

Our motto/strapline is: 'Let your light shine... as you grow', (inspired by Matthew 5: 15-16)

Our vision is: 'We nurture our pupils to be the best they can be in every way - in an inclusive and supportive environment, rooted in Christian teachings.'



Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome. My name is Chris Jarman and I am the proud Headteacher of St Mary's Church of England Primary School in Saffron Walden. I am delighted that you have taken the time to visit this section of our school website and to learn more about our wonderful school community.

One of the first things you will notice about St Mary's is that we are a small school with a warm village and community feel. We are located within a conservation area in beautiful surroundings and are fortunate to have an outstanding outdoor environment. Our grounds include a field, upper and lower meadows, a Trim Trail, an Adventure Playground and our very own Forest School. We are also incredibly fortunate to have strong and supportive relationships with our parents and carers, which helps our school continue to grow from strength to strength.

At St Mary's we are committed to developing the "whole child". We recognise that every subject in the curriculum offers valuable opportunities for children with different talents and interests to succeed. Across all areas of school life we encourage a *Growth Mindset* approach. We believe that children can achieve great things through practice, effort and self-belief, and we celebrate these qualities in many ways, including in our weekly whole-school assemblies and daily acts of worship. As a Christian community, we take every opportunity to celebrate the successes of our children by showing them that we believe in them, respect them and are proud of them.

Our vision is for our pupils to take pride in their academic achievements while also enjoying a wide range of musical, artistic and sporting opportunities both in and beyond the classroom. These experiences help nurture confidence and allow children to discover their passions and interests. As a teaching team, we are dedicated to helping our pupils grow into well-rounded and, most importantly, happy individuals.

When you visit St Mary's you will discover a joyful, compassionate, spiritual, respectful and hardworking environment. Our talented staff work together to ensure every child is supported to achieve their full potential. My vision as Headteacher is that St Mary's provides each child with a wealth of exciting experiences through our continually evolving curriculum — one that is both creative and engaging. This helps ensure that every pupil leaves us at the end of Year 6 feeling confident, responsible and well prepared for the next stage of their education and life beyond school.

Our six school values — Respect, Truthfulness, Friendship, Trust, Perseverance and Compassion — are central to everything we do. They help shape our pupils' character and attitudes so that they leave St Mary's as kind, resilient and thoughtful individuals who are ready to contribute positively to society.

I fully understand the importance of your child's primary school education. As a father myself, I know how much our children mean to us. You can therefore be assured that, as Headteacher of St Mary's, I will work tirelessly to provide the very best education and care for every child in our school community.

Thank you again for taking the time to visit our website. I very much look forward to getting to know you and your child.

Warm regards,

Mr Christopher Jarman

Headteacher, St Mary's Primary School, Saffron Walden