



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 are pleased to let you know that we will soon be offering Drawing and Talking Therapy as part of our wellbeing and pastoral support for pupils in school. Mrs Baldry has now completed her accredited training, and we are excited to add this valuable approach to our growing toolkit for supporting children's emotional and mental health. If you think your child could benefit from this therapy please do contact the office for a referral form.

We are very much looking forward to our annual Christingle service which will be held at St Mary's Church on 19th December at 2pm.

The service will start at 2:00 pm, and all families are warmly welcome to join us for this magical time. Children may go home with their families after the service.

If you are unable to attend, please notify the school and we will bring them back to school.

Parents have been contacted directly if we feel their child may need some extra support during this service.

All children will attend this event and will be covered by the permissions from our "local area visit" forms completed in your admission packs.

We're excited to let you know that upcoming events for this half term have been uploaded onto Dojo Events! Further details about each event will be shared in the newsletters as the dates get closer. We hope this will make it easier for you to keep track of what's happening and help everyone stay up to date.

Dojo Messages

- Albie South - British Grass Track Champion!
- Flu catch up clinic details
- Events uploaded to Class Dojo
- Flu catch up clinics
- Upcoming event information
- Christingle church service

Upcoming Events

- Christmas Panto - 3.12.25
- Christmas Sale - 5.12.25 from 2:30pm
- Christmas Jumper Day - 9.12.25
- DT Days 11 & 12.12.25
- DT Open afternoon 12.12.25 from 2:45pm
- Nativity Performance - 17.12.25 at 2pm
- Whole school Christmas Lunch - 18.12.25
- Story with Santa Acorn Class - 19.12.25
- Carols at Eastham Care Home - 19.12.25
- Christingle at St Mary's Church - 19.12.25 at 2pm



Class News & Achievers

Oak Class:

This week in Oak class, we have written biographies in English and continued our work on multiplication and division in maths. In history, we have learnt about life on the home front during World War 2 and in RE we have looked at the causes of war and why, despite religions preaching peace, they are a cause of conflict. In science, we have conducted an investigation into the effect on the length of the shadow when the distance from the light source changes. In art, we have carried on with our World War 2 project and in PSHE; we have continued our work on health and wellbeing.

Chestnut Class

This week in English we have been continuing our work on trenches and have written some paragraphs and drawn and labelled illustrations. In maths this week we have concentrated on our 2, 4, and 8 times tables. In science we have continued to find out about solids, liquids and gases and sorted them into groups. In history we learned all about civilians in WWI and their roles. We looked at cause and effect as well, e.g. there was a shortage of food- people grew fruit and vegetables in their gardens. In PSHE the children looked at Positive Affirmations and how good they are at a range of criteria, e.g. being a friend, problem solving and working as part of a team.

Acorn Class

Acorns have been busy this week. We have been learning place value, year 1 with 20, Year 2 within a 100. Reception have been learning shapes. In Literacy we have been focusing on our speaking and Listening skills and trying to speak clearly. We have used the poem of Humpty Dumpty to support us. In computing, we are learning how to take a good photograph and have been learning about portrait and landscape. In RE we have started to learn the Nativity story and what the bible says about it.

Oak Achiever

Oak's achiever this week is Tommy-George. Tommy-George has put in huge effort this week, as he always does, and has been rightly proud of what he has accomplished. He has produced an excellent biography in English and shown a good understanding of the order of operations in maths. Well done, Tommy-George.

Chestnut Achiever

Adeline has shown courage starting a new school. She has settled really well already and I am very impressed with her attitude. She has tried hard in all areas of the curriculum and is starting to ask for help if she needs it.

Acorn Achiever

Mia we are all very proud with how you are really trying your best with everything we give you. We love to hear you singing during our number song time. Good girl keep it up.

Oak Value Achiever

Oak's value achiever is Ivy. Ivy went out of her way to support her peers with the research and planning phase of their biographies. She accurately and patiently explained an effective structure and showed a real sense of community by working with people she would not normally. Well done and thank you, Ivy.

Chestnut Value Achiever

Alfie has made an excellent start to year four. He has a good understanding of a sense of community and he is very friendly, sociable and has a group of friends already. He is going to be a good role model.

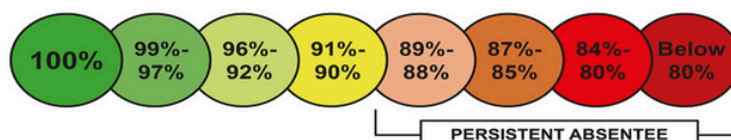
Acorn Value Achiever

Jesse was really kind and helpful to another reception child, helping them to climb on the frames outside. Well done Jesse what a lovely thing to do.

Attendance Matters

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?

Reception	80%
Year 1	88%
Year 2	80%
Year 3	85%
Year 4	88%
Year 5	91%
Year 6	84%

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

National Attendance Target is: **93.5%**

Whole School Attendance this week is: **85.26%**

Pupils with 100% attendance this week: **40**

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...

Acorn class had a great session this week with lots of free play time. The children had lots of muddy fun in the digging area and played in the mud kitchen creating various dishes and soups. Some of the children enjoyed colouring in some little wooden Christmas decorations that I brought in for them and then after snack time we played the cuckoo game on the school field to warm up a bit. We finished the session by hanging Christmas tree baubles from the trees around the forest school area to make it look a bit festive. A lovely session Acorn class, well done!

Chestnut class had a campfire this week and each child toasted a giant marshmallow for a tasty treat. The children also enjoyed a lot of free play time and made up some fabulous games together. They also played in the digging area and the mud kitchen and they got to hang some Christmas baubles from the trees as well. Some of the children wanted to carry on with their whittling projects and I have to say, they are doing rather well! Another great session Chestnut class well done!

Oak class also had a campfire this week and also toasted some giant marshmallows. It had turned colder as the day went on so the campfire was a welcome activity. The children took part in various nature-based activities and made up a Christmas show on their "pallet stage" to perform for everyone. We played the cuckoo game on the field to finish the session and to help get some of the mud off of our wellies. A fabulous session as always Oak class, well done!

Freddie Forest Bear enjoyed his visit with Joe last week and is now looking forward to going home with Isabelle from Acorn class. Isabelle is a very sweet young girl to be around and is always very kind and caring towards her friends. She always seems to enjoy Forest School but can sometimes be unsure of joining in with the games on the field. This week however, Isabelle happily played the cuckoo game with her classmates and it was lovely to see her have a little more confidence in herself. Well done Isabelle, 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
03.12.25	Pantomime	Whole School
05.12.25	FOSMS Christmas sale	Main Hall from 2:30pm
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
19.12.25	Carol singing at the Senior living	Years 3-6
19.12.25	Christingle service at St Mary's church - 2pm	All welcome

Friends of St Marys School



We are approaching the last three weeks of this term, and what an absolutely packed term it is!

We have create a list of all upcoming FOSMS events for the festive season which you can find below.

If anyone is able to help with a raffle prize or assist with calling local businesses to see if we can get any donations we would be eternally grateful! I do love a bursting raffle table.

Raffle tickets go on sale from 1st December, we will have an online payment option, like will be shared on the Whats App group, alternatively you can purchase at the Christmas Sale on Friday 5th December or before the Nativity for a super limited time.

As always thank you for your support.

Your FOSMS Team.



Christmas Events!

Monday

1

**FOSMS Christmas Raffle
Tickets go on sale!**



Friday

5



**Christmas Sale - 2:30pm
everyone invited to attend
held in the school hall**

Wednesday

17

**Nativity
FOSMS Draw Raffle**



Thursday

18

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



Thursday

18

**Christmas Lunch
Courtesy of FOSMS**

