

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 3rd July 2026

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APPROVED TRAVEL PLAN 2025



Attendance Weekly 95.1%

Attendance Year 95.8%

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 Sports Day Success!

On Wednesday 4th July, St Mary's enjoyed a fantastic inclusive Sports Day filled with energy, enthusiasm, and wonderful sportsmanship. Pupils gave their very best in a range of exciting events, cheering one another on and demonstrating great teamwork and determination throughout the day. At the end of both Key Stage events values certificates were awarded to a number of pupils who had shown any of our six School Values during the day. Congratulations to Earth House, who emerged as this year's overall Sports Day champions! Well done to all our pupils for their participation, effort, and positive attitude, which made the day such a celebration of sport and community.

A huge thank you goes to our Sports Coach, Bryna Driscoll, whose superb organisation ensured the event ran smoothly from start to finish. Her hard work and dedication helped make the day such a memorable success for everyone involved. I'd also like to say another big thank you to Jess, Adam, Denise, Xenia, Sophie and Melissa and the FOSM team, as well as Fils—who kept our school community constantly supplied with delicious refreshments throughout the day. I am delighted to report that the school raised in excess of £750 towards our toilet refurbishments over the course of the day. Amazing! Please see the latter pages of this newsletter to see our pupils in action with lots and lots of very happy faces.

District athletics—Carver Barracks Tuesday 30th June 2026

The summer term has flown by and has been jam packed with events and achievements. I was excited to see what this term may hold for our athletics team. The weather hasn't always been on our side - when the rain finally stopped we were hit by a heat wave, causing more changes to the sports diary. But District Athletics was worth the wait and our team managed to secure their third win at Carver Barracks on Tuesday 30th June. In true St Marys style, we managed to place our nerves to one side and had a phenomenal morning on the athletics track.



Whilst the girls took to the track for their sprint and middle distance runs the boys hit the field, showing off their skills in javelin, howler, standing long jump and triple jump securing eight 1st place finishes. Year 5 and 6 managed to claim a full sweep on their long jump and triple jump - 1st place victories for Marcel, Hugo D, Joseph and Hugo P. Whilst we had some superb jumps the boys also managed to secure top finishes in the javelin and howler throws throughout the morning, displaying great depths of determination and securing five more 1st and 2nd place finishes. As the boys dominated the field our girls were flying down and around the track quicker than I had ever seen with some very strong competition - Alycia (Yr3) stormed her 50m sprint, and Maja and Millie secured second place finishes. This being said Hattie was drafted in to take on the 75m sprint at the last moment finishing in a respectable 4th place and demonstrating true determination and team spirit in a way that made us all burst with pride. Libby (2nd) and Kathryn (3rd) held their pace on the 600m. The sun had started to shine and temperature was rising.



When it was time to trade places, both teams kept bringing back the stickers and points for top finishes. It was clear to see that our team was pouring their heart and soul into the event. Watching them congratulate each other after individual events was a very proud moment. They demonstrated that every member of the team mattered and that everyone's efforts were valued and appreciated.

To bring the event to a close the relay teams took to the track and ventured off to their starting stations for each leg. This is a strategic race with handover techniques that require communication and concentration whilst managing your own nerves. We have our own little saying when it comes to our baton changes overs " Don't let it stop, don't let it drop!"

When we kicked off with Yr 3 relays they truly set the standard. What a race they had, for their first experience of competing on the track they nailed it. The rest of our teams followed suit. It was pure magic. Every baton change was outstanding - smooth and quick!!! Our relay runners were recognised for their teamwork and speed not only us but by other spectator's, schools and organiser! This is such a complement to their hard work.

Our Year 6 team were the perfect role models to our younger athletes and have been such wonderful support to myself. They have represented the school perfectly over this last year and we couldn't be prouder of them. A huge well done to Megan Wise, Georgia Tuck, Hugo Dovedi and Woody Boyce. You worked hard for your last victory and it was very well deserved. Megan and Woody lifted the shield with grace and dignity. Well done to all our amazing athletes, You smashed it. I cant wait to see what the next academic year brings for our school.

District athletics certificates

Millie—for smashing two 4th legs on the Y5 and Y6 relay team!

Linda - for a fantastic relay run as a Y6!

Chloe —for a superb triple jump for Y6!

Hattie – for smashing the 75m sprint!



Stars of the Week

Henry—for all his efforts in our rehearsals

Barney—for a fantastic information text about Basquiat

Aoife—for her amazing Courageous Advocacy speech

Gracie—for showing positivity and perseverance in all areas of learning

Phoebe—for some fantastic writing in our latest English

Kairo—for his positive sportsmanship at sports day

Marcel—for helping the lost boys remember their joint lines!

Nifemi—for persevering in maths this week

Maja—for 100% effort in everything she does

Charlie—for showing perseverance during sports day and settling well back into school

Vezenga—for trying very hard with his focus and listening and always being kind and thoughtful to his peers

Grayson—for his fantastic effort on sports day



Pop-Up Community SEND Local Offer Roadshow - Saffron Walden Library

A free, in-person drop-in event where parents and carers of children and young people aged 0 to 25 with SEND can:

- access support and information
- understand the different services available
- find out about support available in schools
- find out about local support, such as parent groups
- ask questions

The event will take place in a relaxed setting at Saffron Walden Library. Children and young people are welcome to attend.

This event is suitable for those who may find the larger roadshows overwhelming.

Who will be there?

[SENDIASS](#)

[Essex Family Forum](#)

[Supporting Parents and Carers in Essex \(SPACE\)](#)

[Families in Focus](#)

[Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service](#)

[West Essex Inclusion Project](#)



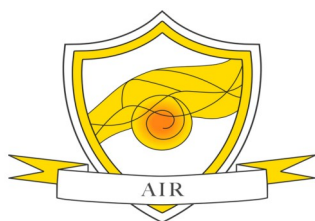
Address

The Library is located on Market Square. There is no on-site parking. There are several local car parks within walking distance including Fairycroft, Swan Meadow and Saffron Walden Common Car Park.

House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: in 1st place with 929 points was Air House; in 2nd place with 928 points was Water House, in 3rd place with 874 points was Earth House and in 4th place with 868 points was Fire House.

Well done everyone!



**1st place
(929 points)**



**2nd place
(928 points)**



**3rd place
(874 points)**



**4th place
(868 points)**

Have a lovely weekend!

Mr C. D. Jarman

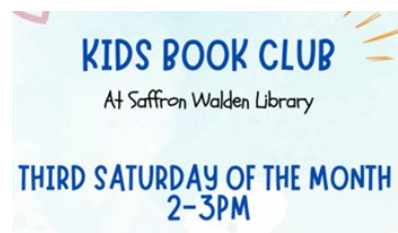
Headteacher of St Mary's Church of England Primary school, Saffron Walden

Kids Book Club—Saffron Walden Library

Saffron Walden Library have begun organising a kids book club in which the children choose one of three books each month to read and then discuss at the next meeting. There is no pressure for the kids to finish the book by the meeting, but it is a good way of encouraging children to read and have group discussions.

There is no cost, but we do ask that kids book on to the event by coming into the library with their parents. The book club is aimed at children aged 8-12 years old and meetings happen on the third Saturday of the Month at 2pm, with the exception of July's meeting which will be moved to 25th due to the start of the summer reading challenge.

Participating in this book club is also a great way for those who are doing the reading challenge to read their six books.







Booking
Required



KIDS BOOK CLUB

At Saffron Walden Library

**THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
2-3PM**

Come along to our new book club, aimed at
ages 8-12

Read new stories

Make new friends

Take part in book-themed games and
activities

Book your place at the 'Hello' desk



Upcoming Events

MAY
1
LEGOLAND DAY
(FOSM PERK!)

MAY
10
6:00PM
FOSM/CHATER'S QUIZ
NIGHT

MAY
21
GLADIATOR 'STEEL'
VISIT

JUL
4
TIME TBC
SUMMER FETE

AUG
SPONSORED SUMMER
READ

SEP
14
ROALD DAHL DAY -
"WONDERLICIOUS!"

DEC
11
4:00PM - 6:00PM
CHRISTMAS FAIR

*More to
come!*

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Diary Dates

Key Dates for the Summer Term

Wednesday 1st July	-	Sports Day Yrs 3 –6 (8.30am—11.45am) Whole School Parent/Carer Picnic 12.00pm—12.45pm R—Yr 2 (12.45—3.15pm)
Friday 3rd July	-	FOSM Non-uniform day (Sweet treat)
Saturday 4th July	-	FOSM Summer Fete
Friday 10th July	-	Reception Celebration Assembly
Friday 10th July	-	FOSM KS2 Leavers Disco (5.00pm—6.30pm)
Monday 13th July	-	Move Up Afternoon
Tuesday 14th July	-	Yrs 5/6 Performance—6.00pm
Wednesday 15th July	-	Year 3 End of Year Celebrations
Wednesday 15th July	-	Leavers Lunch—Dolce Special Menu
Thursday 16th July	-	R26 Transition Morning (Group A—9.30-10.25, Group B—10.30-11.25)
Friday 17th July (20th July INSET Day)	-	Leavers Service at St Mary's Church (9.30am)
	-	Last day of term—1.30pm finish

Autumn 2026 Term

Tuesday 1st September	-	INSET DAY
Wednesday 2nd September	-	INSET DAY
Thursday 3rd September	-	First day back for Pupils
	-	R26 Group A—Stay and Play (9.30—10.30)
	-	R26 Group B—Stay and Play (11.00—12.00)
	-	Year 1 and Year 2 Meet the Teacher (3.15pm)
	-	Year 3 Meet the Teacher (3.30pm)
Friday 4th September	-	Year 4 and Year 5 Meet the Teacher (3.15pm)
	-	Year 6 Meet the Teacher (3.30pm)
Monday 14th September	-	Reception—First Full Day (8.30am—3.15pm)
Thursday 10th September	-	Year 1—First Forest School
Thursday 17th September	-	Reception—First Forest School