

# ST MARY'S C OF E (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

'A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum'



Week beginning 15th December 2025

## Message from Mrs Copus



We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Thank you for all your support this term and we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Please enjoy the time with friends and family and we look forward to seeing you all in 2026.

## Living Church Links

**Eucharist** – Father Paul, Mr Holloway and Mr Hancock joined us this morning for the Christmas Eucharist service. We were reminded of the importance of Christmas and its true meaning. Thank you to our choir for singing and our Year 4 children for sharing their prayers with us.





# News

## Attendance

This weeks attendance was 89.1% - our target is 96.4%

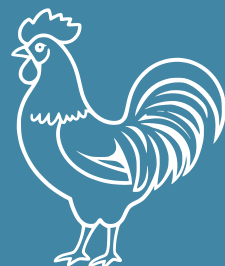
89.1%



As we share the latest attendance figures in this newsletter, we want to acknowledge that we are fully aware of the current increase in bugs and illnesses affecting many of our children and families. We understand that these health challenges can impact attendance and we appreciate your understanding and support as we navigate this season. Our priority remains the well-being of all our children and we encourage families to reach out if they need assistance during this time.

## Craft Sale

The children and staff in our Roosters wraparound team worked very hard making tree decorations, bracelets and charms and baking gingerbread Rudolph biscuits for a craft sale this week. The raised an amazing £47.50, which they will use to buy some more resources for their setting. Well done everyone!





# News

## Staffing

We said goodbye to Mr Coomber, Mrs Mac and Miss Catchpole today. We wish them all the very best in the next part of their journey. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Ashton-Smith, Miss Duignan and Mr Chinery to the team in January.

*thank you*

## Tree of Wishes - PTA



Wow! What a lot of presents have arrived to enrich our classrooms - we are so incredibly grateful, thank you!



## All Kinds of Minds

Zara (Chi) took the initiative and created her own poster about our brains. Do have a look at her work!



## Cubitt & West - Competition



Many thanks to all of the children who took part in this years competition - don't forget to check out the window of Cubitt & West over the Christmas break to see your design!





## Things to know...

### Meal Ordering

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.

#### Jan cut off dates

Thurs 25/12 for w/c 05/01

Thurs 01/01 for w/c 12/01

Thurs 08/01 for e/c 19/01

Thurs 15/01 for w/c 26/01

### Dates for your diary

#### Spring Term 2026



Mon 5<sup>th</sup> January – Return to school

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> January – Drama workshops in school for KS1

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> January – SPLASH worship

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> January – Second hand uniform sale – front entrance – 3.15pm – 3.45pm

Tue 20<sup>th</sup> January – Meet the Teacher for Mexico Class

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> February – INSET Day

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> February – Fri 20<sup>th</sup> February – HALF TERM

### Celebration Assemblies

China - 28th Jan USA - 29th Jan

Thailand - 4th February UK - 5th February

New Zealand - 11th Feb Japan - 12th Feb

Sierra Leone - 25th February Italy - 26th February

India - 11th Mar Mexico - 12th Mar

Australia - 18th Mar South Africa - 19th Mar





# Curriculum

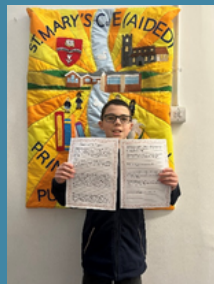
## Learning PE

**China Class** had to improvise during their PE lesson this week due to the torrential rain on Thursday - we discovered that our desks make great table tennis tables!

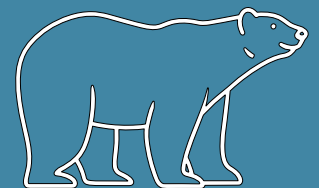
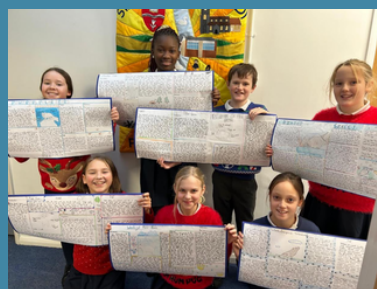


## English

**China Class** China class have produced their Greek myths in the final version and the outcomes have been brilliant. We were particularly proud of Freddie's work.



**Year 6** The children have been working incredibly hard on non-chronological reports about polar bears and have produced some beautiful work that they are rightfully very proud of.



## Christmas Crafts

**Thailand Class** The children have been working very hard on their craft skills today decorating baubles and making snowmen!





# Celebrations

## Loving Christmas

### Nativity

**Whoops-a-daisy Angel** – We loved watching the children in UK and Thailand perform in their nativity. It was lovely to welcome family and carers to our performances and to see the children flourish on the stage with costumes, lights and music.



### Pantomime

**Aladdin** – We were delighted to watch the performance of Aladdin on Thursday morning - the children all joined in with cheering and booing where appropriate and had a fantastic time!

### Father Christmas

Father Christmas came and delivered gifts to the children after our Christmas lunch - he caused quite a stir!







# Celebrations

## Christmas

### Disco

The children from every year group danced the night away at the Christmas Disco. It was great to see them spending time with their friends and having the opportunity to dress up and use the disco shops.



### Festive Lunch

What a feast! Turkey and all the trimmings plus some Christmas songs to add to the festive cheer.





# Celebrations

## Christmas Staff Song!

Every year, Mrs Hancock, our school librarian, rewrites the lyrics to a famous Christmas hymn and insists our whole school staff sing it to the children in assembly - inevitably we get something wrong and she tells us off, which the children love! This year was no different as we attempted to sing along to the tune of 'Away in a Manger'.



## Wreath Making

Our staff enjoyed a festive evening in the school hall making Christmas wreaths this week - there were some very beautiful creations taken home!

## Christmas Jumpers

The annual Christmas jumper day is in full swing!





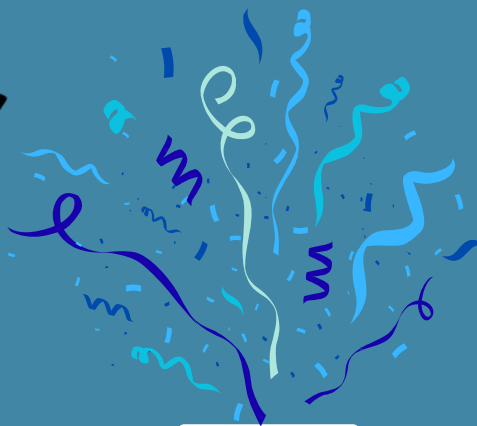


# Celebrations

## House Cup

The children have collected Class Dojo points all week and this week's winners are - St Mary's (Blue Team).

Dojo's can be awarded for reading at home, kindness, politeness, upholding our school values, supporting our Christian ethos and extra curricular contributions to our school.





# Celebrations



## Vine Leaves

**Elena (India) - Kindness** - for holding the hand of another child, who was a bit worried, during the performances of the KS1 nativity. **China class - Kindness** - for making such a wonderful group effort to make a new child feel welcome and comfortable in our class. **George B (Ind) - Courage** - for being in school each day. **Ivy (Aus) - Wisdom** - for working very hard in her end of term assessments and did very well! **Indy (Aus) - Compassion** - for showing kindness to others from different classes and trying to ensure everyone is always included in games. **Alesio (Aus) - Perseverance** - for trying hard in his learning during his first half term at St. Marys. **Darcy (Ita) - Service and Kindness** - for being an excellent friend and caring for those who have hurt themselves. **Bonnie (NZ) - Thankfulness** - for making a point of thanking adults in school for their hard work! **Violet (SL) - Kindness** - for offering her mindful cards to help children in the class regulate themselves when they're upset.

## Achievements

**Daisy B (Jap) - won the Saxon Weald Local Community Award**



**Lyla R (UK) - won her first dance competition**



**Sienna-Jane (USA) - came 2<sup>nd</sup> in a dance competition**





# Celebrations

## Achievements



Louis (NZ) -  
completed Level 3  
swimming



Nelly (NZ) -  
completed Level 2  
swimming



Luna (NZ) - Moved  
up to Stage 5  
swimming



Rosie C (Ind) -  
passed her first  
ballet exam

Raphie - completed  
Stage 3 swimming

**ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2025**

**FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> December**

7.30pm Special Musical event at Pulborough  
Village Hall in aid of Education West Africa and  
St Mary's Parish Church

**WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> December**

7pm Mary How Carol Concert in church

**SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> December**

8am and 10.30am Services  
6pm THE PARISH CAROL SERVICE

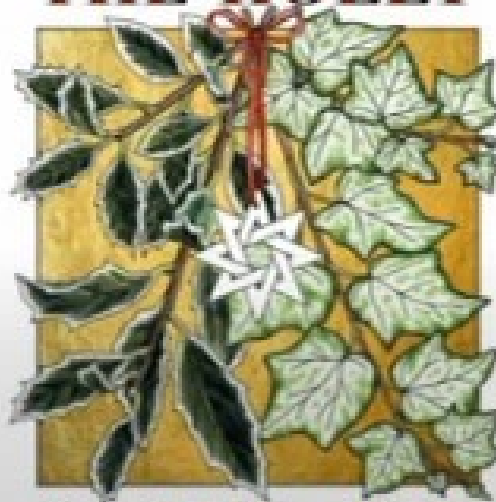
**CHRISTMAS EVE**

4pm Crib Service  
11pm MIDNIGHT MASS

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

*(There is NO 8am service)*  
10.00am PARISH EUCHARIST

**THE HOLLY**



**& THE IVY**