



St Mary's C of E (Aided) Primary School



NEWSLETTER

"A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum through wisdom and love"
Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you.' John 15 v 12

Telephone: 01798 872007

WB 21st April 2025

Welcome back to everyone! I hope that you all had a lovely Easter break and made some special memoirs with family and friends. The weather has definitely been on our side this week as we welcomed all the children back! The weather is predicted to get very hot next week so please think about putting on sun cream before school so your child is protected, naming water bottles and labelling jumpers and cardigans so that we can get them back to the right child – thank you for your help with this.

This week we have celebrated so much with Fr Paul carried out our Easter Service and we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus, we welcomed our new reading dog, we reopened the swimming pool and we have started the most fantastic topics which are engaging the children.

All kinds of minds – The children have been thinking about our minds and how our minds might work differently from someone else's and how we need to understand and embrace this. Thank you to Mrs Hatcher for raising our awareness.



Church Links

Easter Service – Thank you to Fr Paul, Mr Holloway and Mr Hancock for helping us celebrate with our Easter Service.

Reflection - This week's reflection! [Trust part 1, 2025](#) Thank you to Mrs Smith for such a wonderful reflection!



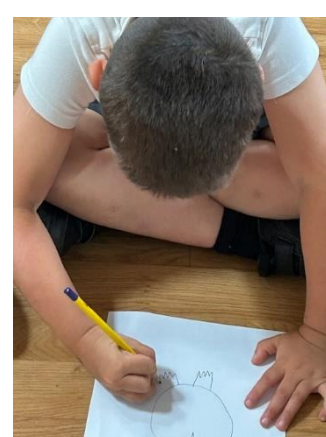
Learning

Summer topics – Our new topics for summer term. UK and Thailand will be learning about Bugs, Bees and Butterflies. Italy and India are looking at Our Wonderful World. NZ, SL and USA are looking at Vikings as part of the History curriculum. China and Mexico are learning about Below the Waves and Japan and South Africa are learning about Shakespeare and preparing for their SAT's. Newsletters, knowledge organisers and homework grids will go on the website at the end of the week.

Science - A science lesson all about teamwork and growth—literally! The children in India and China classes came together for a hands-on science session all about plants. The older children took on the role of teachers, guiding the younger ones through the process of planting sunflower seeds and sharing tips on how to care for them. It was such a joy to see curiosity, kindness and collaboration blooming in every corner of the garden. We can't wait to watch the sunflowers grow!



Cath Howe – Cath Howe came and spoke to the children about her series of books called 'Call the Puffins!'. She talked about puffins and we learnt lots of facts about these lovely birds. We then learnt a puffin promise and learnt to draw our own puffin. Cath stayed and signed books at the end of the session. We are so lucky to have these opportunities and thank you to Steyning Bookshop for helping us to organise this author visit.



Swimming Pool – The swimming pool has reopened and we are thrilled to see the children getting involved with their swimming lessons. Thank you to Mrs Dona, Mrs Parsons, Mrs Miller and Mr Hubbard for making this happen!



Reading Dog - Pets as Therapy are back with us and we have welcomed Freya to help with reading!



News

Kindness Award for April – Bowie (Ita) and Louis A (Ind) have been nominated for April.

Bowie you are one of the happiest, friendliest and kindest children I have every taught. You bring a smile to everyone's face every single day and you have a heart of Gold. Never change Bowie!

Louis – you are one of the kindest and happiest of boys. You are a fantastic friend and a great role model to others. You should be proud of yourself Louis – Keep being you!

Sport

Y3/4 Girls Football – On Thursday, our Year 3/4 girl's football team travelled to Kingslea Primary School in Horsham to take part in a tournament alongside other local schools. The girls played with great enthusiasm and demonstrated brilliant teamwork throughout the event. The positive attitude, determination and supportive spirit made us all proud and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience of competing together. Well done Sienna-Jane, Ada, Miller, Zara, Josie, Aria and Tilly.

Things to know...

SEND – Supporting each other is very important. There is a document called *Making Sense of it All* is designed to help parents of children and young people with SEND aged 0-25 in West Sussex learn how to get the support they need for their child and family. <https://www.reachingfamilies.org.uk/guides.html>

Residential meeting – If you couldn't attend the Y6 Residential meeting then notes are available on the school website under each class tab.

Summer Fayre - Lundy-Lester Estate Agents are keen to advertise our summer fayre using 'For Sale' boards and will donate £10 to our PTA for every one displayed. If any parents / carers / neighbours etc are happy to have an advertising board outside their home for the two weeks leading up to the event, please let the office staff know.

Dental advice - For children who are experiencing dental pain or require urgent treatment, please contact the Sussex Dental Helpline, they can provide advice and help you find an urgent care appointment.

- Phone: **0300 123 1663** (Monday to Friday, 08:00 - 16:00)
- Email: kcht.dentalhelpdesk@nhs.net

The helpline provides advice, books urgent NHS dental appointments and supports access for vulnerable patients, including looked after children and care leavers. For more information please visit the [Sussex Health and Care website](#).

Chartwells' meal choices – Please could we ask that when ordering your child's meal choice, you sit down together and choose their preferred option. We have had a number of children refusing to eat what was ordered for them and, as a school, we only receive what you have ordered to reduce food waste.

May Cut off Dates

Thurs 01/05 for w/c 12/05
Thurs 08/05 for w/c 19/05



June Cut off Dates

Thurs 22/05 for w/c 02/06
Thurs 29/05 for w/c 09/06
Thurs 05/06 for w/c 16/06
Thurs 12/06 for w/c 23/06

Dates for your diary - Summer Term

1st May – Information meeting for KS1 SATs 3.30pm
5th May – Bank Holiday
6th May – Y6 Duathlon
6th May – Information meeting for Y4 Multiplication Tests
7th May – 9th May – Year 5 residential Cobnor
12th May – 15th May – KS2 SATs (Breakfast club for Y6 at 8am)
13th May – Phonics Information meeting 3.30pm
15th May – New Parents Evening 7pm
21st May – Film Night Y2/3/4
2nd June – Y6 Residential PGL

Celebration Assemblies - These are class assemblies that start at 9am.

21st May – SL
22nd May – China
5th June – Thailand
12th June – USA
19th June – Mexico
25th June – NZ
26th June – India
3rd July – Italy
10th July – UK
22nd July – Japan and SA Leavers Assembly – 9.30am – 2 seats per family (no more due to space)

Celebrations



Vine leaves – **Olly G (SA)** – Wisdom - for showing excellent understanding of our shape unit and sharing his knowledge expertly with others. **Elliot K (SL)** – Humility - for asking Miss Taylor how her Easter holiday went, and if she got up to anything nice. It made Miss Taylor's day! **Millie M (SL)** - Kindness - for asking a child who was upset if they would like to play with her. **George O and Bowie (Ita)** - Friendship – for being so welcoming and friendly towards a new friend in our class. **Bertie (USA) and Desire (USA)** - Perseverance – for trying so hard in our first swimming lesson this term. You both worked really hard practising the front crawl and even though you found it difficult you persevered. **Tai (Chi) and Teddy (Chi)** – Friendship - for showing kindness and a welcoming and nurturing attitude to a new student in year 1. **Alfie P (Chi)** - Wisdom - for starting the new term eager and ready to soak up all the knowledge he can. **Elba (SA)** - Friendship – for kindly changing groups from one where she was with all of her friends to be with another child during the Easter quiz. **Lennie (Mex) and Tommy (USA)** – Kindness – for going above and beyond to help setting up the Easter Egg Hunt for another year group. **India S (Ita)** – Kindness – for stopping at the gate to help a child into school who needed some reassurance.

Achievements -

Rio M (Thai) -
Passed his Stage
1 swimming



Victoria C (Mex) -
Completed the final
ASA rainbow cap
stage by passing
Stage 10 swimming!

Thank you for your support.

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£10 per session
includes ingredients and a taster to
take home.

For more information contact
Louise by email: pdcca@pdcca.org.uk

**Every
Wednesday
11am till 1pm**

**Starting on
23rd April '25
5 week
course**

