

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

School Value: Thankfulness

Friday 31st January 2025

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

## *A note from the Headteacher...*

*This week we welcomed Reverend Jacqui in for another assembly on thankfulness to complement our value for this term.*

*Rev. Jacqui reminded us that we are all pieces of a puzzle - one piece doesn't give us the picture, we need all the pieces to come together to give the whole picture, every piece is important. 1 Corinthians 12. 12-31a. She used a Disney cars jigsaw to show the children how each piece was important to show the picture.*

*Rev. Jacqui then showed the children Mr Potato Heads body and how he needed all of the additional pieces to become whole. She said church was like the body and we are all the different body parts coming together to make a whole. The church needs all people to make up the church and spread the word of god. She explained that we are all different and have many strengths and weaknesses but by coming together we build a unique world where we all contribute. Rev. Jacqui gave the children a challenge to go away with - She asked if they could thank the people in their lives, family and friends for what they do and bring to the world. Giving thanks helps us to become a thankful community.*

*This week I have had the pleasure of showing two prospective parents around our wonderful school for possible mid year applications. As always, please feel free to provide our details to anyone looking for a school place and we will do our best to accommodate.*

*On the 13th February we have our Trust Spelling Bee competition taking place at Fairhouse school. We have selected 4 of our pupils who will be representing St Marys. We wish Mia, Leo, River and Eve lots of luck!*

*As you may have seen on dojo, we have been accepted by Tesco's with our "St Marys myHappyMind project." This programme will teach children the science behind their mental health, and give them the skills to create positive wellbeing that will benefit them for the rest of their lives. To vote you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token. Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on our project:*

*Burnham On Crouch Express Express CM0 8HQ*

*Danbury Express Express CM3 4QW*

*Maldon Extra CM9 4LE*

*We thank you for your ongoing support.*

*A gentle reminder to book your appointment for our upcoming Parent/Child Consultations with your child's class teacher. This is an invaluable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements, and address any questions or concerns you may have. To book your appointment, please send a message directly to your child's class teacher via Class Dojo with your preferred time slot. The teacher will confirm your appointment as soon as possible. Consultations will be taking place after school on 10th/11th and 12th February.*

*Please note there will be no clubs during w/c 10th February due to these consultations taking place.*

*Wishing you all a lovely weekend, Mrs Walker*

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## ST MARY'S SCHOOL

My Happy Mind

SUPPORTED BY TESCO

We are delighted to let you know that your application to Tesco Stronger Starts has been successful and your project will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores. Voting will commence in store from Mid-January 2025 until end the of March 2025.

### Stores taking part

Stores which will vote on your project  
Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on your project. Feel free to share this list of stores amongst your supporters and within your community.

2190 Burnham On Crouch Express Express CM0 8HQ  
2391 Danbury Express Express CM3 4QW  
2882 Maldon Extra CM9 4LE

### To vote for St Mary's School

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token.

Once voting has concluded in store, votes will be collated during the month of April 2025 and you will be notified of the outcome of the vote early May 2025.

Please do cast your votes when you shop at any of the above stores to give us the best chance of receiving a grant towards our Happy Mind project.



# Classroom News

## Acorn Class:

Acorns are really enjoying the book 'Georges marvellous Medicine' it is providing us with many laughs. In maths reception have been learning all about capacity and mass. Year 1 & 2 have been looking at subtraction across a 10. In RE we have been learning all about the Jewish religion and the celebration of Shabbat. In PE we are still covering dance and the children are learning to make up their own dance moves!

Mrs Fallon—Class Teacher

## Chestnut Class:

Everyone has really worked hard this week. In our reading lessons we were looking at a text about Egypt. We have focused on writing our story and top copying it beautifully into our writing books. We have made great progress this week with our multiplication and most year four children were multiplying and exchanging by Friday. In R.E. we continued to look at sacrifice and reminded ourselves of the Easter Story. Science was a fun lesson and the children enjoyed testing how far the toy cars travelled down the different ramps.

Mrs Carlier—Class Teacher

## Oak Class:

This week in Oak class we have prepared and created vlogs in our English lessons and have been using rounding to estimate answers to multiplication questions in maths. In science have planned a fair test ready for our practical experiment next week. Our RE has contrasted the four gospels of the resurrection, highlighting some of the key differences between the accounts. In history, we have looked at artefacts from the Kingdom of Benin and developed our own lines of enquiry based on these. In art, we have created the second of the three layers for our identity portraits and we have also started our Spring Term assessments.

Mr Austin—Class Teacher

### Acorn Achiever

Havana has shown a real improvement in her phonics and this has impacted her reading. We are very proud of how she joins in with phonics. Well done

### Chestnut Achiever

This week is Marcus. Marcus worked really hard on his story ideas and his finished work was very neat and his handwriting was lovely and clear.

### Oak Achiever

Oak's achiever this week is Ivy. Ivy, as she always does, has completed everything asked of her to the highest standard. She is attentive to input, asks questions if she's not sure and never rushes to complete a

## Demonstrating our School Values

THANKFULNESS COMPASSION COMMUNITY TRUTHFULNESS COURAGE FORGIVENESS

**Acorn:** Evie—Rose is building her resilience to not be over whelmed by more challenging work. She has shown real courage recently and Mrs Fallon & Mrs Smith have seen a real improvement in her learning attitude.

**Chestnut:** This week is Sonny. He showed respect for the other children in PSHE this week when we discussed what families meant to us. He listened carefully and encouraged other children to join in too.

**Oak:** Oak's value achiever is Matilda. Tilly is a mature and responsible young lady who displays both our School and British Values in all her interactions. She is tolerant, respectful and compassionate and is an asset to both our class and our school community.



**Acorn class** worked hard this week clearing and tidying their class garden. The wind had caused a lot of leaves and twigs to blow all over the place and the ball pit balls were everywhere! The children helped sweep and pick up the leaves, pick up all the balls and put all of their toys and equipment back where they belong. After we finished the tidying the children got to draw on small log circles and we threaded string on them to create hanging decorations. Some fine artwork was produced and some of the children took theirs home. We also had fun doing a forest school word search. Well done Acorn class!



**Chestnut class** also decorated some log circles and they did it with nail varnish as this is weather proof and can be hung outside to make our forest school area look more colourful. These have been left in the shed to dry and we will hang them out next week. Another group played at creating a "food court", with separate areas for a KFC and a McDonalds. They even created a drive through! Very imaginative Chestnut class, well done!

**Oak class** did a lot of clay modelling this week and you can see some of their creations on class dojo. I am hoping to have some actual air drying clay for next week so that they can paint or decorate their creations too. A group of the boys played at making their own "kingdom" and they chose character roles for themselves and built up a little area as their base. They had warriors, a king and even a blacksmith in their kingdom. We are planning to make a St Mary's Forest School sign to put up so a few of the children cut a large log into "slices" using a bow saw. So much got done in our session this week Oak class, well done!

**Freddie Forest Bear** is excited to be going home with Havana and Harmony from Acorn class this week. Both Havana and Harmony worked extremely hard this week and didn't stop until all of the garden was tidy and looking nice. They are always asking if they can help me when I am doing something and are happy and smiling all the time. Well done girls, enjoy your weekend with Freddie.

*Miss Wilson—Forest School Lead*





# MENU

## w/c 03.02.25

A reminder that we require meals to be booked in advance on ParentPay.  
 If you have missed the deadline you must ensure your child has a packed lunch with them.  
 Thank you  
**Deadline 9:00am Monday 27th January for dinners w/c 3rd February**  
**Deadline 9:00am Monday 3rd February for dinners w/c 10th February**

### St Mary's Clubs

**KS1 & KS2 Multiskills Club**  
 Monday: 12.30pm—1:00pm  
 Mr S.Thomas—EKC

**KS1 & KS2 Science Club**  
 Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm  
 Mrs Carlier

**KS1 & KS2 Art Club**  
 Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm  
 Mrs Fallon

**Year 6 Tutoring**  
 Thursday: 3.15pm—4:15pm  
 Mr Austin & Mrs Walker

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Sausage Pasta / Quorn Sausage Pasta	Pepperoni Pitta Pizza / Cheese Pitta Pizza	Roast Chicken / Quorn Fillet	Beef Bolognese / Quorn Bolognese	Fish Fingers / Veggie Fingers
Jacket Potato Cheese / Beans	Ham / Cheese Baguette	Jacket Potato Cheese / Beans	Ham / Cheese Baguette	Jacket Potato Cheese / Beans / Tuna

### Dojo messages this week:

- ◇ Installation of new electric gates
- ◇ Tesco in store voting
- ◇ Public notice—road closure
- ◇ Request from Forest Schools—nail varnish
- ◇ Essex Fire Museum



**BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – JOB VACANCIES**

BERLESDUNA – TRUSTEES/GOVERNORS closing date 14<sup>th</sup> February  
 DOWNHAM – PART TIME CLASS TEACHER (FIXED TERM MATERNITY COVER) closing date 12<sup>th</sup> February  
 FELMORE – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 7<sup>th</sup> February  
 FELMORE – CATERING ASSISTANT closing date 7<sup>th</sup> February  
 MERRYLANDS – CLEANING SUPERVISOR closing date 31<sup>st</sup> January  
 MERRYLANDS – CLEANER closing date 7<sup>th</sup> February  
 MERRYLANDS – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 2<sup>nd</sup> March  
 ST MARYS – EXECUTIVE DEPUTY HEADTEACHER closing date 27<sup>th</sup> February  
 WHITMORE – CATERING ASSISTANT – closing date 6<sup>th</sup> February

For more information and to apply for any of our roles, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies – Berlesduna Academy Trust](http://Vacancies-BerlesdunaAcademyTrust)



# AFTER SCHOOL MULTISKILLS CLUB

**MONDAY - ALL YEARS - UNTIL 4.00PM**



**For half termly costs and start/finish times, please visit:**

**Book online:** [www.essexkidscamp.co.uk/activities](http://www.essexkidscamp.co.uk/activities)

**Email:** [info@essexkidscamp.co.uk](mailto:info@essexkidscamp.co.uk)



@Essex Kids Camp

# dates to Remember

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

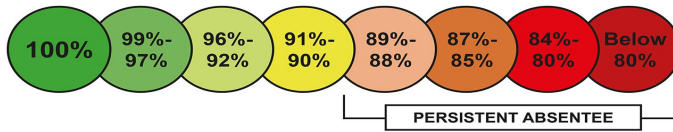
Date	Activity	Enrichment	Who
5th Feb	Essex PINS Parents Session 2 9am-11am	Learning & Executive Functioning	SEND Parents
10th Feb	Parent & Child Consultations 3.15pm—5:45pm	Working in Partnership	All classes
w/c 10th Feb	<b>No Clubs This week</b>		
11th Feb	Safer Internet day		
11th Feb	Parent & Child Consultations 3.15pm—4:45pm	Working in Partnership	All classes
12th Feb	Parent & Child Consultations 3.15pm—4:45pm	Working in Partnership	All classes
12th Feb	Trust Pupil Voice		Selected Pupils
13th Feb	Trust Spelling Bee — Fairhouse Primary		Selected Pupils
13th Feb	EYFS & year 1 working in partnership—TBC		
14th Feb	<b>Non Pupil Day</b>		
17th—21st Feb	<b>Half Term</b>		

Date	Activity	Enrichment	Who
26th Feb	Essex PINS Parents Session 3 9am-11am	Emotional Regulation	SEND Parents
4th Mar	Pancakes at The Chapel	PSHE / RE / DT	All classes
6th Mar	World Book Day— Non Uniform Come dressed as a word!	English	All classes
13th Mar	KS1/KS2 Trust Science Challenge	Science	Selected Pupils
w/c 24th Mar	Last week of clubs		
27th Mar	Curriculum DT Day 1	DT	All classes
28th Mar	Curriculum DT Day 2 Open afternoon for Parents to view pupil work 2:45pm	DT	All classes
28th Mar	FOSMS Significant Females sale—Details to follow		
3rd Apr	Easter Service Citizens 9:30—10.30am Parents 2-3pm		
4th Apr	FOSMS to draw raffle FOSMS Easter Egg hunt		
7th—21st Apr	Easter Holiday		
22nd April	Children return to school		



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



## Which CIRCLE are you in?



Reception	95%
Year 1	86.25%
Year 2	87.14%
Year 3	100%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	83%
Year 6	89.38%



Whole School Attendance Target is: **95%**

National Attendance Target is: **93.5%**

Whole School Attendance this week is: **90.97%**

Pupils with 100% attendance this week: **49**

### 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 up 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 have made it to the end of January, woohoo!

We are in the throes of planning our Mother's Day / Special person sale, the payment link is now open on our website for any eager beavers wanting to pay. We have lots of beautiful gifts suitable for that special female in the children's lives. It will be £2.00 per gift and as always, the children can purchase multiple if they wish. We will also be taking cash on the day if you prefer. Here is the link to the website - [Upcoming Events | fosms.co.uk](https://fosms.co.uk)

Easter plans are also underway, we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt for all the children to take part in and we are planning an Easter Raffle so we will be picking your pockets for tickets soon!

In other news we have now placed the order for our leavers hoodies so we can look forward to seeing our Year 6 boys and girls in those very soon.

We had our FOSMS meeting last week where we came together to share ideas and make plans, if you would like to take a look at the minutes from the meeting please take a look here

- [Agendas & Minutes | fosms.co.uk](https://fosms.co.uk)

If you are interested in finding out more about what we do and getting as involved as your time will allow, please do drop us a message [contact@fosms.co.uk](mailto:contact@fosms.co.uk). We are a friendly and welcoming bunch of parents raising money to support our children and our fabulous school.

Have a wonderful weekend, February here we come.

*Warm regards, FOSMS*

