

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

School Value: Compassion

Friday 8th November 2024

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

A note from the Headteacher...

I hope you all had a relaxing half term and were able to enjoy the additional inset day this week.

This week we hosted the writing moderation for our small hub of schools in the Trust - Crays Hill Primary School, St Nicholas, Canewdon Primary School and Downham Church of England Primary School - it was lovely to work together in a professional and collaborative way; sharing good practice of writing across the schools.

This afternoon we have John Cousins from the Royal British Legion coming in to speak to deliver a "Remember and Rejoice" assembly with the children. We are very much looking forward to seeing some war memorabilia and medals and the children have prepared some interesting questions for his visit.

On Monday 11th November we have our lovely new Reverend, Jacqui, coming in to deliver a Remembrance assembly during our Collective Worship to our pupils. We would love to open the invitation up to our families and welcome you to come and join us for a moment of reflection and to meet our new Reverend. The assembly will start just after registration and we hope to see you there.

In addition to the above, Rev Jacqui will be holding a Christingle Service at St Mary's Church for our children and families on Thursday 19th December at 9.05am. This is a wonderful service that we all thoroughly look forward to each year. We do hope that you can join us. We ask that parents please drop their child at the church on this morning, if your child attends breakfast club then the school will walk your child down.

Next week we kick start "Anti-Bullying Week 2024— Choose Respect", and we will have a number of activities planned. We have our Cultural celebration day featuring Guru Nanak's Gurburab and Diwali - a variety of activities which will create an engaging, inclusive, and educational experience for all of our pupils. Matt Mackman will be back at school with a focus on black history month - he will be working across the school with all children on this exciting project. We have our wonderful kindness day planned on Friday organised by Matilda, Mia and Isabelle which also coincides with Children in need where we are asking the children to come to school in spotty clothing and odd socks.

*A little reminder that we have Carmel Jane Photography visiting on the 12th of November 2024, to take the Individual, Sibling & Class Photos. All parents are requested to **pre-register** for instant access to your child's photographs once they are ready, pre-registration is required for every photo shoot.*

Register in 3 easy steps in less than a minute:

- 1. Head to www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk*
- 2. Enter your unique code : JRYJCPAKEC*
- 3. Include your child's full school register name.*

We are very much looking forward to taking Oak class going to the church next Tuesday afternoon to visit the War Memorial Exhibition with the Heritage Hub team. Children will have the opportunity to handle artefacts and carry out activities, benefitting from the original project researchers being on hand to answer their questions. We are very much looking forward to this event that ties in beautifully with Oak class topic this term.

*Next Thursday we have our FOSMS Firework Disco taking place in the school hall. This year FOSMS are asking that bookings are **made in advance**. Events like this require much planning, preparation and risk assessing. Please be aware that **no cash** will be accepted on the day and tickets must be pre-booked using the following link: <https://fosms.co.uk/upcoming-events> Thank you for your continued support.*

Wishing you all a lovely weekend, Mrs Walker



Classroom News

Acorn Class:

This week Acorns have been looking at place value and making sure we understand more about our numbers. We have introduced a new topic 'Fireworks and Festivals' where we will learn lots about different celebrations. This week we have focussed on Firework night and Remembrance Day. Through History we have looked at why we celebrate these. In PSHE we have been leaning about this terms value of compassion.

Mrs Fallon—Class Teacher

Chestnut Class:

It's only been a short week but it has flown by and we have done lots of learning. Our new topic is WWII and the children are really interested in it. In English we have finished off the last of our balanced argument writing. In maths we have look at some tricky addition and subtraction sums. We started our new science topic- States of Matter and had fun pretending that we were molecules. On Friday we spent some time doing Remembrance Day activities and in the afternoon we are looking forward to an interesting assembly from a member of the Royal British Legion.

Mrs Carlier—Class Teacher

Oak Class:

This week in Oak class we have begun our new topic of Remember and Rejoice, -The Great War.' We have created a chronology of events and identified the alliances of the First World War. In English, we have been learning about figurative language ready to start analysing poetry next week. Our reading lessons have focussed on retrieval and vocabulary. In maths, we have been using the denominator and the numerator to compare fractions as well as converting mixed numbers into improper fractions. Our RE has been looking at interpretation and how one thing can be true for some people, but not for others. We have also completed a range of remembrance activities ready for Monday.

Mr Austin—Class Teacher

Coins in a bottle

Thank you to all of the children who have been bringing in their loose change to put in to their class bottle. Don't forget for the class that raises the most at the end of March, FOSMS will match their amount up to £100. They will then get to decide how to spend that money to benefit their class. In this challenge there are no losers, the other two classes will also get to keep what they've raised (but no fund match) and they can decide as a class how best to spend it. I'm sure the children will already be planning what they'd like to purchase for their class.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S SCHOOL

COINS IN A BOTTLE CLASS CHALLENGE

HOW IT WORKS

- Each class will get an empty bottle - over the coming weeks try to fill your class bottle with any loose change.
- At the end of March we will count up the contents. For the class with the most money, FOSMS will match the amount raised up to a value of £100 for that class to purchase fun resources.
- There are no losers in this challenge, the other two classes will also get to keep the sum they raise to spend on fun class resources too.
- Help at home, save your change, look down the back of the sofa, which class will raise the most?

The poster features an illustration of a hand dropping a coin into a glass bottle filled with various coins. The background is green with yellow stars and a red heart.



Acorn class came back from half term, excited to get back to forest school sessions. As our session was on Bonfire Night a group of children made fire art using sticks for the firewood and different shades of autumn leaves for the flames. The children enjoyed hunting for the perfect twigs and leaves and stuck them to black card and produced some lovely pictures. Once the glue is set the children will be able to take theirs home with them for you all to see. The children also loved getting back to the mud kitchen and digging area and had fun climbing trees. Well done Acorn class, keep up the enthusiasm.

Chestnut class were very excited to find out that for this half term, they would be having their forest school sessions at the larger, off site, forest school area. I spoke to the children about road safety prior to leaving and I have to say, I was very impressed by the mature and sensible way the children crossed the road and walked to the site. Once we arrived we spoke about the rules and what was expected and they all had a fantastic time, exploring and playing. The tyre swing was a huge hit and the children took turns in having a go on that. Well done Chestnut class, I am looking forward to our next session already!

Oak class are spending this half term at the school site and although it is smaller than the other site, this did not deter them from getting stuck in and beginning to create and build their new nature spots. The children worked very well in small groups and we have discussed plans for a big revamp of the site. At the end of last half term, some of the children had asked if I could get out the needle felting for them so small groups of the children also created some wonderful pieces of needle felt. Well done Oak class, I am excited to get started on the revamp with you all next week.

Freddie the Forest School Bear enjoyed a great half term holiday with Matilda Medcalf and her family and this week Freddie will be going home with Sonny from Chestnut class. Sonny is always a polite and helpful boy at forest school but this week he really got stuck in and had the best session. He has shown himself to be a kind and caring friend to his peers and this is a lovely quality to have. Well done Sonny, enjoy your weekend with Freddie.

Miss Wilson—Forest School Lead





MENU

w/c 11.11.24

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 Tuesday 5th November for dinners w/c 11th November
Deadline 9:00am Monday 11th November for dinners w/c 18th November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese & Tomato Pasta	Ham & Pineapple / Cheese Pizza	Toad in the hole / Quorn toad	Beef Bolognese / Quorn Bolognese	Chicken Nuggets/Quorn Nuggets
Ham / Cheese baguette	Jacket Potato Cheese / Beans	Ham / Cheese baguette	Jacket Potato Cheese / Beans	Ham / Cheese/Tuna baguette

Dojo messages this week:

- ◇ Carmel Jane Photography—Pre Registration
- ◇ Children in Need
- ◇ Reception admissions for September 2025
- ◇ Flu Immunisation catch up clinic
- ◇ St Marys PINS Project
- ◇ Remembrance assembly invitation
- ◇ Christingle service invitation
- ◇ Lateness reminder

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

KS1 & KS2 Film Club
Thursday: 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Mrs Walker

Year 6 Tutoring
Thursday: 3.15pm—4:15pm
Mr Austin
(in groups as agreed directly by Mr Austin)



BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – JOB VACANCIES

- DOWNHAM – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 22nd November
- FAIRHOUSE – CLASS TEACHER closing date 13th November
- WHITMORE – KS2 LEARNING SUPPORT/MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 8th November
- WILLOWS – CLEANER closing date 8th November
- WILLOWS – ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT (1 YEAR FIXED TERM) closing date 8th November
- WILLOWS – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 8th November

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



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

Email: 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

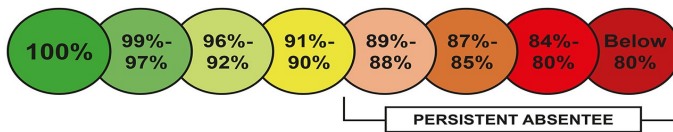
Date	Activity	Enrichment	Who
w/c 4.11.24— w/c 16.11.24	After school Clubs No Film or Tutoring Club 7.11 due to moderation		Open to all pupils
11.11.24	Remembrance assembly with Revd Jacqui		Parents/Carers
11.11.24— 15.11.24	Anti Bullying Week	PSHE /Personal Development	All pupils
12.11.24	School Photographs		Individual, Class & sibling
14.11.24	PINS Coffee afternoon at 2pm—Willows room		SEND Parents/Carers
14.11.24	Cultural Celebration Day	Mu- sic/RE/PSHE/ Humanities	All pupils
14.11.24	Trust Maths Challenge	Maths	Selected Pupils
14.11.24	FOSMS Firework Disco— 3:15—5pm		All pupils
15.11.24	Children in Need & Odd sock day—Spotty themed	PSHE /Personal Development	All pupils
15.11.24	Pupil Voice—Kindness Rocks	PSHE /Personal Development	All pupils
20.11.24	Open Morning 9.30-11.00		Prospective Parents
18.11.24— 22.11.24	Road Safety Week Road Safety Banner	PSHE /Personal Development	All pupils

Date	Activity	Enrichment	Who
19.11.24	Road Safety Presentation	PSHE /Personal Development	EYFS & Year 5
28.11.24	Oak Class Assembly		Parents/Carers
4.12.24	Open Morning 9.30-11.00		Prospective Parents
9.12.24	Christmas Pantomime		All Pupils
10.12.24	FOSMS Christmas Sale From 2.30pm		All pupils
12.12.24	Christmas Jumper Day		All Pupils
12/13.12.24	DT Day	DT	All Pupils
13.12.24	DT Day Open Afternoon for Parents to view work from 2.30pm	DT	Parents/Carers
18.12.24	Nativity FOSMS Raffle		Grandparents 9.30-10.30 Parents/Carers 2-3pm
19.12.24	FOSMS Movie night 3.15pm—5pm		All pupils
19.12.24	Christingle Service at St Marys Church		Parents/Carers
19.12.24	Christmas Dinner		All pupils
20.12.24	Christmas Jumpers Christmas board games and films in class		All pupils
20.12.24	Story time with Santa		Acorn Class
20.12.24	Carol Singing at the Senior Living		Years 3-6



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?



Reception	100%
Year 1	96.88%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	100%
Year 4	93.75%
Year 5	97.50%
Year 6	90.63%



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

National Attendance Target is: **93.5%**

Whole School Attendance this week is: **95.97%**

Pupils with 100% attendance this week: **54**

Lateness

Schools are required to take an attendance register twice a day. One at the start of the morning session and one at the start of the afternoon session. A child who is not present when the register is taken will be marked absent for that session.

It's been shown that being late to school will:

- disrupt other pupils in the class
- increase stress and anxiety for the child who has missed out
- achieve poorer outcomes

If your child is frequently late to school, this may result in a penalty fine from the Local Authority as after 9.05am this is marked as unauthorised.

Please support us by supporting your child to arrive at school on time.

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! We hope everyone had a fantastic October half term break and enjoyed all the Halloween and Bonfire Night festivities! We have such an exciting term ahead and we have lots in the planning!

Upcoming Disco

Get ready to dance! The FOSMS Firework Disco is happening next week, and it's going to be an amazing evening of fun for the children. With live entertainment kindly sponsored by the Denny Family, this is a night they won't want to miss! We would really appreciate it if you could book your children's place asap, we won't be taking cash on the day and we need to have a register of attendees in advance. You can book your children's tickets here <https://fosms.co.uk/upcoming-events>

Exciting Events This Term

We have a fantastic line up of events planned, and we can't wait to celebrate with you all. Here's a peek at what's in store:

- Elfridges - Our Christmas shop for little ones to pick out their own special gifts and treats.
- Movie Night - Snuggle up and enjoy a festive family favourite on the big screen.
- Christmas Raffle - Try your luck for a chance to win some incredible prizes.

No Cold Child

All coats that were ordered have been received and handed out to families just in time for this colder weather. We hope your children are snug as bugs.

Thank you all for your support of FOSMS and St. Mary's School. Together, let's make this term unforgettable for our children and community.

With very grateful thanks,
FOSMS

*Friends of St Mary's School
(FOSMS)*



FOSMS PRESENTS...

OUR FIREWORK DISCO

**14TH NOVEMBER
3:15PM-5PM**

**TICKETS £5 PER CHILD
PAY IN ADVANCE VIA THE
PAYMENT LINK ON OUR WEBSITE**

**INCLUDED IN THE TICKET PRICE:
HOTDOG
CRISPS
FRUIT
GLOWSTICK**

KINDLY SPONSORED BY THE DENNY FAMILY

FUN ENTERTAINMENT, MUSIC AND GAMES

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

