



Newsletter - Friday 27th March 2026

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 - Forgiveness

Welcome

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of our School Community,

As we come to the end of a busy and rewarding Spring term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of our school community.

This term has been filled with many achievements and memorable moments for our pupils. From excellent progress in the classroom to participation in sports, arts, and enrichment activities, it has been wonderful to see our students grow in confidence and enthusiasm. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and accomplishments.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our dedicated staff, whose commitment and hard work ensure that every child is supported and encouraged to reach their full potential. As we approach the Easter break, we hope this will be a time for rest, reflection, and enjoyment with family and friends. We encourage all pupils to take a well-earned break and return refreshed for the summer term.

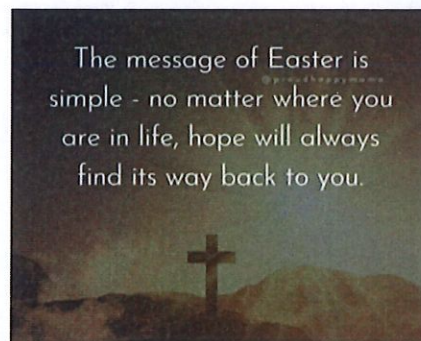
The new term will begin on Monday 13th April, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back.

On behalf of everyone at the school, I wish you a happy and peaceful Easter.

Mrs. Walker

Mindful Moments

The message of Easter is simple - no matter where you are in life, hope will always find its way back to you.



Dojo Messages

- Attendance
- Music Lesson Assembly
- Clear ParnyPay balances
- Meal bookings for new term

A note from Mrs Walker

We are incredibly proud of all the children who took part in our Easter performance, The First Easter. They did a fantastic job bringing the story to life with confidence, enthusiasm, and real expression. It was a joy to watch, and we were delighted to welcome so many families who joined us to share in this special occasion—thank you for your continued support.

We were also treated to a wonderful assembly from the children who attend band practice. Performing in front of the whole school takes great courage, and they rose to the occasion brilliantly. Their performance was uplifting, toe-tapping, and full of energy—leaving us all smiling. We are so proud of their commitment and the progress they have made.

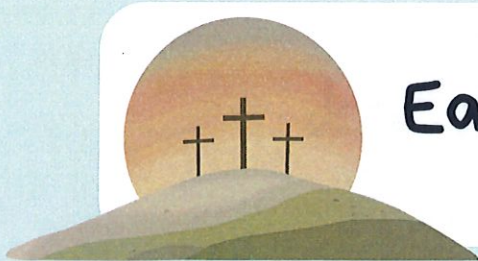
We were also delighted to present our Year 6 pupils with their leavers' hoodies this week. They wore them with great pride and looked incredibly smart—a lovely way to mark their final term with us. It was especially nice to include Mr Austin and Mrs Wells in this moment too, as they have supported the children throughout their journey. The hoodies have already created a real sense of unity and excitement among the pupils, and we look forward to sharing many more special memories with them in the weeks ahead!

Please note - When we return Forest School will be taking place on different days due to us needing to cover classes and also celebrate Earth Day. Please do take the time to make a note of the changes below.

- ACORN - WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL - Morning session.
- CHESTNUT - THURSDAY 16TH APRIL - Morning session.
- OAK - THURSDAY 16TH APRIL - Afternoon Session.
- ACORN AND CHESTNUT - WEDNESDAY 22ND APRIL - Morning session celebrating Earth Day!
- CHESTNUT - Thursday 23rd April, Morning session.
- OAK - Residential, no Forest School this week.



THANKFULNESS ~ COMMUNITY ~ COMPASSION ~ TRUTHFULNESS ~ COURAGE ~ FORGIVENESS

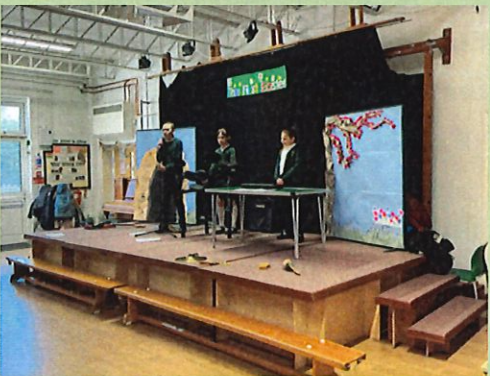


Easter Performance





A Very Musical Assembly!





Acorn Class

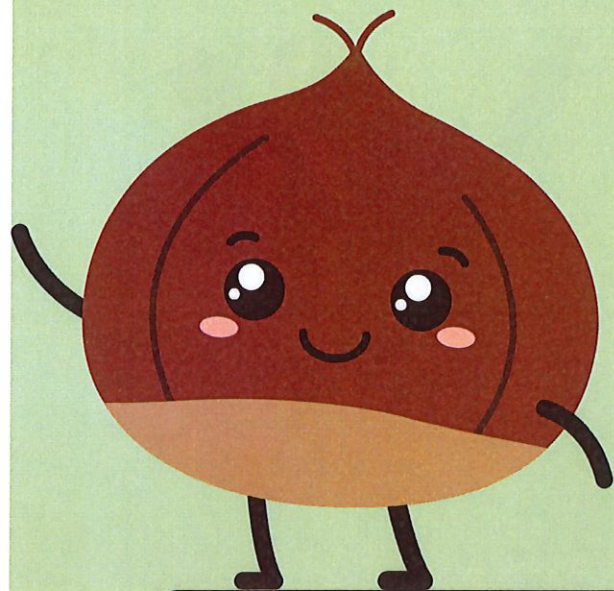
This Week In Class

Acorn Class have been absolutely lovely this week, and I couldn't be prouder of them—especially as it's our last week together. In Science, we finished our learning on microhabitats by creating our very own “bug hotels” for the garden, which was lots of fun and a great way to help look after the minibeasts around us.

In Literacy, we enjoyed reading *The Giant Jam Sandwich*. We sequenced the story, wrote our own instructions on how to make a sandwich, and then put our learning into practice by making jam sandwiches for our snack—it was great fun and very tasty too! I have truly loved being their teacher and will cherish all the special moments we've shared.

We also welcomed our EYFS parents and carers into class this week to take part in some Easter craft activities, lots of fun was had by all, thank you for joining us.





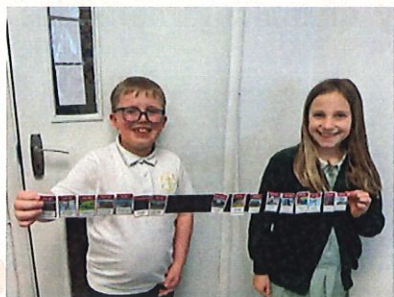
Chestnut Class

This Week In Class

This half term has been a very busy one and this last week has been busy too. In maths we have continued to work on our times tables and fractions. In English we looked at Performance Poetry. We started off by performing poems and then moved on to writing and performing our own poems.

In PSHE we have continued to look at budgeting. In history we looked at a timeline of the Roman Empire and how their control spread throughout the world. A lot of our week was spent working towards the Easter Performance. We had lots of rehearsals and enjoyed learning our songs.

I'm very proud of the children and their effort and attitude. We have had a great half term and I look forward to seeing everyone back after Easter.





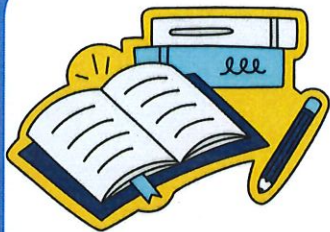
Oak Class

This Week In Class

This week in Oak class, we have focused on retrieving information in our reading lessons and have developed our understanding of how suffixes change root words in our grammar lessons. In maths, been learning about algebra and how to for expressions and solve equations. In science, we have created models of how the Earth rotates around the sun and how the moon rotates around the Earth. In RE we have learnt about the significance of symbols of Easter as well as performing our Easter production.

A special well done to Albie, he was invited to attend a practice day at Ipswich premiership speedway team on Wednesday, where he got to do some training on his speedway bike and learn and observe from some of the best adult riders in the country! A fantastic experience and "in awe" moments for him to ride on such a prestigious well known track! A day of making memories and achieving dreams.





Attendance



TARGETS

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

National Attendance Target is: **93.5%**

Whole School Attendance this week is: **90.51%**

Pupils with 100% attendance this week: **44**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which **CIRCLE** are you in?



THIS WEEK

Reception	73%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	92%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	84%



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.

STUDYBUGS

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

FOREST SCHOOL



This Week



Acorn class were unlucky with the weather this week as the high winds prevented us from being able to head down to the forest school area. In turn, we were unable to have a campfire. We will therefore try to do this when we come back to school after the Easter break. The children therefore carried on with the jobs in their outdoor area and today we emptied the shed, cleaned it all out and sorted through the contents. The children also tidied up and reorganised the construction area. We then gave the children some clay and challenged them to make some fruit and vegetables that they will be able to paint when we come back to school next term. Well done Acorn class.

Chestnut class were all very excited to be having a campfire this week. Mrs Valentine had a small group of children to help her and she went through the three essential elements required for a fire: fuel (combustible material), oxygen (oxidizing agent), and heat (ignition source). A fire will not ignite or persist if any of these components are missing. The children then built the fire and lit it themselves using a flint and steel. Each of the children were able to toast their own marshmallow and they sandwiched them together with chocolate biscuits to make s'mores. Some of the children painted their clay fruit and vegetables and these will be put around our allotment after Easter. A lovely session Chestnut class, well done.

Oak class were also extremely happy to be having a campfire this week. Mrs Valentine went through the essential elements with them and they too built their own fire and lit it with a flint and steel. The children toasted their own marshmallows and made s'mores by sandwiching them together with chocolate biscuits. The children were able to continue with their whittling projects and others painted their clay fruit and vegetables. Another great session Oak class, well done!

Freddie Forest Bear will now be having a little hibernation over Easter and will look forward to more home visits next term.

PLEASE NOTE: - WHEN WE RETURN FOREST SCHOOL WILL BE TAKING PLACE ON DIFFERENT DAYS!

ACORN - WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL - MORNING

CHESTNUT - THURSDAY 16TH APRIL - MORNING

OAK - THURSDAY 16TH APRIL - AFTERNOON

ACORN AND CHESTNUT - WEDNESDAY 22ND APRIL - MORNING CELEBRATING EARTH DAY!

CHESTNUT - THURSDAY 23RD APRIL - MORNING

OAK - RESIDENTIAL

Miss Wilson
Forest School Lead

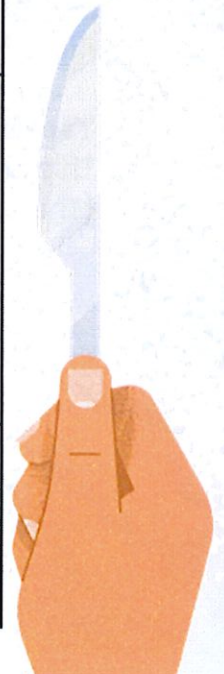
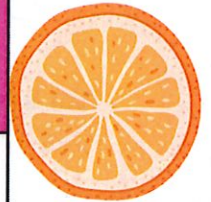


UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Activity	Who
30th Mar - 10th Apr	HALF TERM	Whole School
13th April	Return to School	Whole School
22.04.26 - 24.04.26	Year 5 & 6 Residential - Danbury Outdoors	
22.04.26	Earth Day A.M	Acorn & Chestnut
30.04.26	Trust Orienteering - The Willows Primary School	Selected pupils
01.05.26	Inset Day	Whole School
04.05.26	May Bank Holiday	Whole School
06.05.26	Acorn class trip - Call of the Wild	Acorn Class
11.05.26	Year 6 SATS	Year 6
05.06.26	Swimming lessons - 6 weeks	Year 5 & 6

TERMLY MENU

This is our new menu which begins on 23rd February and runs through to taking us right up to 27th March. This is now published on ParentPay for bookings. We work a week in advance for bookings. The deadline for bookings is 9am Monday for the following week.



	Meat-free Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	Tomato and basil pasta V with garlic bread and side salad or Cheese / tuna baguette	Sausage or Quorn sausage V with mash, peas and gravy or Cheese / ham baguette	Roast chicken or Quorn fillet V with roast potatoes, veg and gravy or Cheese / ham baguette	Beef bolognese or Quorn bolognese V pasta bake with side salad or Cheese / ham baguette or Jacket potato with cheese / beans / tuna	Fish fingers or veggie fingers V with chips, peas and sweetcorn or Cheese / ham / tuna baguette
	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Baked treat
Week 2	Cheese and tomato pasta V with garlic bread and side salad or Cheese / tuna baguette	Pitta bread pizza with cheese V or ham with potato wedges and side salad or Cheese / ham baguette	Sausage roast or Quorn sausage roast V or Cheese / ham baguette	Meatball or no meat ball V pasta bake with salad or Cheese / ham baguette or Jacket potato with cheese / beans / tuna	Chicken nuggets or Quorn nuggets V with potato wedges and beans or Cheese / ham / tuna baguette
	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Baked treat



Clubs

Spring Term After School Clubs February - March 2026

We are delighted to confirm that we will be providing the Clubs below from January.

All after school clubs will be starting w/c 5th January 2026 through to w/c 23rd March 2026.

Clubs Commence on Monday 13th April 2026

KS1 & KS2 Games & Creative Arts Club – Tuesday: 3.15pm – 4.15pm

This after school club is available for all year groups and will be run by Mrs Carlier

KS1 & KS2 Film Club – Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm

This after school club is available for all year groups and will be run by Mrs Beard

KS2 Netball Club – Wednesday 12:00pm – 1:00pm

This lunch club is available for KS2 and will be run by Miss Francis. PE Kit will need to be worn, no jewellery!

KS1 & KS2 Art Club – Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm


This after school club is available for all year groups and will be run by Mrs Fallon

KS1 & KS2 Lego Club – Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm

This after school club is available for all year groups and will be run by Mrs Richardson

Year 6 Tutoring Club – Thursday 3.15pm – 4.15pm

This after school club is available for Year 6 and will be run by Mr Austin
(This will be managed in groups throughout the year)





HAPPY RETIREMENT MRS FALLON



Goodbye

After over six wonderful years of dedication and care, we say a heartfelt farewell to Mrs Fallon from Acorn Class as she begins her well-earned retirement.



Mrs Fallon has been a truly valued member of our school community, and her impact on Acorn Class has been immeasurable. She has created a warm, nurturing environment where every child has felt safe, supported, and encouraged to be themselves. Her ability to build such strong and trusting relationships with the children is something very special, and it is no surprise that she holds a place in so many of their hearts.

Known for her love of Christmas (which she brought to life so magically each year!) and her well-known fondness for chocolate, Mrs Fallon has brought joy, laughter, and kindness into school life in countless ways. Her enthusiasm and sense of fun have made learning memorable and meaningful for the children she has worked with.

While we will miss her greatly, we are incredibly grateful for everything she has given to our school over the years. She leaves behind a legacy of care, compassion, and dedication that will not be forgotten.

We wish Mrs Fallon a long, happy, and relaxing retirement—filled with all the things she loves most.

With our love and very best wishes,

All at St Mary's





Friends of St Mary's School

FOSMS



Welcome Spring!

Let's embrace the sunshine and fresh beginnings that Spring brings to our community!

Coins in a bottle

The big count will take place over the Easter break and the winning class will be announced when we return.

Thanks you all so much for taking part and you can look forward to finding out what the classes spend their money on.

Easter Raffle

Thank you all so very much for your support of the Easter raffle. From the kind donations to the purchase of tickets, your support has been incredible. Our school community really is the best.

We managed to raise over £250 which is just an amazing total!



Easter Egg Hunt

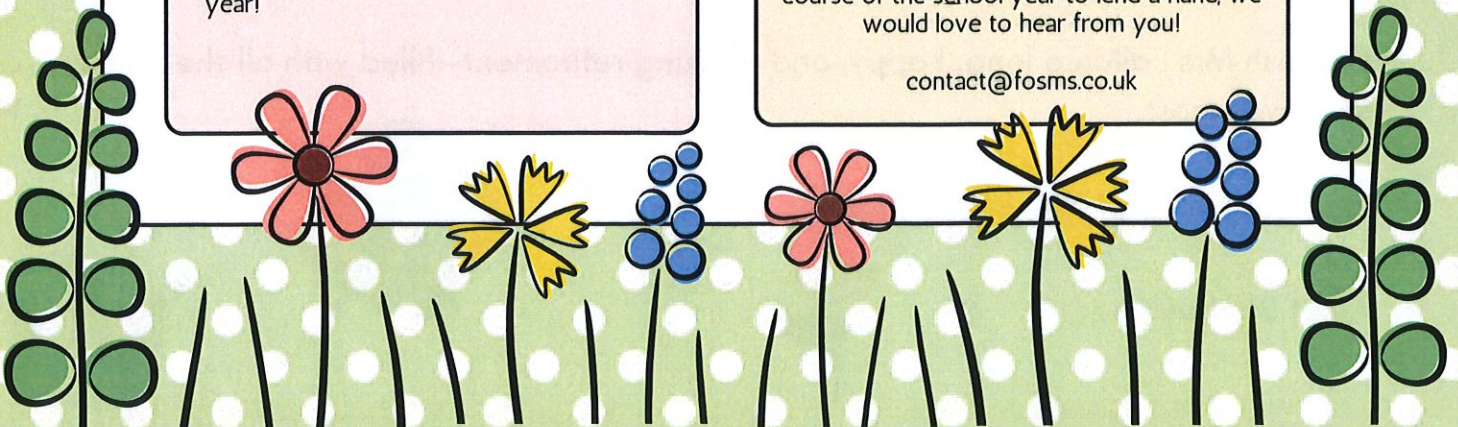
Due to so many exciting things taking place today we will be handing out the Easter Chocolates at church today.

The children are delighted that i'm not making them work for their treat this year!

Can you help?

As always, we can only run our fun events and raise money for our school with help from volunteers. If you feel you could spare a few hours or share some new ideas over the course of the school year to lend a hand, we would love to hear from you!

contact@fosms.co.uk





BERLESDUNA VACANCIES

MARCH 2026



<https://www.berlesduna.co.uk/information/vacancies/>

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. We expect all staff and volunteers to share our commitment. All successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced DBS check, medical clearance and satisfactory references. We are an equal opportunities employer.

Cherry Tree Primary School and Nursery

EYFS Teacher. Applications close 14th April 2026. Interviews 21st April 2026.

Fairhouse Primary School

Class Teacher. Applications close 14th April 2026. Interviews 20th April 2026.

Merrylands Primary School and Nursery

Catering Assistant. Applications close 17th April 2026. Interviews week commencing 27th April 2026. Lead Teacher for Autism Spectrum Conditions. Applications close 19th April 2026. Interviews week commencing 27th April 2026.

Whitmore Primary School and Nursery

Class Teacher (Fixed term contract). Applications close: 14th April 2026. Interviews: 20th April 2026.

Willows Primary School and Nursery

Class Teacher - Fixed Term Contract. Applications close 24th April 2026. Interviews: To be confirmed.

