



Newsletter - Friday 13th February 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 - Thankfulness



Welcome

Welcome to this week's edition of our School Newsletter!

As always, thank you for your continued support and involvement – it truly makes a difference. If you have any questions or need any further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the school office.

This has been a very busy half term with lots of highlights and things to be proud of. We hope you enjoy your half term break and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 23rd February. We will hopefully have less rain and lighter mornings!

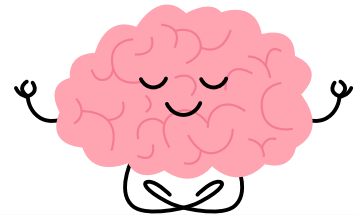
Warmest wishes, Mrs. Walker

Mindful Moments



"Gratitude and attitude are not challenges, they are choices."

ROBERT BRADTKE



Dojo Messages

- Netball Club
- Ocean Explorers at SWF Library
- Chinese New Year Taster Menu
- Termly Attendance Letters



A note from Mrs Walker

Over the past week, we have carried out several tours of our school. Our Class Ambassadors have done a wonderful job speaking with parents and children, sharing their experiences and what it's like to be part of St Mary's.

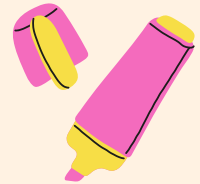
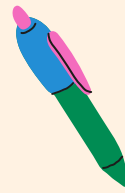
We welcomed a small number of year 3 and 4 parents and carers into school for a briefing on the multiplication check that their children will be undertaking soon.

A huge congratulations to Ivy, Sophie, Alfie and Joe who represented our school beautifully at the Trust Spelling Bee coming away with Bronze medals for finishing in third place – we could not be more proud of you, well done!

We celebrated pancake day in school on Wednesday. Our EYFS children topped pancakes with their parents and carers as part of the parent partnership, Year 1 and 2 topped pancakes and took part in lots of pancake day related activities. Year 3 measured out all of their ingredients for their pancake batter and Mrs Richardson cooked up their pancakes, then children then got to add lots of delicious toppings. Years 5 and 6 enjoyed making their own pancakes during their Forest School Session with Miss Wilson and Mrs Valentine – lots of fun and delicious pancakes were had by all.

Please note the menu change for the first day back to school – we are celebrating Chinese New Year. If you would like your child to have this menu we ask that you book this as soon as possible. This will be the only meal option on this day therefore your child will need a packed lunch if they do not wish to try the Chinese food.

THANKFULNESS ~ COMMUNITY ~ COMPASSION ~ TRUTHFULNESS ~ COURAGE ~ FORGIVENESS



Acorn Class

This Week In Class

Acorns have had a busy last week of term. In maths reception have been looking at length and year 1 & 2 have been looking at equal and unequal amounts. In Literacy we have been learning about Simile poems and how to write our own. RE we have learnt about the Jewish Passover and in computing we have been learning all about algorithms. We have also finished our PE unit of dance and our topic of 'Super Space'

Achiever

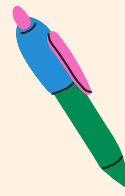
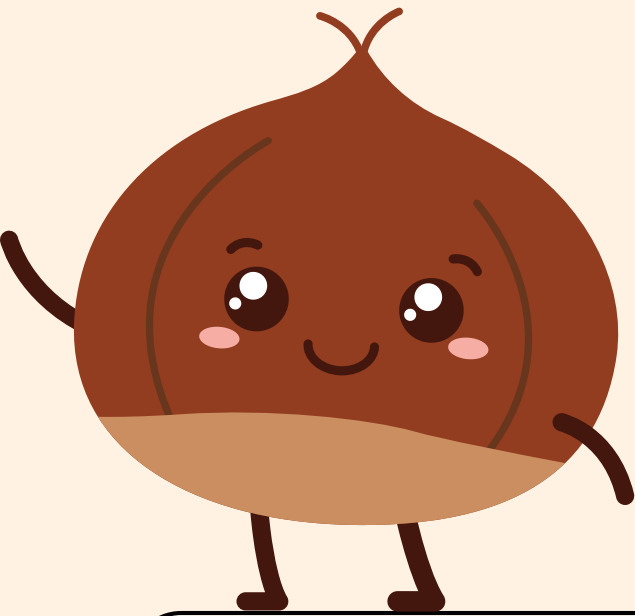
Wilfred has shown some really good science knowledge this term, following our topic of Habitats. He is very interested in nature and I was super impressed with his engagement and how much he remembered.
Well done Wilf



Value Achiever

Lilly-May shows a great sense of community. She is an amazing asset to Acorn class; she is always helping others. She will help give out books and tidying up the classroom. She also offers her help which is very helpful to her teachers.
What a lovely way to be, well done Lilly-May.





Chestnut Class

This Week In Class

This week has been yet another busy one. In English we have written our newspaper reports about an aspect of Macbeth that each child chose to write about. For our reading we have looked at some information about electric cars. In science we have continued to look at electricity and the children really enjoyed doing an experiment with Miss Reader. We really enjoyed cooking our pancakes on Wednesday and everyone loved choosing their toppings too. In geography we have looked at the similarities and differences between the physical features in England and Australia. We have also enjoyed our art pathway.

Achiever

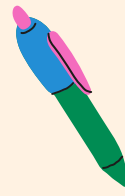
Joe completed some excellent work in science this week. He had a good attitude to learning and made sure that he followed the instructions. He was also very good at taking turns and sharing with his partner. Well done Joe!



Value Achiever

Amelia is a wonderful member of Chestnut Class. She is a model pupil, who is kind, caring and helpful to children and adults.





Oak Class

This Week In Class

This week in Oak Class we have explained texts in our reading lessons and used dictionaries to proof read in our grammar lessons. In maths we have completed our unit on perimeter, area and volume and have begun looking at ratios. In geography, we have learnt about the causes and effects of global warming and in RE we have linked the allegory of Plato's cave to the stories of Buddha and Jesus. In science, we have learnt about carnivorous plants and in Spanish, we have completed our unit on food and drink.

Achiever

The achiever in Oak Class this week is Eva. Eva has produced some fantastic work across the whole curriculum this week and has ensured that what she has learnt previously is applied to the next stage of the learning. We are all so impressed with her attitude and effort. Well done, Eva.



Value Achiever

Oak's value achiever is Xander. Xander is an excellent role model with in our class community and always does his best. He has been unwell recently but has shown courage to keep on trying and we are all very proud of him. Well done, Xander.



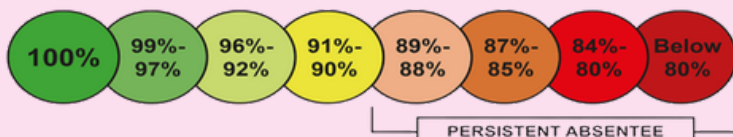


Attendance



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

On Time: First Time, Every Time



Which CIRCLE are you in?



THIS WEEK

Reception	56%
Year 1	98%
Year 2	84%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	90%

TARGETS

Whole School Attendance Target is:

92%

National Attendance Target is: 93.5 %

Whole School Attendance this week is: 90.17 %

Pupils with 100% attendance this week: 43



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



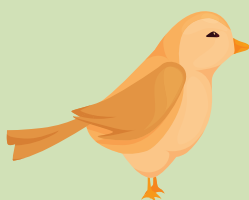
Acorn class had a lovely session this week and we were lucky with the weather so we got to do quite a few activities. Some of the children made bird feeders by threading cheerio cereal onto pipe cleaners and hanging them from trees. Some of the children made their own pretend campfires and log circles, which was lovely as it showed just how much the children have listened and remembered about how to set it up. The children also made some shelters, using planks of wood leant up against trees to create a wigwam shape. During circle time, we spent a few minutes discussing our allotment and had some thoughts on what different vegetables and fruit we would like to grow this year. Broccoli seems to be a popular choice! A fabulous session Acorn class, well done!

Chestnut class finally had their campfire this week, which they were all very happy about. We toasted marshmallows and sandwiched them in between two chocolate biscuits to make s'mores. The children thoroughly enjoyed them and even took one up to the classroom for Mrs Carlier. The children also made some cheerio bird feeders and hung them around the forest school area and we were lucky enough to see a little Robin come down to have a bite. The children took part in a few other activities, one of which was a group of boys who created an "archaeologist dig", they buried different small items in the ground and then using a saucepan lid as a "metal detector", they found all their buried treasures. Such wonderful young imaginations! A superb session Chestnut class, well done!

Oak class also had a campfire this week, but rather than s'mores, we cooked pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, which falls during half term. The children were very excited about this and we discussed other foods that we would like to cook over the campfire going forward. Naan breads and flat breads seems to be a popular choice so we will start there and see how that goes. Whilst waiting for their pancakes the children enjoyed exploring our natural resources and build dens and shelters using planks of wood. A great session Oak class, well done!

Freddie Forest Bear had a lovely time with Minnie-Mai last week and is now looking forward to a mini hibernation over the half term holiday. He will resume his weekly visits when we go back to school so watch out, he may be coming to your house soon!!

Miss Wilson
Forest School Lead



Collective Worship

This week...

Rev. Jacqui came in to school this week to take Collective Worship. She spoke to the children about Lent, she explained that Lent was the 40 days leading up to Easter. Rev Jacqui explained that we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday primarily to use up ingredients like eggs, milk, sugar, and butter before the fasting season of Lent begins

Lent is all about preparing our hearts to remember Jesus' death on the cross and his coming back from the dead – we call that resurrection – to show that he saved us from our sins, and he defeated death!

Rev. Jacqui spoke about Leviticus 19: 17-18 which teaches us to love others as we love ourselves and to not hold grudges and instead be forgiving.

Rev. Jacqui also spoke to the children about Ubuntu, an ancient African word meaning 'humanity to others'. It is often described as reminding us that 'I am what I am because of who we all are'. She played a little video for the children on caring for each other.



UPCOMING EVENTS

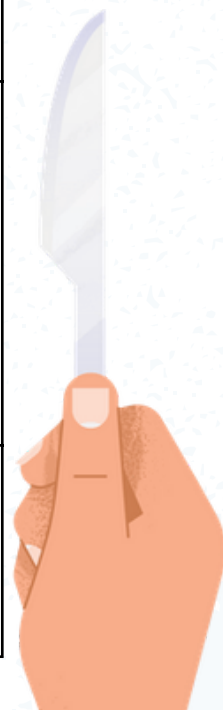
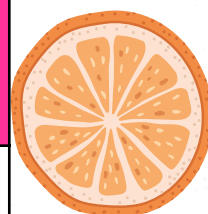
Date	Activity	Who
16th - 20th Feb	HALF TERM	
23rd Feb	Chinese New Year Celebrations	Whole School
5th Mar	World Book Day - Dress as your favourite character or word	Whole school
13th Mar	Science Fair - Parents invited into school from 2:30pm.	Whole School
25th Mar	EYFS Parent Partnership Session	EYFS
25th Mar	Easter Performance - Parents and carers invited in for 2pm	Whole School
27th March	Easter Service at St Marys Church - Parents and carers to attend 2-3pm.	Whole School
30th Mar - 10th Apr	HALF TERM	Whole School
13th April	Return to School	

NEW TERM MENU

This is our new menu which begins on 23rd February and runs through to taking us right up to 27th March. 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 bolognese or Quorn bolognese 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

Spring Term After School Clubs February - March 2026

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

All after school clubs will be starting w/c 5th January 2026 through to w/c 23rd March 2026.

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

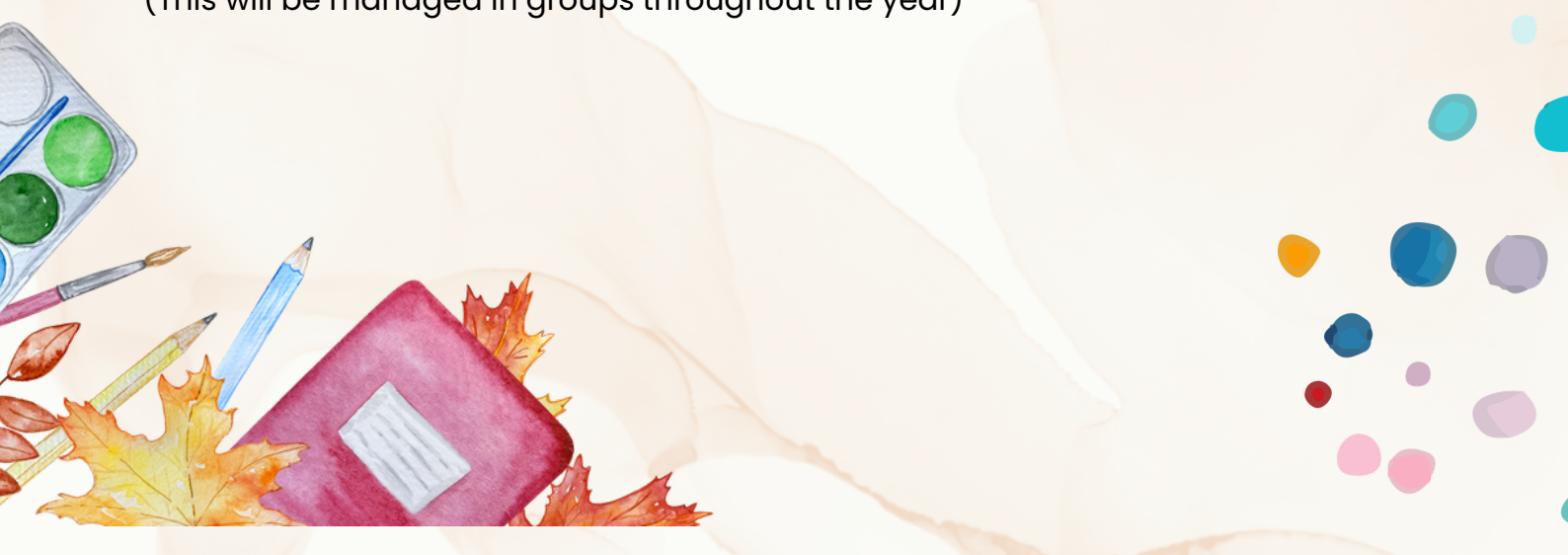
This after school club is available for all year groups and will be run by Mrs Fallon

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 6 Tutoring Club – Thursday 3.15pm – 4.15pm

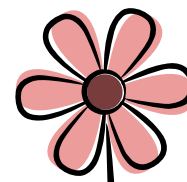
This after school club is available for Year 6 and will be run by Mr Austin
(This will be managed in groups throughout the year)





Friends of St Mary's School

FOSMS



Welcome Spring!

Let's embrace the sunshine and fresh beginnings that Spring brings to our community!

Coins in a bottle

LAST CHANCE - We still have our coins in a bottle challenge running in the classrooms, this little challenge is live until the **end of March**. Every penny raised will be given back to the class to purchase fun resources for the last term. The winning class will have their amount matched (up to £100) by FOSMS, so all is to play for. Please do send in a few pennies for your class jar. Last year Acorn were the winners - can they do it again?

Mother's Day / Significant Female Sale

Mother's Day / Significant Female sale Friday 13th March - Please see the flyer below for more details and payments can be made via www.fosms.co.uk/upcoming-events

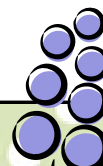
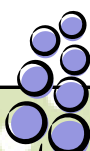
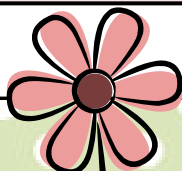
World Book Day

Thursday 5th March. We will have a whole selection of brand new costumes for sale in a variety of sizes for £5.00 each. Costumes will be on sale from Monday 23rd February after school - cash and card available. We will try to send out photos of a selection of costumes available beforehand.

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





BERLESDUNA
ACADEMY TRUST

BERLESDUNA VACANCIES

JANUARY 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.

Cherry Tree Primary School and Nursery

Deputy Headteacher. Applications close: 24th February 2026.

Interviews: 27th February 2026.

Merrylands Primary School and Nursery

Catering Assistant. Applications close: 22nd February 2026.

Interviews: 26th February 2026.

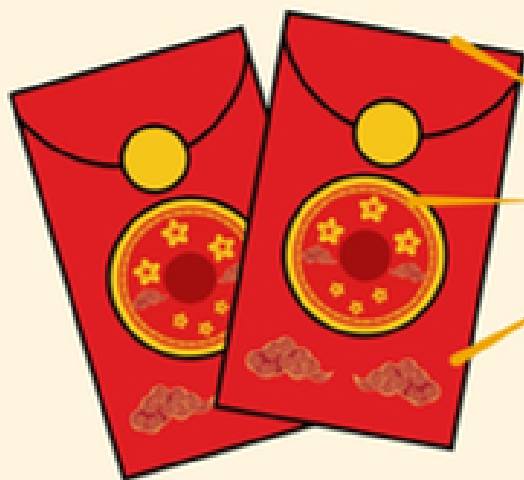




CHINESE NEW YEAR

Monday 23rd February 2026

- Sweet and Sour Chicken
- Chow Mein (Noodles)
- Egg Fried Rice
- Vegetable Spring Rolls
- Seaweed
- Prawn Crackers
- Mango Cup Cakes





Mother's Day / Special Female Sale

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH

WE HAVE A LOVELY SELECTION OF
GIFTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR CHILD
TO BUY A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR
THEIR WONDERFUL MUM'S, NAN'S,
AUNTIE'S AND SPECIAL LADIES IN
THEIR LIVES.

EACH GIFT WILL BE £2 AND WE'VE
GOT SOME EXTRAS THIS YEAR SO
CHILDREN WILL BE ABLE TO BUY
MORE THAN ONE GIFT IF THEY
WOULD LIKE TO.

PLEASE PAY VIA THE PAYMENT LINK
WHICH IS VIA OUR WEBSITE AND
ADD YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

[HTTPS://FOSMS.CO.UK/UPCOMING-
EVENTS](https://fosms.co.uk/upcoming-events)

ALTERNATIVELY SEND YOUR CHILD
TO SCHOOL WITH THE MONEY OR
POP IT IN A NAMED ENVELOPE TO
THE OFFICE AND WE WILL SORT IT
FROM THERE.

♥ THANK YOU ♥

