

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 26 May 2023

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Website: www.stmaryssw.org.uk

Attendance Weekly 97.1%

Attendance Year 94.7%



Our motto: Let Your Light Shine... as You Grow Matthew 5: 15-16

Friendship

Trust

Truthfulness

Compassion

Perseverance

Respect

Dear parents, carers and friends of the school,

Well... it has been a rather **eventful** week here at St Mary's! The week began with our long-awaited **Ofsted visit** taking place throughout Tuesday and Wednesday and the Year 6 pupils taking part in their **residential visit** at **Mersea** (along with Mr Clark, Mrs Tickle and Miss Naunton). This residential took place between Monday and Friday. If you would like to find out more—please visit the News and Events section on our school website or follow this link: <https://www.stmaryssw.org.uk/stream/news/full/1/-//>

The **Let's Get Fit Workshops** (which were great fun) also took place on Wednesday (more information on page 2). As I am sure you are all aware, St Mary's had its **Ofsted visit** on Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th (Ofsted's last visit was in November 2017 and are normally held every 4 years—so we were very, very overdue!) I would like to say a HUGE thank you to all of the wonderful and supportive messages that we have received throughout the week as well as the fantastic survey results from parents and carers and our pupils. I would also like to pass on my thanks to the extremely dedicated staff and governors here at St Mary's—who have worked so very hard throughout this week to support the school through this process. Finally, I would like to thank our wonderful pupils—whose behaviour, attitude and ability to display our school values during these two days was exemplary. They really, really made us very, very proud. Unfortunately I am not allowed to say any more at this point about how it went, until our Ofsted Report is officially published, which will be in a month or so. I assure you I will share more information when I am permitted to do so.



Please read on to find out more of what else we have been up to this week.

New House Names - Help to design our new House shields and their logos!

The pupils, staff and families of the St Mary's school community have reflected on the many possibilities for house names and have now voted – democracy at its very best! We are happy to announce that our new St Mary's House names will be the 4 elements of life: **Fire, Earth, Air and Water**.

The children are very excited about this and can't wait to get started on their own designs for our new House shields and their logos. With this in mind, we thought that we would include the whole of our community – and invite everyone to come up with their own designs and logos - then we will pick a winner.

Please use the shields on the back of the House Names Design Sheet that your child will be bringing home this afternoon, to have a go at designing one, two, three, or four of the potential new House Logo shields as well as a motto for these Houses/shields. There will also be a link to downloadable extra copies on our website (along with this Newsletter and the Class Update). Please submit your ideas to the school office by **Friday 16th June** and we will announce the winner in advance of our **Sports Day (which will be on Wednesday 5th July)**.

Don't forget to put your child (or children's) name or class on the form – so we know who the designer is! We can't wait to see what you come up with – please be as imaginative as you like! This is an amazing opportunity to write yourselves into St Mary's history! **Thank you. Mrs McInnes, Sports Leader.**

Let's Get Fit Workshop

On Wednesday this week, each of our classes enjoyed a Let's Get Fit Workshop with Daniel Leight from Fit4Kids.

The Let's Get Fit! workshops included:

- ◆ Introduction - Being active is important to health and benefits of exercise.
- ◆ Warmup and Stretch - Go through activities and explain the benefits and describe light, moderate and hard exercise.
- ◆ Amounts of energy contain certain foods and drinks and equating that for the amount of exercise needed.
- ◆ Exercise Spinning Wheel
- ◆ Tabata workout to music
- ◆ Cool down and Stretch - Go through activities and explain the benefits.



The Let's Get Fit workshops were fun and energetic and they highlighted the importance and promoted the benefits of physical activity and exercise - focussing on all things fitness! Throughout these workshops, the pupils were extremely active for the majority of the time, developing an understanding of the different components that made up a strong and solid workout. Danny introduced each workshop through a warmup and stretch, before really ramping up the level! In their sessions, the pupils developed an understanding of energy levels, and the amount of effort needed to reap the benefits. Using the

Spinning Wheels they created a Tabata workout for the class to really get the blood pumping! Finishing off with a cool down and stretch.

The staff pupils and staff agreed the workshops were great fun. Thank you to Danny Leight (who said that our pupils were amazingly behaved!) and our PE Leader, Mrs McInnes, for organising this brilliant event!

Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy for a **Kitchen Assistant and a Midday Assistant**. If you are interested and would like to apply you can find more information on the website [here](#).



Touchpoint Foodshare

Just a quick reminder that the Foodshare will be going ahead on Tuesday during half term. Please come to the Castle Street gate for 6.00pm.



Do have a lovely bank holiday weekend and half term break and thank you once again for all of your support throughout this week.

I look forwards to seeing all of our children back in school on Monday 5th June at 8.30am.

Kind regards

Mr C. D. Jarman

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

School Nurse Drop-In

Drop in sessions are held once a month around the Uttlesford District, support and advice offered by a School Nurse and the 5-19 Healthy Family Support Practitioner. Parents can ask advice about behaviour and emotional needs, bed wetting and soiling issues plus other health needs that may be impacting on both home and school life. Or telephone 0300 2470122 Option1.

Dates, Locations & Times:

6.6.23 Saffron Walden Hospital Clinic Room in Outpatient Department 3.30-5.00pm.

4.07.23 Spangles Family Hub, Peter Kirk Centre, St John's Rd, Stansted Mountfitchet, Stansted CM24 8JP 3.30 - 5.00pm



Commissioned by



Diary Dates



Key Dates for the Summer Term:

- Monday 22nd to Friday 26th May Year 6 Residential Trip
- Wednesday 24th May - Fit4Kids workshop (all classes)
- Monday 5th June - Start of Summer term (second half) at 8.30am
- Tuesday 6th June - Reception 2023/2024 Parent Information Meeting (9.30)
- Wednesday 14th June - Governors Day
- Friday 16th June - PTA Quiz
- Friday 23rd June - INSET Day (for teaching staff only)
- Thursday 29th June - ProStrike Football Fundraising Event
- Friday 30th June - Year 6 Secondary School Taster Day
- Friday 30th June - Year 5 quiz (4 pupils) at RA Butler school
- Monday 3rd July at 7.00pm - Saffron Walden County High Year 7 Transition evening for Parents and Carers
- Wednesday 5th July - Sports Day—timings TBC
- Thursday 20th July - PTA Danceathon Fundraising Event
- Friday 21st July - Last Day of School Year—1.30pm Finish

** new or amended items added are in blue*

