



Friday 5th December 2025

St Mary's Primary School

Our Vision: We believe, we achieve, we succeed in God's family.

With God, all things are possible. Matthew 19:26

School Value - Compassion

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to this week's edition of our School Newsletter!

As always, thank you for your continued support and involvement—it truly makes a difference. If you have any questions or need any further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the school office. We're always happy to help.

Warmest wishes,
Mrs. Walker

This week...

We had a wonderful time at the pantomime on Wednesday, with lots of laughter, happy faces, and even some great performances from our own staff! A big thank you to FOSMS for generously funding the coach trip and providing some delicious interval treats. It was a fantastic day enjoyed by all.

We are very pleased to confirm we will be creating our Reverse advent calendar again this year for the residents of Eastham. Any donations can be dropped into the school office by Thursday 11th December to allow us time to get everything wrapped and ready. Thank you so much for your support, this is such a lovely way to help support our local community, especially at Christmas.

Carmel Jane have now released the school photographs, if you pre-registered, please check your inbox for your unique access link.

If not, please contact us on

www.carmeljane.co.uk/pre-registration-support and Insert school code: JRJ2B5Z5ZD.

All photographs will be sent straight to your home address.

Just a little reminder that there will be no after school clubs during the last week of term (w/c 15.12.25). A club letter will be sent out soon for Spring Term clubs.

A little reminder that the deadline for booking a Christmas Dinner is Monday at 9am. Please don't miss out!

Dojo Messages

- Reverse Advent calendar
- Carmel Jane Photographs
- Clubs
- Silent Auction for Knitted Wreath
- FOSMS Christmas gift sale reminder
- School Christmas dinner deadline reminder

Upcoming Events

- 09.12.25 - Christmas Jumper Day
- 11/12.12.25 - DT Day
- 17.12.25 - Nativity 2pm (FOSMS Raffle)
- 18.12.25 - Christmas dinner day
- 18.12.25 - FOSMS Movie afternoon - 2:30pm - 4:00pm
- 19.12.25 - Christmas jumpers with school uniform
- 19.12.25 - Acorn class - storytime with Santa
- 19.12.25 - Carol singing at the Senior living
- 19.12.25 - Christingle service at St Mary's church 2pm.

THANKFULNESS ~ COMMUNITY ~ COMPASSION ~ TRUTHFULNESS ~ COURAGE ~ FORGIVENESS

Class News & Achievers

Oak Class:

This week in oak class, we have been learning about formal and informal vocabulary in our writing lessons and summarising information in our reading lessons. In maths, we have learnt how to multiply fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers and in RE we have focused on the concept of Ahimsa across religion. In science we have made periscopes to see how light reflects of certain surfaces and in history, we have created our own codes and cyphers taking inspiration from the work carried out at Bletchley Park in the Second World War.

Chestnut Class

This week has been a busy one. We finished our writing in English. In maths we have continued with our times tables. We really enjoyed the pantomime on Wednesday and everyone's behaviour was excellent. We have added some Christmas to our classroom and it's now looking very sparkly. Everyone enjoyed history where we looked at the important leaders of World War One. In RE we looked at different religions and the similarities between them.

Acorn Class

Acorns got the week started with some festive spirit. The children decorated the classroom and we put our tree up. We have also made our Christmas cards this week. We really enjoyed the panto and I was very proud of the way Acorns behaved on the day. In computing we have been learning how to take a good shot, the children completed their writing then took photos within the classroom.

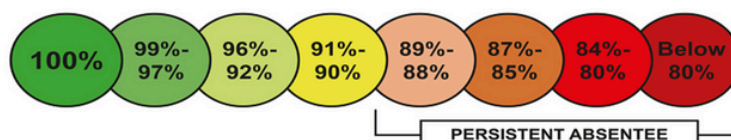
Our cheeky elf has been causing some mischief this week!



Attendance Matters

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?

Reception	90%
Year 1	80%
Year 2	87%
Year 3	66%
Year 4	88%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	94%

Whole School Attendance Target is: **92%**

National Attendance Target is: **93.5%**

Whole School Attendance this week is: **86.67 %**

Pupils with 100% attendance this week: **42**

If your child is absent from school please:

- Contact the school via Studybugs on the first day of absence before 9.00am . (This is our preferred method of communication for sickness absence)
- Contact the school on every further day of absence, again before 9.00am;
- Ensure that your child returns to school as soon as possible.



If you haven't already, please download the free studybugs app, or register on the studybugs website and use it to tell us whenever your child is ill and unable to attend school.

The tool helps us to know sooner if your child is unaccounted for. It is quick and easy to register and automatically reminds you to keep us posted. Please use the following link to register: <https://studybugs.com/about/parents> If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office

Lateness:

Collective Worship will be held at 9.05am each morning and attended by all staff, including the office staff. It is important that your child arrives on time for school. If they arrive after 9.05am then you will need to wait with your child until Collective Worship has finished at 9.20am as there will not be any staff to let them in. Collective Worship is a legal entitlement in a Church of England school and a time of reflection and respect.

Forest School

This week in forest school...

In forest school this week, Acorn class enjoyed playing lots of games such as the cuckoo game and what's the time Mr Wolf. They also drew some lovely forest school pictures in their books. The children enjoyed doing some bird watching and bug hunting where they found lots of fungi and even some slug eggs! Lots of the children also got involved in finding homes for the cuddly toys by climbing trees. Well done Acorns!

Chestnut class enjoyed making things with pipe cleaners such as a squirrel, helicopters, and some Christmas candy canes! Lots of children took part in digging in the mud area with sticks that they found and using the wheelbarrow to transport tires around the forest school site. It was lovely to see the children doing some imaginative play and performing on our forest school stage! Well done Chestnut class!

In Oak class's forest school session this week they made lots of Christmas tree decorations for the forest school site using pipe cleaners. They also presented their creativity by whittling butter knives and drawing on trees with chalk. Some children used their books to create a schedule for their forest school play which I'm looking forward to seeing before the holidays. They also did some bug hunting, bird watching and digging in the mud area. Well done Oak class!

This week Freddie the forest school bear will be staying with Elliott from Acorn class. Elliott always enjoys himself at forest school and try's new things. His smile is always bright when climbing trees and playing games with his classmates which is lovely to see. This week, Elliott took the initiative to get himself changed after forest school and used a loud and clear voice to ask for help when he needed it. Well done Elliott, enjoy your weekend with Freddie!

Miss Wilson
Forest School Lead

Menu, Clubs and Vacancies

Week 1				
Monday Meat Free day	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tomato and basil pasta (V) with garlic bread and salad	Pitta bread pizza with cheese, potato wedges and salad	Chicken roast	Cheesy ham and broccoli pasta	Sausage chips and beans
Baguettes: Cheese or tuna	Pitta bread pizza with ham, potato wedges and salad	Quorn fillet (V)	Cheesy broccoli pasta (V)	Quorn sausage (V) chips and beans
	Baguettes: Cheese or ham	Baguettes: Cheese or ham	Jackets: Cheese, beans or tuna	Baguettes: Cheese, ham or tuna
			Baguettes: Cheese or ham	
Week 2				
Monday Meat Free day	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese and Tomato pasta (V) garlic bread and salad	Fish fingers, chips, peas and sweetcorn	Sausage roast	Bolognese pasta bake	Chicken Nuggets potato wedges and baked beans
Baguettes: Cheese or tuna	Veggie fingers (V) chips, peas and sweetcorn	Quorn sausage roast (V)	Quorn Bolognese pasta bake	Quorn Nuggets (V) potato wedges and baked beans
	Baguettes: Cheese or ham	Baguettes: Cheese or ham	Jackets: Cheese, beans or tuna	Baguettes: Cheese, ham or tuna
			Baguettes: Cheese or ham	

Bread, water, milk available everyday
Fruit and yoghurt Monday - Thursday
Baked treat - Friday

AUTUMN Term Clubs

Cost	Club	Who	When	Day	Time
	Essex Kids Camp – Multiskills	Mr Thomas	After School	Monday	3:15pm – 4:00pm
FREE	KS1 & KS2 Music Club	Mrs Carlier	After School	Tuesday	3.15pm – 4.15pm
FREE	KS1 & KS2 Film Club	Mrs Beard	After School	Tuesday	3.15pm – 4.15pm
FREE	KS1 & KS2 Netball Club	Miss Francis	Lunch time	Wednesday	12:30pm – 1:00pm
FREE	KS1 & KS2 Art Club	Mrs Fallon	After School	Wednesday	3.15pm – 4.15pm
FREE	KS1 & KS2 Lego Club	Mrs Matthews	After School	Wednesday	3.15pm – 4.15pm
FREE	KS1 & KS2 Computing Club	Mrs Carlier	Lunchtime	Thursday	12:30pm – 1:00pm
FREE	Year 6 Tutoring	Mr Austin	After School	Thursday	3.15pm – 4.15pm



BERLESDUNA
ACADEMY TRUST

[Vacancies - Please visit www.berlesduna.co.uk/information/vacancies](http://www.berlesduna.co.uk/information/vacancies)

Dates to Remember

Date	Activity	Who
09.12.25	Christmas jumper day	
11/12.12.25	DT Day	
17.12.25	Nativity - 2pm / FOSMS Raffle	All welcome
18.12.25	Christmas dinner day	
18.12.25	FOSMS Movie night 2:30pm - 4:00pm	
19.12.25	Christmas jumpers with school uniform	
19.12.25	Story time with Santa	Acorn class & Chestnut Class
19.12.25	Carol singing at the Senior living	Years 5-6
19.12.25	Christingle service at St Mary's church - 2pm	All welcome

Friends of St Marys School



We heard the children loved their panto visit on Wednesday, we were very fortunate to be in a position to be able to fund the cost of the coach and some sweets and snacks for the performance. Your support makes this possible, every single penny we raise at events and sales really is spent directly back on the children and our wonderful school. We aim to cover the cost of the coach each year to make the cost of the trip affordable for families. Thanks for your continued support which makes this possible.

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas Sale this afternoon, thank you to our year 4, 5 and 6 helpers for their assistance on our little stalls and a huge thanks to Rhian, Kelly and Hannah for all of their help, it really couldn't happen without them!

We will keep "name the elf" open for the whole of next week to ensure everyone has had a chance to guess his name, this is 50p a go and the huge Elf is the prize. The winner will be announced after the Nativity. If your child missed our on guessing his name please send them in with their 50p to have a go.

Raffle tickets will be on sale up to the day of the nativity, there are online payment options on our website - <https://fosms.co.uk/upcoming-events>

We also have the silent auction open up until the day of the nativity for the amazing knitted Christmas wreath lovingly made by our very own Nanny Knit Knit! If you would like the opportunity to bid for this beautiful creation then please send in an envelope with your name, contact details and bid amount.

The raffle will be drawn after the Nativity performance so you will get to take your prizes home with you.

What a week and we still have lots more to look forward to before we finish for Christmas - All details and payment information can be found on our website under upcoming events!

Your FOSMS Team.



Christmas Events!



Wednesday

17

**Nativity
FOSMS Draw Raffle**



Thursday

18

**Christmas Movie
Afternoon 2:30pm - 4pm**



Thursday

18

**Christmas Lunch
Courtesy of FOSMS**

