

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

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

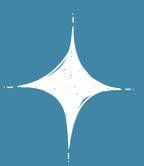


Week beginning 2nd March 2026

Message from Mrs Copus



The sun has really started to appear and we have noticed everyone's mood changing for the better! We have got caught up in the reading bug this week and we loved seeing everyone curled up with a book. Reading is one factor that can make such a difference to children's outcomes. Keep up the reading - this can be anything and at any time. Children's mental health can be directly impacted by bedtime reading and it strengthens relationships - go pick up a book tonight!



Living Church Links

What a fantastic worship session we had with The Life Church! We explored the importance of Perseverance through a series of "tower stacking" challenges. It wasn't easy—especially when the children had to build while blindfolded and dealing with distractions! We then reflected on the story of Nehemiah, learning how he stayed focused on his goal despite many obstacles. It was a powerful reminder to our students to keep going and stay strong, no matter what challenges come their way.





News



Attendance

This weeks attendance was 94.4% - our target is 96.4%

94.4%



Class Photos

Everyone looked so smart for the class photos this week and we can't wait to share them with you. Look out for the proofcards in your child's book bags over the next few weeks.

Tesco Blue Tokens



Miss Callender has been working with Sussex Green Living to provide us with a new 'pollination station'. They have very kindly applied to the Tesco 'Blue Token' grants and we are so pleased to have been accepted. Next time you're in Tesco Pulborough - please pop a blue token or two into the Sussex Green Living section to help us receive the biggest grant possible.

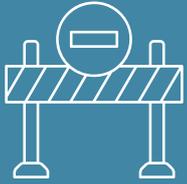


Cycling to School

It is lovely to see so many of our Year 6 children riding their bikes to school now that the weather has improved - please remind them that they should wear their helmets for their whole journey, not just as they walk through the school gate!



News



Glebelands

Please be aware that there is a road closure on Glebelands from Monday 9th March for two weeks. You will need to find an alternative route to school if you travel this way

PTA - Reading Corners

The PTA are supporting Reading Corners for the children's classrooms. Instead of an Easter Egg why not purchase something for a class reading corner - more details to follow soon.



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.





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.

March cut off dates

Thurs 12/03 for w/c 23/03

EASTER BREAK

Dates for your diary

Mon 9th / Tues 10th March – Science days

Fri 13th March - Andrew Griffith MP

Fri 13th March - Reports home (Mexico in Summer Term)

Tues 17th / Weds 19th March – Parents evening

Mon 23rd March - second hand uniform sale 3.15-3.25pm

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

India - 11th Mar Mexico - 12th Mar

China -13th Mar

Australia - 18th Mar South Africa - 19th Mar



Curriculum

Learning Science



In Science this week, South Africa have been learning about refraction and Isaac Newton's work on the Theory of Colour. The children discovered how prisms split a ray of light into the colours of the Visible Spectrum, enabling us to see different colours. Our practical work enabled us to see how although light looks white, it is actually made up of all the colours of the rainbow!



Weald Book Award

The Year 6 Weald Book Award group attended the eagerly anticipated Finals Evening on Tuesday. Since commencing the project in October, the children have been set the challenge of reading six new titles and participating in a number of directed tasks based upon their reading material. During the evening, we had the treat of listening to four of the six authors in person or online.

The following children were announced as competition winners, each receiving a certificate for their efforts: Lucy - Photo, Peter - Map, Victoria - Three Wishes, Anthony - Book Character, Bea - Letter

We were excited to learn that 'Safe' by Vanessa Harbour was voted as this year's overall winner. Vanessa gave an engaging talk about the inspiration behind her captivating book, which describes the rescue mission of a group of horses during World War 2.

Congratulations to the following children for their commitment to the project throughout the year:

South Africa: Jessilyn, Ella S, Ella C, Lucy, Bea, Victoria

Japan: Peter, Arlo, Delilah, Emily P, Ayden, Anthony





Curriculum

Computing - VR Headsets



Italy class have been exploring Tudor houses on the VR Headsets this week. The app allowed the children to go into Tudor houses and see how they were constructed. A great way to enrich their learning. Thank you to Theo and Josh (Jap) who have led these sessions and shown themselves to be experts at this technology.



Weald & Downland Museum



As part of their Memory Box topic, the children in Italy, India & Australia Class visited The Weald and Downland Museum to explore historic homes and take part in an artefact workshop. Seeing primary sources up close and learning through real objects helped them connect with the past in such a meaningful way. A wonderful day of curiosity, discovery and hands-on learning.

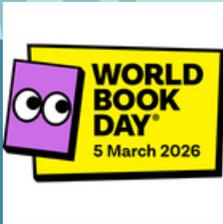


Mary Rose Museum



China and Mexico Class enjoyed an exciting day of learning as they explored the Mary Rose Museum. The children took part in a hands-on workshop, discovering what life was like for the crew and examining real artifacts recovered from the ship. They also experienced a 4D journey, sailing out to the site of the Mary Rose's discovery and learning how this incredible Tudor vessel was raised from the seabed.





Curriculum

World Book Day

We had a fantastic day celebrating our love of reading this World Book Day—all while staying cosy in our comfy clothes! The excitement kicked off with a high-energy whole-school assembly featuring MC Grammar, who got everyone singing along about the magic of books. Throughout the day, children enjoyed the chance to read with different teachers, took part in a thrilling "Masked Reader" competition and hunted for clues in a school-wide vocabulary search. After sharing their own creative projects, the children ended the day by cuddling up with their favourite stories. It was a wonderful way to raise the profile of reading and help everyone discover their next favourite book!



Mexico Class set up a reading café. They investigated different genres of books and thought about their favourites.



Mrs Gowland headed to Australia Class to read them one of her favourite stories!



Japan & SA Class had their own drama workshop where they recreated scenes from famous books

SL Class made reading dens out of blankets and cushions.





Curriculum

World Book Day

The children took part in a World Book Day competition to design and make their favourite book character and bring it in to school - we had so many fantastic designs that it made it a very difficult decision for the judges! Here are some of the fabulous entries



The competition winners were - **Thai** Lyra **UK** Lagertha **Italy** Isabelle **India** Rowan **Australia** Oakley **NZ:** Louis **SL** Martha **USA** Teagan and Macie **China** Zara **Mexico** Flora **SA** Victoria and **Japan** Josh



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.

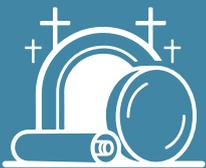




Celebrations

Vine Leaves

Frankie (Ita) - Service - for looking after others in need. **Leo (Aus) - Creativity** - for writing the most beautiful story for his half term homework. **Emilia (Aus) - Wisdom** - for writing a very clever and enticing book review as part of her half term homework. **Marlie (Aus) - Creativity** - for writing the most beautiful poem about spring, which is now proudly displayed in class for everyone to see. **Dilan (Mex) and Jesse (Mex) - Humility** - for showing a keen interest in everything at The Mary Rose museum and answering questions thoughtfully during the workshop showing a good understanding of the Tudor period. **Danny (Tha) - Service** - for spending time everyday organising the colouring pencils without being asked, ready for the following day. **Penelope (Tha) - Friendship** - for being so kind to a friend. **Jayden (SA) - Kindness** - for being so courteous with the children in Brazil. **Ella S (SA) - Wisdom** - for telling Mr Hubbard all about World Book Day and the words scattered around the school. **Amelia (SA) - Perseverance** - for the progress you have made in your reading.



The Easter Story

Teagan (USA) has made her own creative representation of the Easter Story!



Sharing is Caring

This is a story **Leo (Aus)** wrote as part of his half term homework challenge. It is such a beautiful story with a wonderful message that teaches us all something. A story this meaningful deserves to be shared.



Turtle found it difficult to share. She liked to keep things for herself. Turtle didn't like sharing her toys. She never wanted to share her books. When turtle didn't share, it often upset others and that could be a problem.



On Monday, Teacher took the class to the museum. She told everyone there were only a few books. She asked them to form a pair so they could share. "Let's share too" said Giraffe to Turtle.

"No! this book is mine!!!" said Turtle. That was unkind. No one wanted to have fun with Turtle. She was working by herself, and she felt lonely. Teacher came to talk to Turtle and after the talk she wanted to share with her friends. Turtle could see that she had been selfish.





Celebrations

Achievements



Ben F, Ben G & Edward (USA) - played in a contact rugby tournament in Hove



Max (SA) - achieved his Silver Chief Scout Award



Ada & Sienna (USA) - came second in pairs at dancing & Sienna also came 4th in fast and 7th in slow



Jesse (Mex) - won the final in his first ever race meeting n his brand new car after coming 3rd in both heats

