



Friday 7th November 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...

I hope you had a restful half-term break. As we return to our learning routines.

Firstly, I am pleased to inform you that Carmel Jane visited our school this week to take photographs of the children which included individual, sibling and class photos. Well done to the children for behaving sensibly during this session.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Sheila for conducting the mindfulness parent session held today. It is our aim to promote wellbeing among both our pupils and their families, and we appreciate your participation in this valuable initiative. Thank you also to the parents who joined us for this event.

Please be reminded that next Friday, we are encouraging all children to wear spots in support of Children in Need. We are just waiting for ParentPay to provide us with the link for donations and will share this with you once it arrives. Additionally, we will be observing Odd Socks Day as part of our anti-bullying awareness efforts. These activities are significant in fostering compassion and understanding among our young learners.

Furthermore, I would like to wish good luck to our four participants who will be taking part in the Trust maths challenge next week. We are confident that they will represent our school with enthusiasm and determination.

Finally, please be informed that we will hold a one-minute silence in aid of Remembrance Day on the 11th of November. This will be a time for us to reflect and honour those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Upcoming Events

10.11.25 - Anti Bullying week

10.11.25 - Open Day Prospective Parent Tour

05.11.25 - School Photos - Individual/Class/Sibling

12.11.25 - Remembrance service at St Marys church

13.11.25 - Trust Maths Challenge

14.11.25 - Children in need - wear spots and odd socks

14.11.25 - Cultural celebration day

17.11.25 - Road safety week

Dojo Messages

- PSHE / Healthy schools
- Glitches in class dojo
- Mindfulness session for parents
- SWF Christmas library event
- Nativity update

Class News & Achievers

Oak Class:

This week in Oak class, we have begun our new topic, Remember and Rejoice. In history, we have sequenced the key events of World War 2 in a time line and in art we have created spot colour paintings. In our reading lessons we have focused on retrieving information from texts and in grammar we have been learning how to correctly use apostrophes. In maths we have been adding and subtracting fractions and in science, we have learnt how light travels. Our RE has focused on forgiveness and we have held a democratic vote for our class positions of responsibility.

Oak's value achiever this week is Olive. Olive always shows all of our School Values but this week especially she showed great courage. After a very late night at a concert, as part of her birthday celebrations, she came in to school the next day and gave her very best all day. Well done, Olive.

Oak's achiever this week is Sonny. Sonny persevered with our work on fractions this week having initially found it quite challenging. He didn't give up and listened to Mrs Wells' advice and by the end of the lesson had mastered it. Well done, Sonny!

Chestnut Class

This week we have started our new topic- Let's Remember and Rejoice WWI. The children really enjoyed the first history lesson and have asked lots of questions which we will be answering over the half term. In art we have created some lovely WWI art in the same style of our Beowulf books. In science we are going to be looking at States of Matter. We have also started off by looking at our first lesson about dental health. Everyone enjoyed using Turtle Academy in our computing lesson.

Value Achiever - Oliver has shown great courage in and out of school this week and we are really proud of how he is using his voice.

Achiever - Layla will be awarded this for her maths work. Layla has completed some super column addition work. Well done Layla, we are very proud of you.

Acorn Class

Acorns have had a good start to the new term. We have introduced our topic of 'Lets Remember and Rejoice' and we have looked at birthdays and how we celebrate them. We also have a new value to focus on which is compassion. The children have looked at what this means to them and we have made a kindness paper chain. This week we have also learnt about Firework night and why we celebrate it. Learning all about Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder plot of 1605.

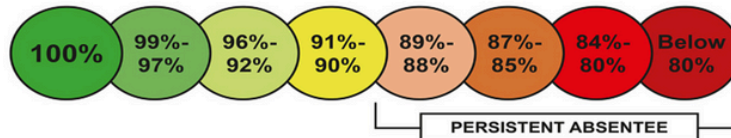
Values: Luna has shown great courage. She is new to St Mary's and has started with no problems. She is getting on with her work, making new friends and even supporting the younger children of Acorn class. Welcome to the St Mary's family.

Achiever: Harrison showed us he has good problem solving skills and has demonstrated the value of community. Whilst outside the children were building a tower using crates. Harrison suggested moving it to the climbing ropes, as it kept falling over. He then climbed up so he could reach the top and asked the children below to pass the crates up to make the tower even bigger, as he climbed. Because of his advice and teamwork, they managed to build a really big tower.

Attendance Matters

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?

Reception	90%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	78%
Year 3	93%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	88%
Year 6	93%

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

National Attendance Target is: **93.5%**

Whole School Attendance this week is: **90.80%**

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...

Acorn class were very excited to be back at Forest School and set about having lots of fun exploring, climbing trees and playing hide and seek. We discussed the Christmas fayre and talked about the types of decorations we could make to sell at the fayre. I made a couple of simple examples and the children will start to make their own over the coming weeks! We also talked about other foods that we could cook over a campfire. The children always enjoy the toasted marshmallows and they enjoyed the popcorn last term but we would like to be a bit more adventurous coming up to Christmas. We ended the session by playing the Cuckoo game on the field. Well done Acorn class, a great first session back!

Chestnut class were also excited to be back at Forest School. The children played so nicely together and it was clear that they had missed each other over the half term. We also discussed the Christmas Fayre and what decorations they could make for the sale. We tried to think of things we could make out of natural resources and we came up with a couple of good ideas. The children enjoyed playing in the mud kitchen, climbing trees and building dens. Some of the children also started a whittling project that they will continue with over the coming weeks. Well done Chestnut class!

Oak class had a great first session back and thoroughly enjoyed exploring, digging and building dens using tarps. Some of the children continued with their whittling projects and other children started some new projects. Towards the end of the session, most of the children had gathered at one end of the site, made a stage out of pallets, and created a singing and dancing performance to show the rest of us. It was fantastic to see the children improving their social skills and encouraging each other. A very successful session Oak class, well done!

Freddie Forest Bear enjoyed his little break over half term and is now looking forward to going home with Reece from Acorn class this week. Reece stood out this week as a great role model to the younger children in the class. He was helpful and supportive when they were trying new skills and took it upon himself to tidy up tools that had been left laying around. A very positive start to this half term Reece, well done! 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



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

Dates to Remember

Date	Activity	Who
10.11.25	Anti Bullying week	
10.11.25	Open Day 09:30am—3.00pm	NON SEND Prospective Parent Tour
12.11.25	Remembrance service at St Marys church	All pupils
13.11.25	Trust Maths challenge	Selected pupils
14.11.25	Children in need Wear spots and odd socks	All pupils
14.11.25	Cultural celebration day	All pupils
17—21.11.25	Road safety week	All pupils

Friends of St Marys School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have some important dates for your diary for the coming term!

Friday 14th November 1:30pm - 2:45pm

School Disco everyone's favourite!!

We have decided to keep things simple and convenient for families by hosting our disco within the school day to celebrate the end of anti-bullying and cultural appreciation week. This will mean there's no need to juggle drop-offs, pick-ups, or evening routines. Just a fun, music-filled treat for all the children to enjoy together!

It's open to every pupil, and we can't wait to see everyone showing off their best dance moves! We will also have a quiet area available for children to use if they would prefer something a little quieter with Mrs Fallon.

We're asking for a £2.50 donation per child to help raise funds for future FOSMS events and school projects. For this, the children will receive juice, crisps, sweeties a glow stick and an ice pole to cool down after all that dancing!

For more information please see the poster below and for booking please pop on to our website to reserve your child's place - <https://fosms.co.uk/upcoming-events>

Tuesday 18th November - 2:30pm in the school hall.

FOSMS AGM

Your opportunity to vote in your committee to run our charity for another year. We are due to be inspected by the charity commission this year as we are a relatively a new charity and we would love your attendance to vote in your committee. We will also give a short update on what we have managed to achieve for our school community this past year. Your attendance is vital for us to continue to operate effectively. There's no commitment from you required and we will have cake available to purchase because everything is better with cake! (We try to never miss an opportunity to raise a few pennies for the children❤️)



Friends of St Marys School



FOSMS PRESENTS...

OUR FIREWORK DISCO

**FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER
1:30PM-2:45PM**

**£2.50 PER CHILD
PAY IN ADVANCE VIA THE
PAYMENT LINK ON OUR WEBSITE**

INCLUDED IN THE TICKET PRICE:

**CRISPS
JUICE
SWEETIES
ICE POLE
GLOWSTICK**

**IN TRUE DISCO FASHION WE WILL BE
TAKING SONG REQUESTS IN ADVANCE -
PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILD TO GET
THEIR REQUESTS IN ASAP!**

MUSIC, DANCING AND GAMES

**CHILDREN MAY BRING A CHANGE OF CLOTHES AND GET
CHANGED AT SCHOOL SO THEY'RE DISCO READY!**

