

St Mary's C of E Primary School E-Newsletter

School Value: Courage

Friday 26th June 2025

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

A note from the Headteacher..... As we come to the close of yet another productive week at our primary school, I am delighted to share some of the exciting activities and engagements that our pupils have experienced lately.

On Tuesday, the Chestnut class pupils had the wonderful opportunity to attend a Food and Farming trip. This enriching experience provided them with a deeper understanding of the food production process and the importance of agriculture in our society. The children were able to connect with local farmers, learn about various farming practices, and even engage in some hands-on activities that allowed them to appreciate the origins of the food they consume. It was heartening to see the enthusiasm on the children's faces as they explored this vital aspect of our community.

Following this, on Wednesday, we organised a Trust pupil voice visit to our Forest School area. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Miss Wilson for facilitating this event. Our Forest School programme is designed to foster a love for nature and develop essential life skills through outdoor learning. During this visit, pupils were able to express their thoughts and opinions about their experiences in our natural environment. Their insightful feedback is invaluable in helping us create programmes that resonate with their interests and educational needs.

This week's highlight was undoubtedly the Bikeability programme for our Year 6 pupils. Beginning on the playground, day one focused on essential cycling skills and road safety awareness. The children were enthusiastic participants in various activities, including cycling techniques and helmet safety checks. Day two saw the pupils take to the roads surrounding the SWF Leisure Centre, where they applied their newly acquired skills in real-world conditions. The contribution of our dedicated staff and volunteers ensured that the children not only learned to cycle safely but also gained confidence in their abilities on the road.

In addition to these thrilling activities, our Year 6 pupils are currently participating in their inductions to secondary school. This transition stage is crucial for them, and we are committed to ensuring that their move to secondary education is as smooth and supportive as possible. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this transition, please do not hesitate to contact the school office for assistance.

Looking ahead, we are excited to inform you about the upcoming trip for Acorn class to Stow Maries next week. This excursion promises to be yet another excellent opportunity for our pupils to engage with their learning outside of the classroom and further explore the world around them. Please ensure you have returned your consent and made the payment on ParentPay.

As we count down to the end of term, I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and guardians to ensure that any outstanding debts on ParentPay are cleared. This will help us manage our school resources effectively and continue providing exceptional educational experiences for all our pupils.

Thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration. It is a privilege to work alongside such a dedicated team of parents and educators in nurturing the growth and development of our children.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend, Mrs Walker

Classroom News

Acorn Class:

Another productive week in acorn class. The children have really enjoyed our butterfly journey and it has really given them a hands on experience of metamorphosis. This has linked well to our Science and looking at different types of animals. In maths we have started to look at mass, capacity and temperature. We have been doing lots of practical weighing and looking at standard and non-standard measurements. In History we have looked at Grace Darling who helped rescue sailors in stormy waters.

Mrs Fallon — Class Teacher

Chestnut Class:

We have really enjoyed this week. On Tuesday we went to Essex Food and Farming and had a wonderful day. There were six different areas and all were very interactive. We really enjoyed seeing the farm machinery in action. One of our favourite parts of the day was the Sheep Show. Did you know that sheep can dance?! No, we didn't either. Another delight of the day was the food zone where they gave the children (and adults) lots of yummy treats. We really enjoyed all of the zones. The stewards that walked us around said how impressed they were with the children's behavior and I agreed too. They were superstars!

Mrs Carlier—Class Teacher

Oak Class: This week in Oak Class has been a little unusual as Year 6 pupils have taken part in secondary school transition activities, helping them prepare for the exciting changes ahead. They also participated in Bikeability sessions, gaining valuable road safety skills and improving their cycling confidence. Nevertheless, in maths, we have been learning about statistics, focusing particularly on interpreting and creating bar charts and line graphs. Our reading sessions have centred around the important skill of retrieving information from texts. In grammar, we have introduced the use of ellipses and in RE, we've been reflecting on the theme of influences. The children considered the people, values, and experiences that shape who they are, leading to thoughtful and mature discussions about identity, role models, and decision-making. In art we have continued our fashion design pathway.

Mr Austin—Class Teacher

Acorn Achiever

Louisa has become a free reader this week, and we are so proud of her. Louisa always reads her book in the morning. She listens and participates well during our phonics lesson. She also reads in her free time at home. Well done Louisa

Chestnut Achiever

Chestnut Class. We went on a trip to Essex Food and Farming and the children represented our school and its values beautifully. I saw every school value being displayed multiple times, including courage when not wanting to do an activity but changing their mind and having a go anyway. I'm very proud of Chestnut Class. Well done!

Oak Achiever

Oak's achiever this week is Peter has worked really hard on the presentation of his work. He is really focussing on trying to punctuate it correctly and ensuring his letters are properly formed and of a consistent size. Well done, Peter.

Demonstrating our School Values

THANKFULNESS COMPASSION COMMUNITY TRUTHFULNESS COURAGE FORGIVENESS

Acorn: Evie-Rose has shown courage this week and I am super proud of how she has handled her assessments. Well done Evie-Rose you are ready for year two.

Chestnut: Poppy has worked so hard on her story writing this week. She has amazed me with her effort. She listened really carefully to what I had asked for and joined her handwriting too. Well done Poppy!

Oak: Oak's value achiever is Eva. Eva has really impressed the adults with her mature attitude and sense of community during the pupil voice session this week. She represented the school admirably and we are all very proud of her. Well done, Eva.



Acorn class had fun this week playing with our teddy bear animals. The children each took an animal or two and found/made a suitable home for them. We had some lovely little creations made, from a treetop house for an owl and a stick den for a fox. The children also enjoyed climbing trees, playing in the mud digging area and using our new and improved mud kitchen! Some of the children also went on a bug hunt and they found a huge green caterpillar! Well done Acorn class.

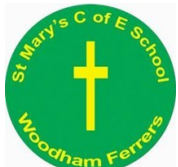
Oak class had another busy session this week. The children continued with their building projects and some of them are really starting to take shape now. The girls used an old pallet and some pieces of wood screwed together and built a table. They then went on to make some table mats and a flower centrepiece to give it some more character. The children really have done extremely well with their projects and should be very proud of themselves. Well done Oak class.



Freddie Forest Bear had a lovely time with Aria last weekend and is now looking forward to going home with Eva from Oak class this week. Eva is extremely passionate about Forest School and is always enthusiastic about any activity or project that I suggest. Eva volunteered herself this week to take part in our Pupil Voice forest session, where children and adults from the other schools in the Trust came to St Mary's to see what forest school was all about. Eva was a credit to St Mary's and was on hand to help and talk to any of the other children who had questions about what forest school is. Well done Eva and enjoy your weekend with Freddie.

Miss Wilson—Forest School Lead





MENU

w/c 30.06.25

A reminder that we require meals to be booked one week in advance on ParentPay.

The cut off for this is 9am every Monday for the following week.

If you have missed the deadline you must ensure your child has a packed lunch with them.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Beef Bolognaise Pasta bake	Sausage , chips, beans	Chicken roast	Jacket Potato Tuna	Fish Fingers
Quorn mince Pasta bake	Quorn sausage, chips, beans	Quorn fillet roast	Jacket Potato cheese	Veggie Fingers
Ham Baguette	Ham Baguette	Ham Baguette	Ham Baguette	Ham Baguette
Cheese Baguette	Cheese Baguette	Cheese Baguette	Cheese Baguette	Cheese / Tuna Baguette

Dojo messages this week:

- ◇ WDF Induction Days
- ◇ Stow Maries Great War Museum Trip
- ◇ William de Ferrers Summer Fayre
- ◇ RHSE information letter
- ◇ After School Clubs
- ◇ Schollastic Book Fair payment receipts

Summer Term Clubs

KS1 & KS2 Multiskills Club

Monday: 12.30pm—1:00pm

Mr S.Thomas—EKC

KS1 & KS2 Film Club

Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Mrs Beard

KS1 & KS2 Science Club

Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Mrs Carlier

KS1 & KS2 Gardening Lunchtime Club

Wednesday 12:30pm—1:00pm

Miss Wilson

KS1 & KS2 Lego Club

Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Mrs Matthews

KS1 & KS2 Art Club

Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Mrs Fallon



BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

DOWNHAM – FIXED TERM CLASS TEACHER (Full Time) – closing date 2nd July

MERRYLANDS – MIDDAY SUPERVISOR – (11.67 hours per week)- closing date 8th July

MERRYLANDS – SEND HIGH NEEDS SUPPORT ASSISTANT (32.5 hours per week) - closing date 3rd July

WHITMORE – SITE MANAGER (32.5 hours per week) – closing date 30th June

For more information and to apply for any of these exciting opportunities, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies - Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)

dates to Remember

Please note that dates are subject to change.— Check Dojo events page for further info

Date	Activity	Who
3rd July	Stow Maries Great war museum	Acorn Class
7th July	Sports day Parents on field at 11.50 - picnic/bbq lunch (PTA). Sports Day start at 1.30pm - BBQ/Games after school	
9th July	Trust Swimming Gala	Selected pupils
11th July	Books, biscuits and Blankets 2.45pm— 3.15pm on the school field	
11th July	School reports home	
11th July	Year 2 writing session in Chestnut—English	
11th July	EYFS & Yr 1 Working in Partnership	
14th July	Class Transition Mornings EYFS Transition morning with Parents	
14th July	Sports day reserve date	
16th July	Class Transition Mornings EYFS Transition morning without Parents	
17th July	Art Gallery	2:30pm Parents will have an opportunity to view pupils work and discuss reports if they wish.

dates to Remember

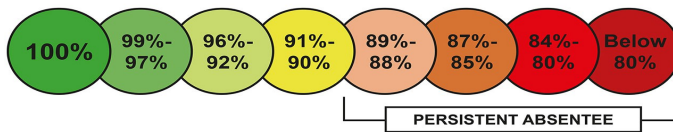
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Date	Activity	Who
18th July	Make the rules day—end of year party	
21st July	Year 6 Leavers Trip—Air Hop, Chelmsford	Year 6
22nd July	St Mary's Church—Leavers Service	Whole school including Year 6 parents to attend 9am-10am at St Mary's Church
22nd July	Year 6 leavers assembly	Year 6



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?



Reception	57.50%
Year 1	88.89%
Year 2	85.71%
Year 3	84.44%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	59.38%



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

National Attendance Target is: **93.5%**

Whole School Attendance this week is: **80.95%**

Pupils with 100% attendance this week: **34**

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.

Friends of St Mary's School (FOSMS)



A note from FOSMS,

We are hurtling towards Sports Day!

The countdown is officially on for Sports Day – one of the most exciting events in the school calendar! We can already feel the summer spirit and camaraderie building, and FOSMS is busy behind the scenes planning some extra treats to help make the day even more special.

Help us cut waste – pre/order your BBQ and Cream Teas!

To keep things sustainable and avoid food waste, we're taking pre/orders for our BBQ and cream teas this year. It also means one less queue on the day!

Order yours now via our website:

www.fosms.co.uk/upcoming-events

We need your help!

Events like this can't happen without a bit of help from our lovely community. Whether you can spare 30 minutes or longer, we'd love some extra hands to help run stalls on the day.

Please sign up here if you can volunteer:

volunteersignup.org/E4A9W

Thank you as always for your support – we can't wait to see you all there, cheering on the children, enjoying the sunshine (fingers crossed!) and making memories together.

Year 6 Leavers Trip

We have booked and paid for the Year 6 leavers trip to Air Hop in Chelmsford. Please keep a look out on Dojo for the information. We will need parents to complete waivers beforehand. Thank you so much for your support, this has meant that providing this special treat for a large cohort of year 6 pupils is possible.

Warm wishes,

The FOSMS Team

contact@fosms.co.uk | www.fosms.co.uk