

St Mary's Newsletter

Spring Term – Friday 12th June 2026

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APPROVED TRAVEL PLAN 2025



Attendance Weekly 94.7 %

Attendance Year 96%

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,

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Read on to find out what we've been up to this week at St Mary's!

Primary school pupils bring democracy to life in Children's Parliament election

On Friday 5th June, pupils at St Mary's Primary School stepped into the world of democracy as they took part in a special election to select their representatives for the UK's Children's Parliament.

St Mary's is one of 100 primary schools nationwide participating in the initiative, which gives young people a meaningful platform to share their views and shape the future. The programme forms part of the legacy of Sir David Amess, championing youth voice and democratic engagement.

The process began with pupils nominating themselves and creating short campaign videos. From these, six finalists were selected (by the peers) before a full school election was held, complete with official polling boxes supplied by Uttlesford District Council.

Huxley O'Keefe was elected to represent the school at the Children's Parliament, supported by deputy Penny Findlay and media representative, Sophie Twell, who will conduct interviews during the Parliament visit. The event attracted strong community support, with representatives from Essex Police and Cllr Jeanette Curtis, Mayor of Saffron Walden, in attendance.

The election was overseen by Angela Knight, Chief Operating Officer at Uttlesford District Council, who acted as Returning Officer. Angela said: "It was an enjoyable experience and fantastic to see such enthusiasm and excitement from all the children. The event really brought democracy to life for the next generation and helped to show how important it is for children to understand these processes from a young age."

Mr Jarmain, Headteacher at St Mary's, added: "We are incredibly proud of all the children who took part. They showed confidence, creativity and a real passion for having their voices heard. This has been a brilliant opportunity to inspire the next generation to engage with democracy."

The Children's Parliament initiative is the first of its kind in the UK for younger children and continues to grow nationally. In December, a landmark event was held in the House of Lords, and plans are now in place for children to hold their own debate in the House of Commons in October, subject to approval. This will mark the fifth anniversary of Sir David Amess's death, placing young people at the heart of UK democracy and inviting schools across the country, including St Mary's, to play a part in this historic moment.

For more information, visit <https://childrensparliament.uk>



Miss Dye—Celebrating 20 years of service at St Mary's

On Friday 5th June, staff and colleagues at St Mary's, Saffron Walden, came together to celebrate a remarkable milestone for Rose Dye, who marked 20 years of dedicated service here at St Mary's Primary School.

Over the past two decades, Rose has been a valued member of the St Mary's team, making a significant contribution to the life of the school and supporting generations of pupils, families and colleagues. Her commitment, hard work and friendly presence have made a lasting impact on the St Mary's community. The occasion was marked with warm wishes and heartfelt thanks as colleagues reflected on Rose's many years of service and dedication. Rose was presented with a special shield by Cllr Jeanette Curtis, the Mayor of Saffron Walden, to commemorate her 20 years, as well as some flowers and the well-wishes from the whole of our school community.

Congratulations, Rose, on this wonderful achievement, and thank you for all you have done for St Mary's over the past 20 years.



Stars of the Week

Ladybird class— for all their hard work this week completing their phonics checks

Phoebe—for getting more involved with class discussions

Eva—for always focusing, working hard and engaging in her learning

Nina—for always working hard and being an excellent role model

Mason—for insightful contributions to all class discussions

Rose—for improved focus and engagement across all areas of learning

Henry—for his great DT work so far on his catapult

Antoni—for his effort with his independent work and being a good friend to others

Aalyan—for scoring 40 out of 40 on his times tables assessment which included inverse questions

Adrian—for working hard in class, showing amazing active listening and working on his choices at breaks and lunchtimes



House triumphs!

These are the results for this week: in 1st place with 91 points was Fire House; in joint 2nd place with 80 points were Air and Earth Houses and in 3rd place with 71 points was Water House. Well done everyone!



**1st place
(91 points)**



**2nd place
(80 points)**



**3rd place
(80 points)**



**4th place
(71 points)**

Healthy Snacks for Healthy Minds

At our school, we encourage children to make healthy choices and enjoy nutritious snacks throughout the day. Fresh fruit is an excellent option, providing children with vitamins, energy, and helping them to stay focused in class. It has been wonderful to see so many children in Key Stage 2 choosing fruit as a healthy snack. Their enthusiasm for eating fruit is something we are proud of and keen to encourage.



Recently, members of staff have been purchasing fruit with their own money to ensure that children have something healthy to eat at break time. While this has been done with the children's wellbeing in mind, it is not a sustainable solution in the long term.

We kindly ask parents and carers to support us by ensuring that their child brings a suitable healthy snack to school each day for break time. Fresh fruit, such as apples, bananas, melon slices, or easy-peel oranges, are all excellent choices. By working together, we can continue to promote healthy eating habits and help our children develop positive choices that will benefit them both now and in the future.

Thank you for your support.

Polite reminder—neighbours on Castle Street

As the days grow longer and children spend more time outdoors, we would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of being considerate and respectful of the neighbouring properties to St Mary's School. We kindly ask parents and carers to remind their children to respect the boundaries of private property. This includes avoiding climbing over fences, tapping or knocking on windows or doors, entering gardens without permission and picking flowers or plants. Children should also be mindful of noise levels, particularly during the early morning and evening hours.

Parents can play an important role by discussing good neighbourly behaviour with their children and encouraging them to treat others' homes and gardens with the same care and respect they would expect for their own. Simple acts of courtesy help foster positive relationships within our community and ensure that everyone can enjoy their homes in peace and comfort. By working together, we can create a safe, respectful, and friendly environment for residents of all ages.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping to make our neighbourhood a wonderful place to live.

Have a great weekend!

Mr C. D. Jarman

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



Pop-Up Community SEND Local Offer Roadshow

Saffron Walden Library



Prefer a quieter space? These sessions are for you

Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our new pop-up SEND Local Offer Roadshows.

You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book.
Children are welcome!



Drop in between 10.30am and 1pm



Tuesday 14 July 2026



Saffron Walden Library, King Street, Saffron Walden,
CB10 1ES



Scan the QR code or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-send-local-offer-roadshows>

LORD BUTLER SUMMER CAMPS

WITH ALI'S TENNIS



WEEK 1



10TH 11TH
13TH AND 14TH
AUGUST

2-4 PM

AGES 5-12

WEEK 2



17TH 18TH
20TH 21ST
AUGUST

2-4 PM

AGES 5-12



TENNIS
FOR
EVERYONE



EQUIPMENT
PROVIDED



IN SAFFRON
WALDEN



PARKING
AVAILABLE



FACILITIES
ON SITE

**BOOK
NOW!**

PICK AND CHOOSE ANY DAYS



07581 087325



ALISTENNIS@OUTLOOK.COM

HAVE FUN,
LEARN NEW
SKILLS, PLAY
GAMES AND
MATCHES!



NON UNIFORM DAY!

ON
FRIDAY 26TH JUNE

IN EXCHANGE FOR A
SWEET TREAT!

(NOT FRESH, THANKS!)

For example:

a packet of biscuits, a pack of sweets etc.



ALL DONATIONS GO TO THE
SWEET TREAT TOMBOLA

AT THE SUMMER FETE

SATURDAY 4TH JULY 11AM – 2PM





St Mary's BAKE OFF

at the Summer Fete!



Take part in St Mary's very first Great Summer Bake-Off! All St Mary's children, parents, carers and friends of the school are invited to enter our annual Bake-Off cake decorating competition at the Summer Fete on **Saturday 4th July**.

As it's our first bake-off, we have

★ **NO THEME** ★

— we want to see what the St Mary community has to offer!

Our very special guest judges will have the delicious job of awarding points for taste, creativity and presentation. There will be prizes for the top bakers, and entries will be assessed either as whole cakes or smaller baked items, e.g., cupcakes or biscuits. Once the winners have been announced, all cakes entered will be sold at our **St Mary's Bake-Off cake sale**, giving us all the chance to take home something yummy!



★ **SATURDAY 4TH JULY** ★ **11:00AM - 2:00PM**

HOW TO ENTER:

Get baking! ♥

Label your cake carefully with the following information:

- Name
- Class at St Mary's (if applicable)
- Mobile number
- A brief description of your cake and a list of ingredients (for allergies — **NO NUTS, PLEASE**)



Please bring all cakes to the Cake Stall by 10.20 am on the day of the fete. Judging will begin shortly after 10.30 am (Judges will need to arrive then, please).



Judges will pick a 1st, 2nd and 3rd winner, with the first prize being a voucher worth **£110** (2 adults and 2 children) for afternoon tea at *Poppy's Barn!*



STRICTLY NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE DAY (SORRY!)



♥ **PLEASE EMAIL**
fosm@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk
to enter the bake-off and judging competition.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A

★ **'VERY SPECIAL JUDGE'?** ★

We are looking for one child from St Mary's to represent the school by becoming a very special judge!

- 🍷 Do you live for cake?
- 🍷 Do you think you have a good eye for decorating, icing swirls and soggy bottoms?
- 🍷 Are you the next Prue Leith or Paul Hollywood?



We need you! All you need to do is write a short paragraph as to why you'd like to be a judge of our St Mary's Bake-Off competition. Mr Jarman will read all entries and decide on our winner!



PLEASE HAVE BOTH ENTRIES IN BY MONDAY 22ND JUNE

We can't wait to hear from you!

Good luck to all our bakers and to the children entering our judging competition!



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!

pta@st-maryscofe.essex.sch.uk

A vibrant, colorful poster for a Summer Fete. At the top, a banner reads 'ST MARY'S' in white on a dark blue background, with '— PRIMARY SCHOOL —' and 'SAFFRON WALDEN' below it. To the right, a pink balloon says 'BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER!'. The main title 'SUMMER FETE' is in large, multi-colored letters. Below it, a blue banner says 'JULY 4TH' and a pink banner says '11AM - 2PM'. On the left, a signpost lists 'GAMES', 'TOMBOLA', 'INFLATABLES', 'STALLS', and 'AND LOTS MORE!'. At the bottom center, a sign says 'SAVE the DATE!'. On the right, a chalkboard says 'FUN FOR EVERYONE! COME AND SUPPORT OUR WONDERFUL SCHOOL!'. The background features a sun, clouds, bunting, balloons, and a striped tent.

ST MARY'S

— PRIMARY SCHOOL —
SAFFRON WALDEN

**BIGGER
AND
BETTER
THAN
EVER!**

SUMMER FETE

JULY 4TH

11AM – 2PM

GAMES

TOMBOLA

INFLATABLES

STALLS

**AND LOTS
MORE!**

**SAVE
the
DATE!**

**FUN FOR
EVERYONE!**

— ♥ —
**COME AND
SUPPORT OUR
WONDERFUL
SCHOOL!**



Diary Dates

Key Dates for the Summer Term

Tuesday 9th June	-	Y3 Hatfield Forest Visit
Wednesday 10th June	-	Class Photos
Thursday 11th June	-	Dolce World Cup special menu
15th June—19th June	-	Y6 Residential Visit
Friday 19th June	-	Yr 1 Linton Zoo Visit
Tuesday 23rd June	-	KS2 Athletics Competition
Wednesday 24th June	-	KS2 Panathlon Team Final
Thursday 25th June	-	Y6 Secondary School Visits at JFan and SWCHS
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)
Saturday 4th July	-	FOSM Summer Fete
Friday 10th July	-	FOSM KS2 Leavers Disco (5.00pm—6.30pm)
Monday 13th July	-	Move Up Afternoon
Monday 13th July	-	Meet the Teacher (Yrs 1 &2 3.15pm, Yr3 3.30pm)
Tuesday 14th July	-	Yrs 5/6 Performance—6.00pm
Tuesday 14th July	-	Meet the Teacher (Yrs 4&5 3.15pm, Yr6 3.30pm)
Wednesday 15th July	-	Leavers Lunch
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