

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

School Value: Forgiveness

Friday 6th June 2025

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

A note from the Headteacher..... Welcome back to the final term of the school year, we have lots of things planned over the coming weeks and we are very grateful for your continued support.

On Tuesday we were joined by John Willis the founder of power to inspire, which is an inclusion through sport charity. John who was born without fully formed arms and legs told us his inspirational story of how he competed in an able-bodied triathlon. John shared his experiences so that no child is excluded from sports. The whole school participated in games such as 'blind' ball skills, 'sit down' volley ball and curling to give the children a better understanding. It was a powerful assembly which the whole school enjoyed.

John said

" Oh, what a joy to return to one of my favourite schools! St Mary's is small – with only 65 pupils but it truly packs a punch: it is one of the happiest and outstanding school in many Ofsted categories and a wonderful place to learn! Their success has led to an increase in the number of SEND pupils, which they absorb in a lovely, nurturing way. The school is split into three multi-year classes. We started with years Reception, and Years 1 and 2 (Acorn class). Watching these very young pupils learn sitting volleyball, curling and goalball quite so quickly was humbling, but truly remarkable was seeing them include everyone regardless of their issues. Mrs Fallon, Acorn class teacher, said that following my last visit in 2022, she had added my 'vision' (her words) to her class wall, and they refer to it every day: "I can't do it Yet!" Years 3 and 4 were full of fun – they truly lived up to our number one rule: to have fun. With Years 5 and 6, after lunch, we added a fourth game – sitting netball and our new bibs worked a treat. Mrs Fallon also repeated an exchange she had with a pupil. The pupil had been struggling with homework, so her mum had advised her that "Practice makes Perfect". The pupil had responded, that's not right – it is "Practice makes Progress", because that is what John says! The messages clearly also reach home. I love my visits to this jewel of a school and hope it isn't three years before they (or a funder – anyone out there?) can fund another joyful day"



Rev Jacqui took assembly on Wednesday based around forgiving those who trespass against us from The Lords Prayer. Matthew 6:9-13. Rev Jacqui spoke to the children about what trespassing meant in a fun way. She explained that it was doing or saying something wrong or having thoughts that lead us down the wrong road. She explained that remembering God at these times could be used as a guide to lead us back in the right direction. Rev Jacqui spoke about a global prayer movement called Thy Kingdon Come which involves 195 countries across the world, inviting Christians around the world to come together in prayer.

This week we were contacted by Councillor Dobson from Essex CC regarding the possibility of having a pedestrian crossing installed outside school. Unfortunately we heard back from the School Crossing Patrol Co-Ordinator that after their assessment on Tuesday 2nd June, our school did not meet the criteria for the installation of a crossing.

We are looking forward to taking our year 6 children to a leavers service at Chelmsford Cathedral on Tuesday 10th June.

We also have the Book Fair arriving next week 11-13 June. Please do pop in to the school hall after school and support us. We receive a small commission from every book that is bought which we then use to update our library with current best sellers for the children to enjoy.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend, Mrs Walker

SCHOLASTIC

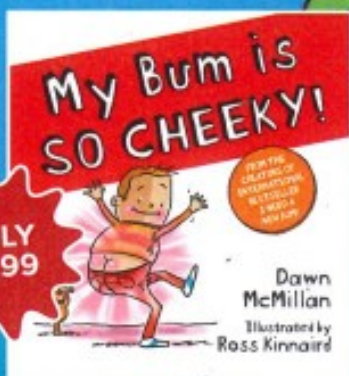
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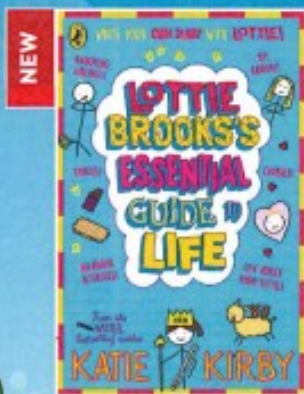


From
CBeebies
presenter
George
Webster



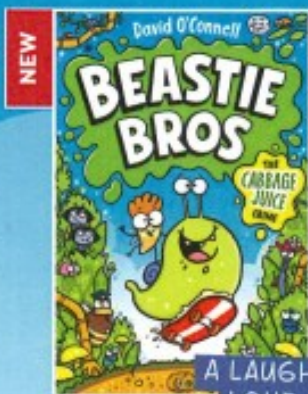
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NOW A
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Date: 11 - 13th June
SCHOOL HALL
3:15pm - 3:45pm.

Scan the QR code
to pay online!



Classroom News

Acorn Class:

Acorns are off to a good start to the term. We have introduced our new topic 'On the move' where we will be looking at all types of transport. In maths this week reception are looking at numbers beyond 10 and Year 1 & 2 have been looking at time, focussing on days of the week and months of the year. In literacy we have been looking at poems. Our plants are growing really well and we even have a few strawberries developing so we have been caring for them. In computing we have been learning how to programme animation using the scratch junior app.

Mrs Fallon — Class Teacher

Chestnut Class:

In Chestnut Class this week we have been doing assessments which the children seem to have really enjoyed. We have started to learn about our new topic of Ancient Egypt which we linked to the geography that we learned about before. I was hugely impressed with the facts and information that they remembered from months before. In RE we have started to look at Muslim Daily Life and discussed the journey of life and that it's not always easy. We thought of five things to help us through the stages. In Science we have started to look at plants and how we know if they are healthy or not.

Mrs Carlier—Class Teacher

Oak Class:

This week in Oak class we have completed our discussion texts in English and focussed on retrieving information from texts in our reading lessons. In maths, we have moved on to shape and learning about interior angles. In RE, have we have looked at how people have used religion to further civil causes and in art we have continued to create form in our drawings. In science, we have conducted our fair tests investigating forces and we have also enjoyed an excellent afternoon with Power 2 Inspire.

Mr Austin—Class Teacher

Acorn Achiever

Minnie-Mai has produced a lovely piece of writing he is really worked hard on improving his handwriting and presentation. We are very proud of Axel well done.

Chestnut Achiever

Stanley has worked really hard on his assessments this week. It has been wonderful to see how much he has managed to focus and the effort that he has put in. Good job Stanley!

Oak Achiever

Oak's achiever this week is Phoebe. Phoebe created an excellent discussion text in our writing lessons this week and ensured she included all the features that were needed. Her writing was beautifully present and really showcased her understanding. Well done, Phoebe.

Demonstrating our School Values

THANKFULNESS COMPASSION COMMUNITY TRUTHFULNESS COURAGE FORGIVENESS

Acorn: Harrison has shown our value of compassion by being very supportive to a reception child. He did this in a very kind and caring way which was lovely to see. Well done Harrison.

Chestnut: Henry for showing an excellent community spirit this week. He understands how it is to move to a different school and he has really helped to settle Oliver in to our way of life in Chestnut Class. Well done Henry!

Oak: Oak's value achiever is Dolly. Dolly is a kind and caring and compassionate member of our school community who always demonstrates our school values. We are very lucky to have her in our class.

THANKFULNESS ● COMMUNITY ● COMPASSION ● TRUTHFULNESS ● COURAGE ● FORGIVENESS



Acorn class worked extremely hard the week before half term, caring for their classroom outdoor area. We mended the picnic bench which had loose seating and cleaned it up before giving it a nice fresh coat of paint. The children also helped Mrs Elia to cut back a lot of the overgrown bushes and trees, which opened up the whole of the garden area. The children also helped Mrs Smith to plant some new cuttings. All of the children were hands on in getting these jobs done and they took pride in the way they were helping our natural environment.

This week, due to the high winds it was not safe to be in our forest school area so we spent our session in the outdoor area of Acorn classroom again. This did not stop us having lots of fun though and the children all did some whittling and made themselves some wands. They decorated their wands with felt tip pens and by wrapping wool round them to make them colourful. Great effort Acorn class, you should be very proud of yourselves!

Chestnut class were excited to be having campfires the week before half term. The children listened very carefully while we went through the fire safety information and a lot of them already knew some of the safety rules! Two groups of children built the campfires using kindling, newspaper and cotton wool and then lit the fires using a flint and steel. Each child toasted their own marshmallow on a skewer and we sandwiched them between two chocolate biscuits to make s'mores.

This week the children all had fun whittling and making wands and wizards using wool and paint to make them extra colourful. The children also had some free time to play and they enjoyed the mud kitchen and the other forest school resources. Well done Chestnut class!

Oak class also enjoyed having campfires the week before half term and they knew almost of the fire safety rules, having done quite a few campfires in previous sessions. They were extremely knowledgeable on how to build campfires and they set about doing this themselves, using kindling, newspaper and cotton wool. They then used a flint and steel to light the fires. As with Chestnut class, all of the children had the opportunity to toast their own marshmallow on a skewer and then made s'mores with digestive biscuits'.

This week, due to the high winds Oak class could not have their session in the forest school area and so we moved our session onto the school field. All of the children enjoyed the whittling and they made some great wands. We also had a couple of other challenges for the children; they were split into groups and each group was given a colour and they had to go round the school field and find as many items of that colour that they could. The children were very creative with some of their finds but they had fun doing this challenge. The same groups then had to make an animal shape out of sticks, leaves, bark, etc. and us adults had to guess what animal it was meant to be. The most impressive animal came from the girls group who had created a pig! The children also had some free time in which some of the children made perfume using flowers, leaves and grass and some children also did some painting. Well done Oak class!

Freddie Forest Bear has had a lovely break and will resume his travels next week.

Miss Wilson—Forest School Lead





MENU
w/c 09.06.25

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.

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Meatball Pasta Bake	Ham Pizza	Sausage Roast	Jacket Potato with Tuna	Chicken Nuggets / Quorn Nuggets
No meat meat-ball pasta bake	Cheese Pizza	Quorn Sausage Roast	Jacket Potato with Cheese	Ham Baguette
Ham Baguette	Ham Baguette	Ham Baguette	Ham Baguette	Cheese Baguette
Cheese Baguette	Cheese Baguette	Cheese Baguette	Cheese Baguette	Tuna Baguette

Dojo messages this week:

- ◇ Acorn Class—Stow Maries trip
- ◇ Chestnut Class— Reminder for Food & Farming trip
- ◇ Paul Hannaford School Presentation at WDF
- ◇ Cool Milk Registration
- ◇ Book Fair Visit—11-13th June

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

dates to Remember

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

Date	Activity	Who
10th June	Year 6 Leavers service Chelmsford Cathedral	
19th June	Trust Netball Tournament	Selected pupils
20th June	Year 6 Cyber safety & Knife crime with Essex County Fire and Rescue Service.	
24th June	Essex Food & Farming day	Chestnut Class
25th June	Trust Pupil Voice @ St Mary's School—Forest School	
26th June	Stay and Play craft morning 9.30am-10.30am for the new Reception intake	
26th June	Year 6 Bikeability – taking place at St Marys School	
27th June	Year 6 Bikeability— 08:45 Parents/guardians with children and their bikes will meet at the leisure centre in SWF. 13:00: Parents/guardians will pick up the children and return them to school.	
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	

dates to Remember

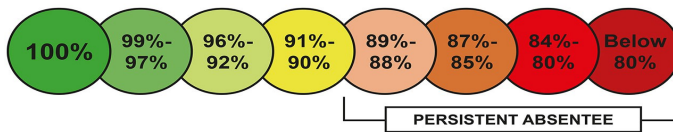
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Date	Activity	Who
9th July	Trust Swimming Gala	Selected pupils
11th July	Books, biscuits and Blankets 2.45pm— 3.15pm on the school field	
11th July	School reports home	
11th July	Year 2 writing session in Chestnut—English	
11th July	EYFS & Yr 1 Working 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.
21st July	Year 6 Leavers Trip—TBC	
22nd July	Year 6 leavers assembly	



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?



Reception	100%
Year 1	96.67%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	92.22%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	99%
Year 6	85%



Whole School Attendance Target is: 92%

National Attendance Target is: 93.5%

Whole School Attendance this week is: 94.44%

Pupils with 100% attendance this week: 54

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,

Welcome back to the final half term of the year, this is going to be a busy one for the FOSMS team and any help you can provide would be most welcome.

Father's Day / Significant Male Sale

We have our Sale taking place on Friday 13th June where children will be invited to come and purchase a gift for their special person during the school day. You can pre-pay on the following link for gifts. [Upcoming Events | fosms.co.uk](#)

Gifts are £2.00 each and multiple can be purchased. Our selection of gifts are not overtly male orientated so are suitable for any significant person in the children's lives.

If you are wanting to send in cash on the day please use a named envelope and hand to the office for safekeeping.

Amazon wish list

Thank you so much to those families who have purchased items from the class wish lists. I can't tell you how proud I am of our school community we are so very grateful for your kindness and generosity. Our teachers are beyond grateful and they are so appreciative of your support. We do keep these lists up to date and add things as they become needed so please do check back on your class if you're able to help.

Sports Day

Sports day is coming up on 7th July (reserve date 14th July). We will be hosting our usual BBQ and refreshments stands, we have a pre-order system in place for afternoon teas and we will also have a selection of home made cakes and cookies. As if you could want for more we also have a selection of entertaining games planned, not to mention our summer raffle! Please keep your eyes peeled for more information coming soon. As always Rhian and I need helpers so if you could spare some time to man a stall or help set up / put away it would be most welcome. We love putting on events but we are just two people!

Pre Order Afternoon Tea here—[Please pay \[\] to Friends of St Mary's School - FOSMS](#)

Committee News

Our Committee members have approved two requests for funds from school. The first being £100 to cover the cost of the Sinfonia Dots & lines music performance. This visit will be for the whole school and the children are very much looking forward to it.

We have also been asked if we could purchase new sports equipment for Sports Day and the children's weekly PE lessons. This has all been ordered and we have some lovely items to ensure sports day is fun for all.

With very grateful thanks,