

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

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

NEWSLETTER

Week beginning 9th February 2026

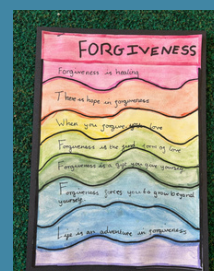
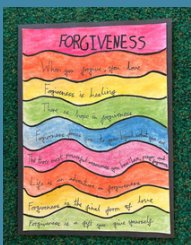
Message from Mrs Copus



What a wonderful and fulfilling half term it has been and our newsletters and Facebook page reflect the learning opportunities that we have provided the children. Thank you to the staff for their enthusiasm and passion that they have shown for teaching and learning and I hope that everybody has a restful half term. A reminder that tomorrow is an inset day and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 23rd February.

Living Church Links

In line with our Christian Value this half term, **South Africa** class have been thinking about forgiveness and what it means to them - they have created some beautiful work to show this.





News



Attendance

This weeks attendance was 92.2% - our target is 96.4%

92.2%

Help Required - School Video



We are currently looking for someone who may be able to support us in updating our school promotional video. If you know of anyone with experience in this area, please let us know.



Half Term Reading

Reading over the holiday can help you get ahead and we want to encourage you getting in to a good book. Send us a photo of you reading in an unusual place and we will share them. Send photos to office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk



Pulborough Library

This February half term Pulborough Library are running a stories and crafts event for families called Travelling Tales! At this event, they'll be sharing some of their favourite transport themed picture book stories and the children will be making hot air balloons and racing cars! This activity is suitable for children aged 4yrs+.



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.

Feb / Mar cut off dates

Thurs 12/02 for w/c 23/02

Thurs 19/02 for w/c 02/03

Thurs 26/02 for w/c 09/03

Dates for your diary

Fri 13th February – INSET Day

Mon 16th February – Fri 20th February – HALF TERM

Mon 23rd February – African drumming workshop – China, Mex, Jap & SA

Tues 24th February – Network Rail assembly

Fri 27th February – Weald & Downland Museum trip – Italy, India & Australia classes

Weds 4th March – Class photos

Thurs 5th March – World Book Day – see separate email

Mon 9th / Tues 10th March – Science days

Tues 17th / Weds 19th March – Parents evening

Tues 24th March – Easter play 2pm

Weds 25th March – Lions book giveaway

Weds 25th March – Easter disco 5-6pm EYFS / KS1 – 6.15 – 7.30 – KS2

Thurs 26th March – Easter Eucharist – parents welcome

Thurs 26th March – Easter Eggstravaganza – bonnets competition

Fri 27th March – INSET DAY



Celebration Assemblies

China - **POSTPONED** new date 13th Mar

UK - 24th Feb

Sierra Leone - 25th February Italy - 26th February

India - 11th Mar Mexico - 12th Mar

Australia - 18th Mar South Africa - 19th Mar



Curriculum



Learning Pancakes

UK and Thailand classes have been enjoying the story 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes'. This high-quality text immerses the children in rich language and engaging storytelling.



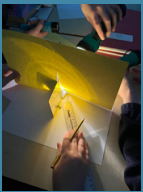
Peasant Day

China and Mexico classes have been very busy today experiencing a 'taste' of life as a peasant. We cooked cabbage and leek pottage, mashed peas and gingerbread with some surprising taste test results! We then came together and enjoyed watching 'The Sword in the Stone'.



Science

Year 6 have been completing a range of practical work this term as part of our Science learning on light. Firstly, we explored how light travels and used torches and mirrors to investigate the angles of incidence and reflection. We have also learnt about the history of periscopes and made models to find out how they work. This week, we have investigated how light travels when it passes through transparent materials such as air, water and glass. We discovered how the law of refraction, which occurs when light rays pass through materials with different density, gave the illusion that images had changed their appearance or disappeared altogether!



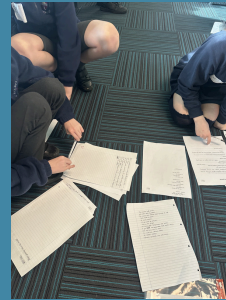
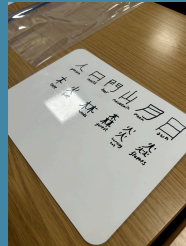
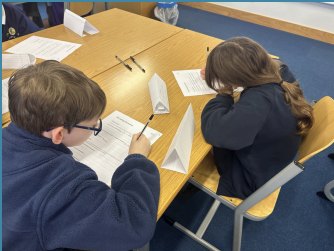


✦ Curriculum ✦

Christ's Hospital - Creative Translation



Well done to Isabella, Harrison, Bowie and Jaxon in **Year 5** for their Creative Translation Day at Christ's Hospital where they got to learn how to translate poetry in Mandarin and Catalan. A fantastic day and they represented the school beautifully.



St Valentine

What a fabulous way to count down to Valentines with biscuits, chocolate and sprinkles. Well done to our **Roosters** team for such a great activity with messages around compassion, love and empathy towards each other. The children in **Year 6** have also been writing poems about what Love is to them.





Curriculum



Forest School

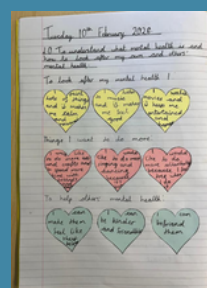
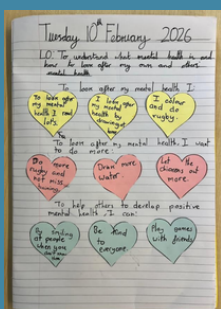
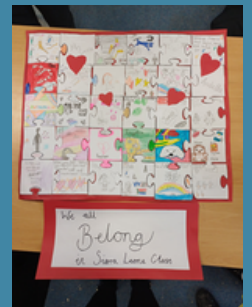
The snowdrops were out and it felt like Spring was truly in the air as **Australia class** enjoyed their final Forest School session of the year. They had a fantastic time exploring, learning and working together and even took part in Drop Everything And Read around the campfire!



Children's Mental Health Week



For Children's Mental Health Week, we have been exploring what mental health is and why it is just as important as physical health. Through thoughtful class discussions, we have been learning about the different feelings we experience and sharing ideas about how we can look after ourselves and support one another. As part of the week, children have also enjoyed taking walks around the school grounds, using the time to get some fresh air, connect with nature and reflect on simple ways to boost their wellbeing.



cont...



✧ Curriculum ✧

Children's Mental Health Week

Parents and carers are often the first place young people go when they're struggling – whether that's relationships, school or their mental health.

However experienced you are, it can be hard to know the right thing to say when someone you love is hurting, or what next steps to take.

This Children's Mental Health Week, we want parents and carers to know that help's out there. Our [Parents Helpline](#) advisors are just a click or phone call away with free, expert, confidential, 1-1 advice. And we have hundreds of [online guides](#) and [real stories](#) from parents who get it.



Drop Everything And Read



In recognition of the National Year of Reading, we embraced the joy of books with our 'Drop Everything and Read' initiative. At different times during the week, the air horn sounded and everyone across the school stopped, settled in and shared the simple pleasure of reading.



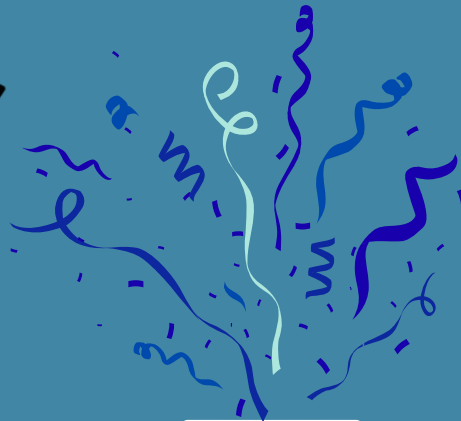


Celebrations

Loving 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

Isabella (SA) - **Thoughtfulness** - for immediately offering to help another child with their RE work when they were unsure. Lucas (SA) and Alicia (SA) - **Wisdom** - for brilliant teamwork and collaboration when working on dividing fractions this week. Emily B-N (SA) - **Perseverance** - for amazing progress shown in your Star Reading test score, you should be very proud.

Celebration Assembly

What a wonderful morning with our **New Zealand class**! The children loved sharing their talk stories, showing off their amazing mark making in art, using their times table facts in maths and singing their hearts out together. They were so confident, happy, and clearly excited to impress their parents!



Japan Class delighted us all with a fantastic assembly showcasing their learning this term. Exploring the theme of Explorers and Adventurers through time, the children shared their knowledge of climate zones and biomes from their geography studies. Inspired by The Lost Book of Adventures, they wrote their own imaginative adventure stories and brought one to life with a confident and engaging short drama performance. It was a joy to celebrate their creativity, confidence and hard work together with their families.





Celebrations

Achievements



Ben G (USA) was awarded his third belt stripe in Jiu Jitsu



Ada & Sienna (USA) came 2nd in U12's pairs dancing



Ben F (USA) has been working on a 1000 piece puzzle since Christmas & finally finished it this week



Rosie (NZ) worked hard to achieve some of the Blue Peter badges



Ada (USA) achieved her Rookie Lifeguard Stage 1

