

# Newsletter – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 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 - Courage



### Welcome

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

Although the weather has been a little disappointing recently, we remain hopeful that the sunshine will soon make a welcome return. Despite the grey skies, it has been another busy and productive week in school, with our pupils continuing to work hard, learn new skills, and enjoy a wide range of activities.

As we look ahead to the coming weeks, we are excited about the opportunities and events still to come and hope that the brighter weather will allow us to make the most of our outdoor spaces once again.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you enjoy reading about all that has been happening across the school this week.

Many of you will be wondering how Mrs Walker is doing following her surgery. We are pleased to share that she continues to rest and recuperate well and is focusing on her recovery. Mrs Walker is very much looking forward to returning to school once she is fully recovered and sends her warmest wishes to all our pupils, families and staff.

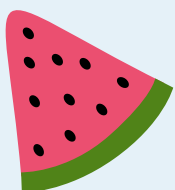
Thank you for your continued support, and I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

### Mindful Moments



### Dojo Messages

- WDF School and Woodville School Summer Fayre
- FOSMS Father's Day / Significant Person Sale
- SEND Fest at Marsh Farm
- SWF Leisure Centre Summer Activities
- Asthma Newsletter
- FOSMS Netball bibs



### A note from Mrs Kemp

It has been another busy and successful week at St Mary's, and I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate some of our recent achievements.

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who supported our Great Athletes sponsorship event. Together, we have raised an impressive £160. We are delighted with this total and appreciate the generosity of our families. Prizes for the children who took part will be posted to the school and distributed as soon as they arrive.

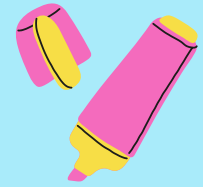
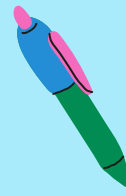
A special well done must go to Oak Class for their fantastic first swimming lesson. The children represented the school brilliantly, showing enthusiasm, confidence and excellent behaviour throughout the session. We are very proud of them and look forward to seeing their progress over the coming weeks.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome our new EYFS families to school on Monday. Starting school is such an important milestone, and we are looking forward to giving them a warm St Mary's welcome. We are delighted that they will be joining our school community and can't wait to begin building strong relationships with our newest children and their families.

**Please note - Forest School will be taking place on different days. Please do take the time to make a note of the changes. The upcoming dates have now been added to class dojo.**

**ACORN - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, Morning session.  
CHESTNUT - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June, Morning session.  
OAK - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June, Afternoon session.**





# Acorn Class

## This Week In Class

This week, Acorn Class continued with their learning about the brain and Team H-A-P using My Happy Mind activities. We learned some vital information this week that explains why we often do things we don't really understand when we are stressed, frightened or upset - because two out of Team H-A-P are switched off or asleep! We are learning to use Happy Breathing to wake them back up again, and get the whole team working together.

In RE, we compared the Hindu story of how the world was made that we learned about last week with the Christian creation story. Reception ordered the steps while Year 1 and 2 write a sentence and draw a picture for all of the seven steps, starting with God created light and ending with God rested. We learned some very important ideas in PSHE about physical contact, which means any kind of touch. We thought about kinds of touch that we like and that we don't like, but then thought about how complicated it can be. A type of touch you like from a parent might not be appropriate from a teacher, and you certainly wouldn't like it from a stranger!

In Art, we completed our wildflower meadow collages that we started just before half term. We had painted the grass and now we added birds, butterflies, bees and dragonflies to make a truly beautiful work of art. On top of all of this, we have been working on the Phonics Screening Check and our Year 1 and 2 end of year assessments! We have been so so busy!

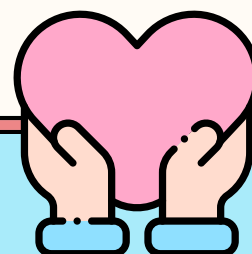
## Love Your Learning

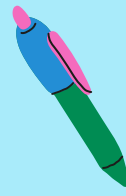
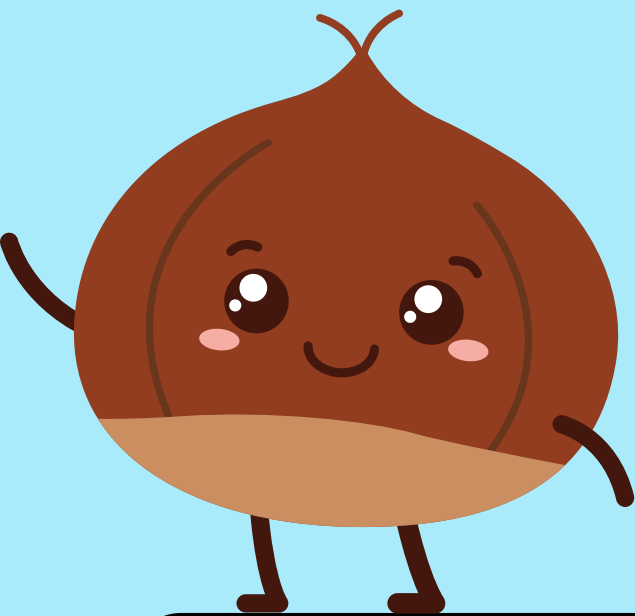
This week, every child who took the Phonics Screening Check for 2026 deserves to be celebrated for loving their learning. All of the Year 1 children and some from Year 2 practised very hard for a long time recently and then completed the 2026 real phonics check in the library with Mr Gatenby. Every single one of them was calm, focused, positive and achieved a score that was fantastic for their age and ability.



## Caught You Caring

This week George Woods was caught caring. He took care of a child who had slipped on wet grass. He was so kind, well done George!





# Chestnut Class

## This Week In Class

In English this week we have continued with our metaphor poems and ended the week writing up our amazing metaphor poems about ourselves. In Vipers we read all about Sutton Hoo and the amazing finds that were discovered there. We have also completed some of our assessments in English and maths. In maths we have continued to look at angles.

In RE we looked at Muslim's lives and used photos of homes to describe what their religion means to them. In history we looked at the Viking raids on the Anglo Saxons and it was really interesting. In science we looked at the four different types of teeth. It was a bit tricky so then we made the teeth cartoon characters and gave them names that matched the name of the tooth.

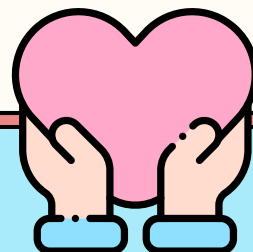
### Love Your Learning

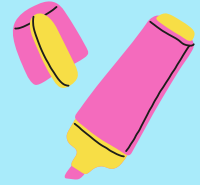
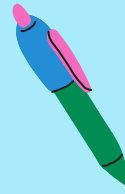
Loved your learning this week goes to Harmony. Her metaphor poem was amazing! She really understood the criteria and applied her wonderful imagination and creativity.



### Caught You Caring

This week Alfie Crosby was caught caring, he noticed a friend was sad at lunch and offered to sit with him - well done Alfie!





# Oak Class

## This Week In Class

This week in Oak class, we have focused on inferring information in our reading lessons and have analysed the first four stanzas of *The Highwayman* in our English lessons. In maths, we have begun looking at position and direction and plotted and read points on grids with four quadrants. In geography, we have investigated the UK's trade partners, in science, we have compared plotted the prenatal development of humans from egg, to embryo to foetus. In PSHE, we have continued our My Happy Mind program and have learnt about how to recalibrate 'Team HAP' when our amygdala react to a perceived danger that is not an actual threat.

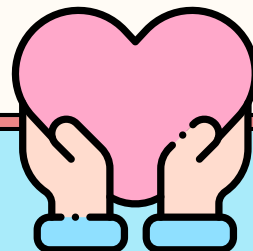
### Love Your Learning

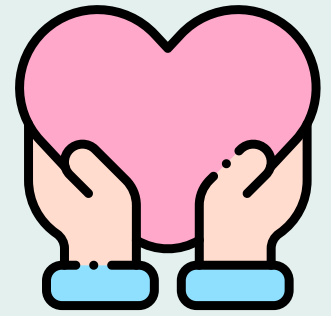
Oak's love your learning achiever this week is Ivy. Despite coming towards the end of her time in primary school, Ivy continues to give 100% in everything. She has really stood out this week with her work analysing the initial stanzas of *The Highwayman*. Her understanding and explanation of figurative language and its purpose and impact have been exceptional. Well done, Ivy.



### Caught You Caring

This week Archie Parker was caught caring. He offered to get another child's equipment organised for them when they were struggling - well done Archie!





**Eve Denny**

Caught caring checking that a classmate was ok after he had left forest school.

**Wilfred Addison**

Saw a friend in need and tried his best to help - well done Wilf!

**Francesca Smith**

Helped her friend pick up books when she dropped them and offered to help organise the library.

**Lexie Mead**

Lexie was caught being kind and encouraging her friends during a game at forest school.

**Olive Bond**

Olive supported a friend who was struggling - well done Olive.

**Harrison Denton-Silk**

Harrison was caught being exceptionally kind and caring to emotional younger children





# Attendance



## TARGETS

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

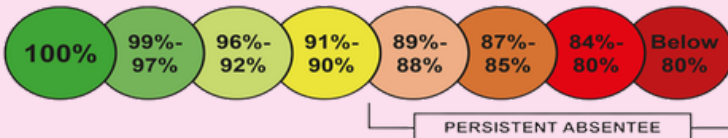
National Attendance Target is: **93.5%**

Whole School Attendance this week is: **92.90%**

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

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which **CIRCLE** are you in?



## THIS WEEK



Reception	90%
Year 1	88%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	98%
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 had a lovely session this week and we were lucky with the weather, as it did not start raining until we were back indoors. The children enjoyed some free play time where they enjoyed playing in the mud kitchen, using the paints and chinks to make our forest school area more colourful and chilling out in the hammocks. The children had the opportunity to make a wand using sticks and cardboard cut outs and to make mini dens for their forest school teddies. It was lovely to see the children being so creative this week, well done Acorn class!

Chestnut class had a rather wet session this week but this did not stop us enjoying our time outside. We began the session by building some shelters using tarps and ropes. The children did a fantastic job and it meant we all had some shelter from the rain when we wanted it. The children also enjoyed their free play time and spent a lot of time playing with the loose parts (logs, bricks, tyres, pallets etc.) and creating pretend cafes and shops with them. It was wonderful to see children using their imaginations in nature! A slightly wet, but lovely session Chestnut class, well done!

Oak class also had a rather wet session this week but again, they did not let it ruin their enthusiasm. The children enjoyed their free play time and the mud kitchen was as popular as ever. The children used their imaginations to make some fabulous dishes and potions to serve to their friends and us adults. Some of the children took down the shelters from this morning and built their own ones which were very impressive. We finished the session with a game of cuckoo on the field. Well done Oak class, a very positive session!

Freddie the Forest School Bear enjoyed his weekend with Wilfred and is now excited to be going home with Lexie from Acorn class. Lexie is a very sweet and kind little girl, she shows such empathy to her peers when they are struggling or upset. At forest school this week, a couple of the children got upset when they got out during a game at the end of the session. Lexie showed such kindness and encouragement to them, telling them "well done", "you should be proud", "I am proud of you" and other wonderful things. Well done Lexie, enjoy your weekend with Freddie!

Miss Wilson  
Forest School Lead



# Collective Worship

## THIS WEEK

This week's Collective Worship began with an interesting question from Mrs Carlier: "What can football teach us about the world?"

Mrs Carlier shared information about the upcoming 2026 FIFA World Cup, which will be the biggest World Cup ever. With 48 teams taking part and matches being held across the USA, Canada and Mexico, millions of fans are expected to travel between the three countries, while billions more will watch from around the world.

Mrs Carlier showed the children a map of the USA, highlighting the locations of the many stadiums that will host matches during the tournament.

The children learned that the World Cup is much more than a football competition. It provides an opportunity for people to learn about different countries, cultures and communities. Although people around the world may speak different languages, eat different foods and live in different environments, events such as the World Cup can bring people together through shared experiences and a common love of sport.

Mrs Carlier encouraged the children to reflect on how we can celebrate our differences while recognising what we have in common. Just as teams from across the globe come together to compete and connect, we too can build friendships, show respect and learn from one another within our own school community. The worship reminded us that understanding, kindness and unity can help bring people together, wherever they come from.

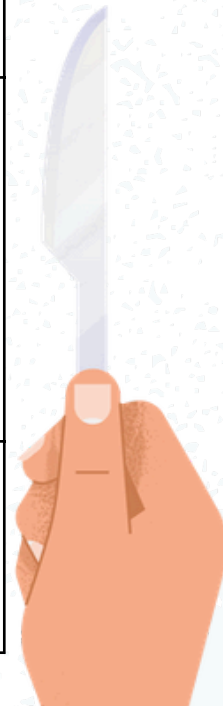
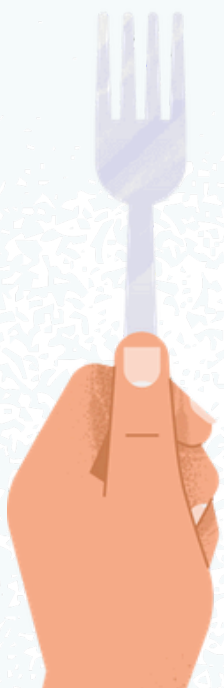
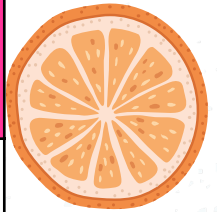


# UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Activity	Who
05.06.26	Swimming lessons - 6 weeks	Year 5 & 6
23.06.26	Food and Farming Trip	Chestnut Class
<b>26.06.26</b>	<b>Inset Day</b>	<b>Whole School</b>
06.07.26	Sports Day	Whole School
07.07.26	Dance for Rights Workshop	Whole School
08.07.26	Bikability at St Mary's	Year 6
13.07.26	Reserve Sports Day	Whole School
14.07.26	Bikeability at SWF Leisure Centre	Year 6
20.07.26	Leavers Service at St Mary's Church Woodham Ferrers 9am - 10am	Whole School
<b>21.07.26 - 02.09.26</b>	<b>Summer Break</b>	<b>Whole School</b>
03.09.26	Return to School!	Whole School

# TERMLY MENU

This is our new menu which begins on 23rd February and runs through to taking us right up to 20th July. 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 <b>V</b> with garlic bread and side salad or Cheese / tuna baguette	Sausage or Quorn sausage <b>V</b> with mash, peas and gravy or Cheese / ham baguette	Roast chicken or Quorn fillet <b>V</b> with roast potatoes, veg and gravy or Cheese / ham baguette	Beef bolognese or Quorn bolognese <b>V</b> pasta bake with side salad or Cheese / ham baguette or Jacket potato with cheese / beans / tuna	Fish fingers or veggie fingers <b>V</b> 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 <b>V</b> with garlic bread and side salad or Cheese / tuna baguette	Pitta bread pizza with cheese <b>V</b> or ham with potato wedges and side salad or Cheese / ham baguette	Sausage roast or Quorn sausage roast <b>V</b> or Cheese / ham baguette	Meatball or no meat ball <b>V</b> pasta bake with salad or Cheese / ham baguette or Jacket potato with cheese / beans / tuna	Chicken nuggets or Quorn nuggets <b>V</b> with potato wedges and beans or Cheese / ham / tuna baguette
	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Fruit & yoghurt	Baked treat



# Clubs

## Summer Term After School Clubs April - May 2026

We are delighted to confirm that we will be providing the Clubs below from January 2026.

All after school clubs will be starting w/c 5th January 2026 through to w/c 11th May.

**Clubs will resume W/C Mon 1<sup>st</sup> June and will run up to W/C Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July.**

### **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 5 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)



# Friends of St Mary's School - FOSMS



## Welcome to the Summer Term

Let's embrace the sunshine and fresh beginnings  
the world feels lighter when Summer arrives!

### Netball

Our girls netball team are looking sharp and professional in their new reversible bibs kindly funded by FOSMS.



### Amazon Wishlist!

Thank you so much to those families who have bought items from the class wishlists.

We have had a little stream of gifts over the past two weeks. Unfortunately we have no way of knowing who sent them as Amazon don't add that detail. So, if that was you please know that each class was delighted and very grateful and the resources will be put to excellent use.

We will be updating the lists over the coming weeks - what an amazing community we have!



### RAFFLE

We are looking for raffle prize donations for our upcoming summer raffle. You know we love a full to bursting raffle table and we would really appreciate any donations from our wonderful community. Please drop any donations into the office. We will be back selling tickets before you know it!



### 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](mailto: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.

## **Berlesduna Academy Trust**

Trust Qualified Teacher for Complex Needs and SEND. Applications close 11th June 2026. Interviews 25th June 2026.

## **Merrylands Primary School and Nursery**

Cleaner. Applications close 15th June 2026. Interviews 22nd June 2026. Nursery Learning Support Assistant. Applications close 15th June 2026. Interviews 22nd June 2026.

## **Whitmore Primary School and Nursery**

EYFS Teacher (part-time). Applications close 19th June 2026. Interviews 24th June 2026.

EYFS Teacher. Applications close 19th June 2026. Interviews 24th June 2026.





On Tuesday 7 July 2026, hundreds of KS2 classrooms across the nation will join together in a joyful, two-hour live dance session celebrating children's rights. Streamed from the Royal Opera House, straight into our classroom.

For our KS2 pupils this will build confidence and spark creativity. Research shows that quieter pupils often engage most during dance, and 82% say they enjoy learning more when they have creative ownership.

Strengthen empathy, collaboration and wellbeing. Research shows pupils naturally include and support one another, build strong teamwork skills, and regulate their energy in ways that improve focus and emotional balance.

Improve learning across subjects. Study shows that dance improves understanding in English, maths, science and history through embodied, active learning.

UNCRC-aligned inclusive choreography, for every child

The movement is simple, inclusive, and confidence-building, enabling every child to take part - whatever their experience. The focus is on expression, participation, and shared meaning, not perfection, making it ideal for whole-class involvement.

