Disco>

As always, proceeds raised from this event will go towards supporting **Friends of St Mary's** projects to enhance our school for all the children. Please purchase your tickets by **Monday 1st December 2025**.

FOSM Christmas Fair—Father Christmas Tickets. Friday 12th December



We are absolutely delighted to announce that tickets are **available** to visit **Father Christmas at the St Mary's Christmas Fair!**

We're thrilled that Father Christmas has found time in his very busy schedule to visit Saffron Walden, at our Christmas Fair on **Friday 12th December**, between **4:30pm and 6:30pm**. The Friends of St Mary's team will be creating a magical grotto for his visit, to meet the children in - a truly special experience for all!

Each ticket costs **£7.50 per child** and includes a **special gift from Father Christmas**. Visits will be in **five-minute slots**, accommodating up to **three children** at a time.

Tickets are selling fast, and we have already been blown away by the support and excitement from our school community. If you haven't received the booking link via your class WhatsApp group, you can find it here: <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/visitfatherchristmas>



Special Christmas Lunch—Wednesday 17th December



Dolce will be offering the children a special Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 17th December**. Please pre-order as soon as possible to avoid any disappointment. Pre-Orders to be placed via the School Grid by **Tuesday 9th December**. If you experience any trouble logging into your account, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

Children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper to school on this day

DECEMBER 5TH

5:00PM - 6:30PM



KIS2 Disco

TATTOOS - REFRESHMENTS -
BUBBLES - SWEETS

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**



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

December 2025

MAINS

ROAST TURKEY, STUFFING & CHIPOLATA
PUFF PASTRY CHRISTMAS CRACKER (VG)

SIDES

ROAST POTATOES, CARROTS, PEAS, SPROUTS, GRAVY

DESSERTS

STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING & CUSTARD (V)
REINDEER SHORTBREAD (VG)
FRESH FRUIT





Diary Dates

Key Dates for the Autumn & Winter Term

Monday 24th November	-	Year 5 Parent/Carers Residential Information Meeting (5.00pm)
Monday 1st December	-	Years 5&6 Inter-house tag rugby
	-	Friends of St Mary's AGM (3.30pm—4.15pm)
Friday 5th December	-	Years 3&4 Inter-House tag rugby
	-	FOSM KS2 Disco (5.00pm—6.30pm)
Saturday 6th December	-	School Choir—Spirit of Christmas at St Mary's Church (1.30pm)
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)
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
Monday 5th January	-	Inset Day
Tuesday 6th January	-	First Day back for pupils
6th—8th January	-	Year 5 Residential Trip (Burwell House)
Tuesday 24th February	-	Years 1&2 Saffron Hall Visit
Friday 6th March	-	Parent/Carer Book Look
Tuesday 10th March	-	Parent/Carer Consultations
Thursday 12th March	-	Parent/Carer Consultations

