

Newsletter – Thursday 25th 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,

We would like to say a huge well done to all of the children this week. Despite the exceptionally hot weather, they have coped brilliantly and continued to enjoy their learning and play experiences while adapting to the changes we have made to keep everyone safe and comfortable.

The children have been fantastic at remembering to drink plenty of water, seek shade when needed, and take part in quieter activities during the hottest parts of the day. We have been incredibly proud of how resilient and sensible they have been throughout this heatwave.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all parents and carers for your understanding, support, and flexibility this week. Your willingness to collect children earlier during the hottest part of the day has helped us to ensure everyone's wellbeing and comfort, and we greatly appreciate your cooperation.

Thank you for working in partnership with us. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and find some opportunities to stay cool and enjoy the sunshine safely.

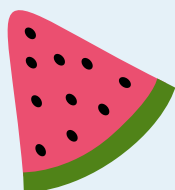
Mindful Moments

"Today's heat is just the sun reminding us we're still alive and glowing."
— Unknown



Dojo Messages

- Weather related update for schools
- SWF Library Visit
- Forest School Update.
- Book Fair
- Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service
- Inset Day reminder
- Kids Inspire Comms



A note from Mrs Kemp

This week we were delighted to welcome representatives from South Woodham Ferrers Library, who visited to introduce the Summer Reading Challenge to the children. They shared information about this year's challenge and encouraged the children to continue enjoying books and stories throughout the summer holidays. Reading is a wonderful way to support children's language, imagination, and learning, and we hope many of our children will take part in the challenge over the summer break.

Mrs Walker continues to recover well and is very much missing everyone at St Mary's, she is looking forward to returning once she is fighting fit!

This week, Chestnut Class enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Food and Farming Day at Writtle College. The children had a wonderful time learning about where food comes from and exploring different aspects of farming. They enjoyed meeting a variety of farm animals, taking part in interactive activities, and discovering more about life on a farm.

The children were a credit to the school, demonstrating excellent behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the day. We are sure they came home with lots of interesting facts and experiences to share!

As the weather over the coming weeks is due to be hot and sunny, please can we ask that all children come to school with a named water bottle and sun hat each day. We would also appreciate sun cream being applied before school in the morning to help keep everyone safe and comfortable while enjoying outdoor activities.

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 1st July, Morning session.
CHESTNUT – Thursday 2nd July, Morning session.
OAK – Thursday 2nd July, Afternoon session.





FOREST SCHOOL

THIS WEEK

This week's Forest School sessions have all taken place indoors to keep everyone and cool and as safe as possible during the extreme heatwave.

In the morning, for Acorn class we set up a few calm games in the hall, including giant snakes and ladders, bowling and a beanbag target game. The children enjoyed playing the games and once they were finished, we watched a film of their choice in the classroom and did some colouring. The children were very sensible, played calmly and had plenty of water breaks and everyone had an Ice Pop.

During the afternoon, we spent a little time in Oak class where the children played sleeping lions. The children did very well at this as I think it was too warm to move much anyway. Once the game was finished, all of the children had an Ice Pop to help cool them down.

By 2pm, most of the children had gone home so we had the remaining children in Chestnut classroom. The children chose a film to watch and they all wanted to do some colouring. They too were very sensible and calm and they produced some lovely colourful pictures. It became too hot in the classroom so we moved into the hall and we all enjoyed some Ice Pops until it was home time.

Freddie the Forest School Bear enjoyed his weekend with Albie but due to the extreme heat, he will be remaining at school where he can laze around at his leisure over the weekend. It must be very hot for him with that huge fur coat!

I would like to finish by saying that I have been very impressed by the children's attitude towards staying cool and hydrated throughout this week. They listened to our advice, stayed in the shade, had water breaks when we suggested and stayed calm and sensible. I hope you all have a lovely weekend, stay hydrated and safe and I look forward to getting back to normal forest school sessions next week.

Miss Wilson
Forest School Lead



UPCOMING EVENTS

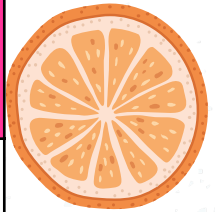
Date	Activity	Who
05.06.26	Swimming lessons - 6 weeks	Year 5 & 6
23.06.26	Food and Farming Trip	Chestnut Class
26.06.26	Inset Day	Whole School
06.07.26	Sports Day	Whole School
07.07.26	Dance for Rights Workshop	Whole School
08.07.26	Bikability at St Mary's	Year 6
13.07.26	Reserve Sports Day	Whole School
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
21.07.26 - 02.09.26	Summer Break	Whole School
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 V with garlic bread and side salad or Cheese / tuna baguette	Sausage or Quorn sausage V with mash, peas and gravy or Cheese / ham baguette	Roast chicken or Quorn fillet V with roast potatoes, veg and gravy or Cheese / ham baguette	Beef bolognaise or Quorn bolognaise V pasta bake with side salad or Cheese / ham baguette or Jacket potato with cheese / beans / tuna	Fish fingers or veggie fingers V 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 V with garlic bread and side salad or Cheese / tuna baguette	Pitta bread pizza with cheese V or ham with potato wedges and side salad or Cheese / ham baguette	Sausage roast or Quorn sausage roast V or Cheese / ham baguette	Meatball or no meat ball V pasta bake with salad or Cheese / ham baguette or Jacket potato with cheese / beans / tuna	Chicken nuggets or Quorn nuggets V 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 1st June and will run up to W/C Monday 6th 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 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!

Grants

This week we received notification that the developers from Bocking Homes are going to resurface our playground for us over the coming months. Rhian and I have been working hard behind the scenes to make this happen and after meetings, measurement, emails and a lot of sweet talking on our part we managed to charm them into helping us! We will keep you posted on the progress.

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!



Sports Day

Thank you to those who have kindly offered their help to set up, run a game stall or just be a helping hand on the day. Without your help we can't make this happen so THANK YOU!

If you are able to help we would be super grateful, many hands make light work as they say.

We are hoping to run our usual BBQ and refreshments stall along with lots of little fun games.

This is the event where we earn money to set us up for the coming year which allows us to pay for the disco, panto coaches and all the little treats for the children so please do support us if you can.

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

