

# St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 6th March 2026

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Website: [www.stmaryssw.org.uk](http://www.stmaryssw.org.uk)



APPROVED TRAVEL PLAN 2025



Attendance Weekly 97.6%

Attendance Year 96.2%

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

**Compassion**

**Friendship**

**Perseverance**

**Respect**

**Trust**

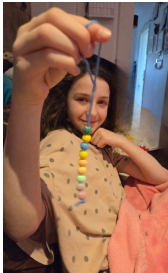
**Truthfulness**

Dear parents, carers and friends of the school,

## Grow £15 Fundraising Success!

Well done to the pupils who have already started our exciting Grow £15 challenge! Starting with just £1, children have been using their creativity and entrepreneurial skills to grow it into £15 through a variety of fundraising ideas. We have been really impressed by the fantastic range of activities so far, including selling handmade items, organising small sales, and offering helpful services. It has been wonderful to see pupils showing such initiative, teamwork and determination while raising money in imaginative ways.

Many children are still planning and preparing their fundraising activities, and we look forward to seeing even more brilliant ideas over the coming weeks. Thank you to everyone who has supported the challenge so far, and congratulations to the pupils who have already reached – or are close to reaching – their £15 goal!



Phoebe (in Year 5) has been working very hard making bracelets to sell for the grow 15 campaign. She has made £45 so far. Well done Phoebe!

Woody (in Year 6) is holding a 3D Printed Fidget Sale, in the playground after school on Friday 13th March (see poster on right) —very enterprising Woody!

Sophie, Maja and Mabel (from Year 3) are holding a scrumptious Sweet Sale on Monday 9th March (see poster on right), with a lucky dip! Fantastic work ladies!



Esther and Eli La Roche have made some wonderful wooden crosses and painted canvases for people to buy. They've already raised an whopping £256.25.



Please remember to send us some photos of your children's fundraising, along with a line or two explaining what how they are fundraising, by emailing into the school office and we will make sure that it is included in our weekly Friday newsletter! Thank you for your continued support!

## World Book Day by Mr Brown, English Lead

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day at school this week. The children looked amazing in their creative costumes, and it was wonderful to see



so many favourite book characters brought to life. The day was a great opportunity to promote a love of reading across the school and to show the children how enjoyable books and stories can be. Throughout the day, the children took part in a range of activities including sharing stories together, discussing their favourite books and authors, completing



book-themed activities in class, and spending time enjoying reading with their friends. It was lovely to see such enthusiasm for reading and storytelling. A quick reminder to parents and carers that we will be holding our poetry-based workshop **on Monday 16th March**, and we are looking forward to another engaging and creative learning experience for the children.

## Public Speaking Festival Inspires Year 4 Pupils

Four talented Year 4 pupils (Esther, Teddy, Mia and Laurence) proudly represented our school at the recent Public Speaking Festival held at Katherine Semar Schools last Friday. The event brought together young speakers from several local schools to present short talks on the important topic of Endangered Animals.



Each pupil delivered a confident and thoughtful speech, sharing fascinating facts about animals at risk and explaining why protecting wildlife is so important. From powerful messages about conservation to engaging storytelling, the pupils impressed both the audience and judges with their knowledge and enthusiasm.

Taking part in the festival was a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their confidence, speaking skills, and awareness of global environmental issues. All four pupils did an excellent job representing the school and should be very proud of their achievements. Well done to our young speakers for their hard work and courage in standing up and sharing their voices!

### Stars of the Week

- Chloe**—for reading over 2 million words
- Lili**—for getting more involved in class discussions putting her hand up
- Eddie**—for challenging herself with her choice of reading books
- Finley**—for his brilliant score on his maths test this week
- Lily**—for always thinking of others and being respectful
- Harper**—for working so hard in all lessons
- Teddy**—for great focus and work in English
- Lexi**—for improved focus and concentration
- Bonnie**—for her enthusiasm learning the dance this week, she kept the energy alive
- Roux**—for working so hard and always showing respect
- Blossom**—for helping out in the library
- Lottie**—for always trying hard with her work and being a helpful member of the class
- Henry**—for contributions to class discussions
- Gray**—for excellent effort and progress in Phonics and writing
- Maisa**—for showing kindness and respect to her friends and teachers



### Playleader Certificates

A hearty well done to: Nuala, Kathryn, Hattie, Georgia, Megan, Isla and Blossom— for continued hard work and positivity in their Playleader leadership roles. These pupils received a special certificate in Thursday's Celebration Assembly and they are a credit to themselves and we are very proud of their continued hard work in this important area of school life.



### House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: in joint 1st place with 77 points was Earth and Air Houses; in 2nd place with 76 points was Water House, in 3rd place with 56 points was Fire House. Well done everybody!



**1st place  
(77 points)**



**1st place  
(77 points)**



**3rd place  
(76 points)**



**4th place  
(56 points)**

### School Song

A small group of Year 5 children have been working with local musician **Quintus Bezinger** on an exciting project to create a brand-new school song for **St Mary's School**. The children have been sharing ideas, exploring lyrics and thinking about the message they would like the song to represent about our school community. They have also been experimenting with rhythm and melody, working together creatively to help shape a song that celebrates the spirit and values of St Mary's.



Have a lovely weekend

*Mr C. D. Jarman*

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

## Parent/Carers Consultation Meetings (Tuesday 10th March and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March)

Appointments for the parent consultations are available to book from **Tuesday 24th February** via our Parent's Evening System which can be found at <https://stmarys.schoolcloud.co.uk/>.

**Please arrive promptly for your meeting.** The meetings will be face to face and held in the main school hall from 3.30pm - 6.30pm, with each family having the opportunity to make a 10 minute appointment per child. Please book your appointment before the **booking system closes on Monday 9th March at 12.00pm.**

**If your child has already had a One Plan meeting then there is no requirement to book an appointment, as you would have already had your 20 minute meeting.**

In order to log on securely parents/carers will need to put in their name as given to the school, your child's given name (or chosen first name as given to the office) and your child's date of birth as an 8 digit number e.g. 25/09/2008.



If you need any assistance with booking your appointment, please contact the school office on 01799 523384.

### Thursday 5th March

Parent/Carer Book Look/Share Our Work sessions:  
8.30am to 9am (NOT Reception) & 3.15pm to 4pm

We are inviting all children to take part in **Wear Red on Red Nose Day** on **Friday 20th March**.

Children may choose to wear:

- a full red outfit, or
- a small red item with their usual school uniform, such as red socks, a red hair ribbon, or another red accessory.

There is no expectation for families to spend money or purchase anything new. If your child does not have anything red, they are very welcome to attend school in their normal uniform as usual.

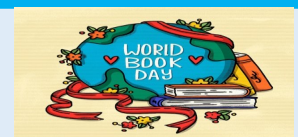


### World Book Day Celebrations - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March

#### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March

- Our celebrations will continue on Monday 16th March with a Poetry Dance Workshop. This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to explore poetry through movement and creativity. We are asking for a £3.00 contribution towards the cost of the workshop, this can be paid via School Money.
- Children should come to school wearing their PE kits on this day.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate speak to a member of your child's class team.



# Sweet Sale GROW15



**Monday, 9th March**

**15:15**

All sweet pots £1 each  
plus small toy dip  
£1 per go

**LUCKY DIP**

There will also be  
a small toy dip  
£1 per go



**With Sophie, Maja and Mabel**

**Year 3**

# St Mary's Primary School **Grow15 Campaign**

## Woody Boyce Fidget Sale

### **3D Printed**

in the playground after school

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**





# BIG WALK AND WHEEL

16 – 27 March 2026

 Walk Wheel  
Cycle Trust

Headline sponsor  
**SCHWALBE** ➤

## We're taking part in the Big Walk and Wheel 2026 challenge.

*Join in by walking,  
wheeling, scooting or  
cycling to school  
between 16 - 27 March.*

- ✓ Be active and feel more energised
- ✓ Help the environment by replacing a car journey
- ✓ Help us win some fantastic prizes

[www.BigWalkAndWheel.org.uk](http://www.BigWalkAndWheel.org.uk)

Headline sponsor:

**SCHWALBE** ➤

 Walk Wheel  
Cycle Trust

Walk Wheel Cycle Trust is a registered Charity in England and Wales (226520), Scotland (SC527032) and Republic of Ireland (20206626)  
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# CHILDREN'S TENNIS LESSONS

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



**MONDAYS 3.15PM–4PM**

- 12, 19, 26 January
- 2, 9, 23 February
- 2, 9, 16, 23 March

**AGES 5–11 YEARS OLD**

**INDOOR AND OUTDOOR  
COURTS AVAILABLE**

**4 SPACES AVAILABLE**

**CONTACT ALI:**

**07581087325**

**[alistennis@outlook.com](mailto:alistennis@outlook.com)**



# Starting Reception Roadshows



## Is Your Little One Starting Reception in September 2026?

Come along to our Starting Reception Roadshow!

Get ready for a fun, friendly, and totally FREE event designed to help you to support your child feel excited and confident about starting reception.

Essex Early Years has teamed up with local schools plus education, health and care partners to bring you a lively, helpful session packed with top tips and advice.

### Want to join in?

Ask your child's childminder, preschool, or nursery for details about your nearest event, or visit the Essex Talk, Listen and Cuddle website to find out more about dates and times across Essex.

### Starting Reception Roadshow near you:

[R A Butler Academy, Saffron Walden, CB11 3DG](#)

Where:

Thursday 19th March 2026

When:

6:00pm until 8:00pm



You can find out information about the event by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.tlc-essex.info](http://www.tlc-essex.info) and searching 'Starting reception'



Follow us on social media to join our Starting Reception Campaign



Instagram Facebook



# 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!



# Diary Dates



## Key Dates for the Spring Term

### March 2026

Tuesday 3rd March	-	Governors' Day
Thursday 5th March	-	Parent/Carer Book Look/Share Our Work sessions: 8.30am to 9am (NOT Reception) & 3.15pm to 4pm
Thursday 5th March	-	World Book Day—Dolce special lunch
Friday 6th March	-	FOSM Rainbow Raffle draw
Monday 9th March	-	Grow 15 Sweet Stall—3.15pm
Monday 9th to Friday 13th March	-	British Science Week
Monday 9th to Friday 20th March	-	Assessment weeks
Tuesday 10th March	-	Parent/Carer Consultations from 3.30pm
Wednesday 11th March	-	Charity Samosa, Pakora & Cake Stall—3.15pm
Thursday 12th March	-	Parent/Carer Consultations from 3.30pm
Friday 13th March	-	Grow 15 3D Printed Fidget Toys—3.15pm
Monday 16th March	-	Y4 Parent presentations 9.00am (School Hall)
Monday 16th March	-	Poetry Dance Workshop
Monday 16th to Friday 20th March	-	Big Walk and Wheel Event
Monday 16th to Friday 20th March	-	Neurodiversity Week
Tuesday 17th March	-	CHANGE OF DATE - Y5 & Cheer Squad Dance Show at Saffron Hall 4.15pm—6.00pm
Wednesday 18th March	-	Yrs 5 & 6 Athletics Squad District Finals
Friday 20th March	-	Wear Red on Red Nose Day
Friday 20th March	-	Grow 15 Easter Lucky Dip Stall—3.15pm
Monday 23rd March	-	Y2 Duxford Trip
Tuesday 24th March	-	School Choir workshop at SWCHS
Thursday 26th March	-	Y3 Parent Presentation 9.15am (School Hall)
Friday 27th March	-	Easter Service @ St Mary's Church (11am)
Friday 27th March	-	Last day of term – finish at 1.30pm
Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April	-	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 31st March	-	FOSM—last day to submit Tesco Tokens

