

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 28th November 2025

Telephone 01799 523384

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

Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk



Attendance Weekly 95.3%
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,

St Mary's Shining Stars of the week

Elif—for her effort in showing all of our school values since joining St Mary's

Emily—for amazing self challenge in Maths

Harper—for her effort in the nativity

Izme - for a positive attitude to everything she does in class

Tommy—for fantastic focus and effort in reading

Georgia—for her performance at archery

Edmund - for excellent blending and fluent reading

Poppy—for consistently showing our school values

Grayson—for coming into school well

Kairo—for his positive and infectious attitude and effort towards the nativity song actions

Timmy—for great progress with his handwriting

Henry—for always hyping others up in the HIIT sessions

Isla—for always contributing to class discussions and trying hard with her work

Frankie—for consistently starting the day positively and helping in the classroom



Sporting achievements this week

Wow what a wonderful and jam packed week our pupils have had. Over the last term every pupil across the school has taken part in the USSP class challenges.

All the children have worked incredibly hard on learning the skills needed and all our results have been submitted to Jackie Coleman. We would like to wish all our pupils good luck and a huge thank you for all your hard.



On Wednesday 16 pupils from KS2 took part in a local Archery tournament held at RAB. They managed to secure some top finishing positions allowing them to move onto the finals next term. Our lovely Yr 4 time finished in 1st place with a team score of 471, whilst our Y6 team finished in 2nd place with a score of 516. All our teams showed great team spirit, control, and focus – taking their time on realising their arrows and remaining focussed at all times. As well as some superb scores from all our teams, Georgia, Woody, Esther and Gracie secured individual player places. Huge congratulations to all of the teams.

On Friday 28th November 8 KS2 Children took part in a Panathlon event. And what a morning they had! They worked as team on various sports activities attempting to score as many points as they could on the timed activities. They competed against 9 other teams and became the Uttlesford Winners. They will compete again next term to represent the Uttlesford Partnership. You were all superstars and we are so incredibly proud of you.

A Kind Reminder About Smoking and Vaping Near School Grounds

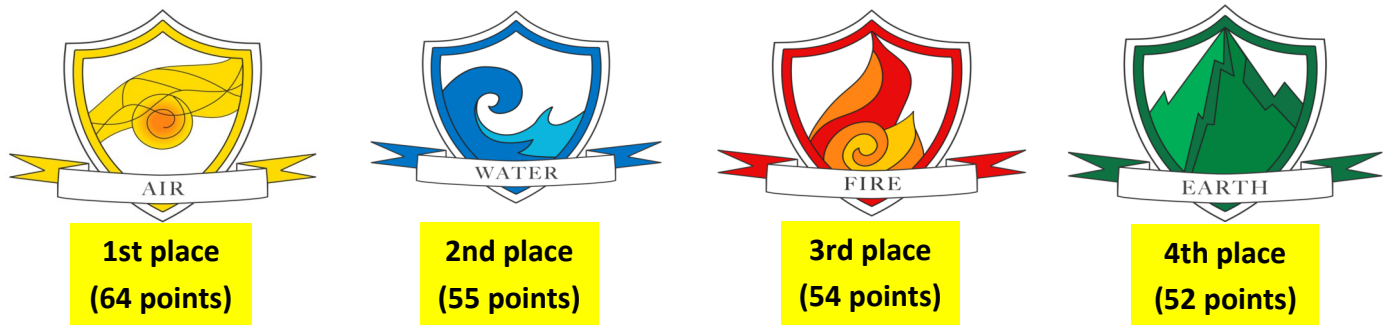
We kindly ask all parents, carers, and visitors to support us in keeping our school environment healthy and safe for our children. Recently, we have noticed an increase in smoking and vaping both on school grounds and just outside the school gates during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times. While we understand that habits can be difficult to manage, we respectfully ask that smoking or vaping does not take place in these areas.



As you will appreciate, young children walk through the entrance at these busy times, and even brief exposure to smoke or vapour can affect their health and wellbeing. Moreover, as role models, the presence of adults smoking or vaping near the school can also send mixed messages to our pupils about the importance of healthy choices. By stepping away from the school gates and avoiding smoking or vaping on school property, you are helping us to:

- Maintain a clean, healthy environment for all pupils
- Support positive behaviour and wellbeing
- Set a strong example for children and young people

We truly appreciate your understanding, cooperation, and continued support in keeping our school a safe and welcoming place for everyone. If you have any concerns or need further information, please feel free to contact the school office. Thank you for your support in this matter.



House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: in 1st place with 64 points was Air House; in 2nd place with 55 points was Water House, in 3rd place with 54 points was Fire House and in 4th place with 52 points was Earth House. Well done everybody!

Angel and Star artwork—United Reform Church (see poster on page 6)

Over the last week, each of our pupils has produced a colourful angel or star on behalf of the United Reformed Methodist Church in Saffron

Walden (see poster towards the end of this newsletter) for their upcoming Angels and Stars Festival, to celebrate the season of Advent. These beautifully decorated angels and stars are being put on display in the church—so please do pop in there to take a look at your child's masterpiece—see poster for dates and times!



Have a lovely weekend.

Mr C. D. Jarman

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

FOSM Christmas Card Orders



Just a friendly reminder that the cut-off date for ordering children's Christmas items (including cards, candles, and gift tags), from their wonderful artwork, is this Sunday 30th November.

To place your order, please use the code shown on the proof card that was sent home with your child.

All money raised from these orders goes directly back into supporting the school and helping fund projects and experiences for the children.

We appreciate that this may not be relevant to everyone, but we wanted to ensure that those who wish to order have the opportunity before the deadline.

Thank you for your continued support.

Friends of St Mary's

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

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

Spring Club Timetable (Yrs 1 –6) Now Available



Earlier this week, we sent out our Spring Club Timetable, which is now also available to view on the school website. We are pleased to offer a range of activities for pupils next term.

<https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/clubs-2025-2026>

How to Book a Place

• **External Provider Clubs**

Tennis, Drama, and Karate are run by external companies. These clubs must be booked directly with the provider, and their contact details are listed on the timetable.

• **School-Run Clubs**

All other clubs should be booked through **School Money**. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

• **Pupil Premium Offer**

Children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding are entitled to one free club, subject to availability, for any club run by a member of school staff. Please note that this offer does not apply to clubs run by external providers or Premier Sports.

Important Reminders

Please make sure to note down the specific dates for any clubs your child attends, as start and end dates may vary. Some clubs may also have sessions that do not run on certain weeks, so do check the timetable carefully.

CHILDREN'S TENNIS LESSONS

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



MONDAYS 3.15PM-4PM

AGES 5-11 YEARS OLD

12, 19, 26 JANUARY

2, 9, 23 FEBRUARY

2, 9, 16, 23 MARCH

EQUIPMENT
PROVIDED IF YOU HAVE
YOUR OWN RACKET BRING IT !

CONTACT ALI: 07581087325

alistennis@outlook.com

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



Angels and Stars Festival

Celebrating the season of Advent
with displays of angels and stars
created by different local groups

November
Saturday 29th
10am-4pm
Sunday 30th
2pm-4pm

URC Chapel
Abbey Lane
CB10 1AG
refreshments
available



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**





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
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)
Tuesday 9th December	-	Year 4 Greek Day
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

