

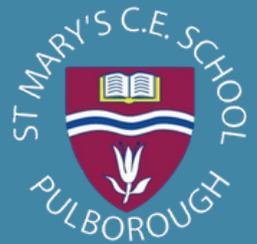
ST MARY'S C OF E (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

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



Week beginning 16th March 2026

Message from Mrs Copus



As we approach our final week in school I'd like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support of the school. It has been a great Spring term with many opportunities for the children. We are also fortunate to have such kind and nurturing staff who go above and beyond to make learning happen for the children.

Living Church Links

Father Paul joined us this morning for an assembly about Holy Week. He talked to us about the days leading up to Easter Sunday and how important they are to the Christian faith.



News



Attendance

This weeks attendance was 91.5% - our target is 96.4%

91.5%

Easter Hats & Bonnets



We are looking forward to celebrating Easter just before the holidays and we are looking for creative hats and bonnets to show the meaning of Easter. Prizes are available.

Parents Evenings

Thank you to everyone who came to Parents Evenings this week. It was lovely to have Governors meeting, greeting and filling out our school questionnaire. If you didn't get to give your opinion of the school then please contact the school office for information on how to complete.

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 - there are colourful 'eggs' hanging on our Easter tree by the school office if you'd like to choose and purchase / donate a book requested by the children.

Social Media - Harmful Content

Please can all parents check that their child does not have any access to the content from [HStikkytokky](#). His content is inappropriate but we have got children talking about him and sharing merchandise with other children in school.





News

Public Health England



Public Health
England

The West Sussex Public Health team is pleased to share a new resource created to help parents and carers access clear, reliable public health information. This easy-to-use Padlet brings together key advice to support children and young people's wellbeing, development, and safety. This is the link [information and resources to support your family's health and wellbeing.](#)

Recycling Day



The Eco council led an important assembly to the whole school about recycling and the importance of it. They were so knowledgeable and all played their part in educating us all about the benefits to each of us and the planet.



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' grant scheme and we are so pleased to have been accepted. Next time you're in Tesco Pulborough or Storrington Petrol station - please pop a blue token or two into the Sussex Green Living section to help us receive the biggest grant possible.





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.

April cut off dates

Thurs 02/04 for w/c 13/04
Thurs 09/04 for w/c 20/04
Thurs 16/04 for w/c 27/04

Dates for your diary

- 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
- Monday 13th April - Back to school - Summer Term



Summer Term

- Mon 13th April - Back to school
- Thurs 16th April - Year 5 Cobnor residential meeting, 3.30pm
- Weds 22nd April - EYFS Phonics open session 2.45pm
- Weds 6th - Fri 8th May - Year 5 Cobnor Residential trip
- Thurs 26th March - Easter Eucharist - parents welcome
- Mon 11th May - Year 6 SATS week
- Fri 15th May - Non-uniform day for school summer fayre
- Mon 25th May - HALF TERM WEEK



Curriculum



Learning Art



We were delighted to welcome Marc Craig from Graffebo into school to work with **Mexico Class** this week. Marc was the artist in residence at the Leake Street tunnels, London's longest legal graffiti wall, and has taught many workshops there on the art form of Graffiti. The children produced a composition together and then had the opportunity to work on their own version of a space / galaxy theme. What a fantastic workshop. Harrison said 'It was the best day ever.' Freddie said 'Now I know what I want to be when I'm older'.

<https://graffebo.com>



Year 6 have been studying the work of Esther Mahlangu, an African artist famous for her bold colourful work inspired by the traditional art of the Ndebele people.

Esther Mahlangu's work is based on colourful, geometric patterns and produced using brushes made from chicken feathers!

Her traditional designs feature complex symmetry and repeating patterns using rectangles and triangles.

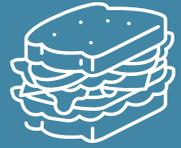
It is traditional for the women in the Ndebele community to paint the outside of their houses. They use natural pigments and bright acrylic paints outlined with black lines, to make large geometric patterns on the outside walls of their homes.



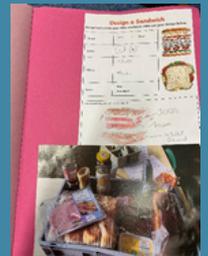


Curriculum

Learning Design & Technology



India, Italy and Australia classes have been sandwich making this week as part of their DT unit. The children researched sandwiches, they taste tested lots of fillings to evaluate what they might like to have in their sandwich - they then designed their own with their favourite fillings before making them in class. They each wrote an evaluation of their final product!

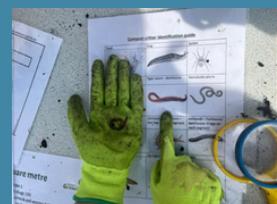


In their DT lesson this week, Sierra Leone class learnt how to use microbits. The children started by using software to create a code that could be applied to the microbits, and then attached the microbits to the computer so that they could see the code in action. All the children enjoyed seeing the final result.



Sussex Green Living

Sussex Green Living joined us in school today to run some workshops with our children. We spent the day looking through compost for micro-organisms to identify, looking at materials to see if they are biodegradable and talking about what can be reused or recycled. They then ran a whole school assembly this afternoon to discuss their findings!





Curriculum

Celebration Assemblies

Australia Class

Australia had their class celebration assembly and were able to show off the learning they've been doing this term. They showed us their musical skills with the boomwackers and were able to talk about their English, Maths and Science work. We are so proud of their achievements.



South Africa Class

South Africa performed their final class celebration assembly. They spoke with great clarity around their learning and this included reading out English, talking about the visit from a STEM scientist, the African drumming session and many other lessons in Science, PE and English. They are nearly ready for their secondary schools.

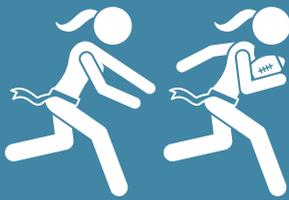




Sport

Tag Rugby

On Tuesday, some of our Year 5/6 Tag Rugby team attended a tournament at Horsham Rugby Club. They showed great teamwork and represented us beautifully. They won all of their group games and eventually came 4th place overall. Well done to Anthony, Freddie, Ruairi, Ronnie, Oscar, Ted, Ella and Poppy and thank you to Mrs Castle for taking the team.



Football

Our mixed Year 5/6 football team headed to The Weald this week for a locality 7-a-side football tournament. They competed against other local schools and had a great time! Thank you to Mrs Hayes for taking the team.



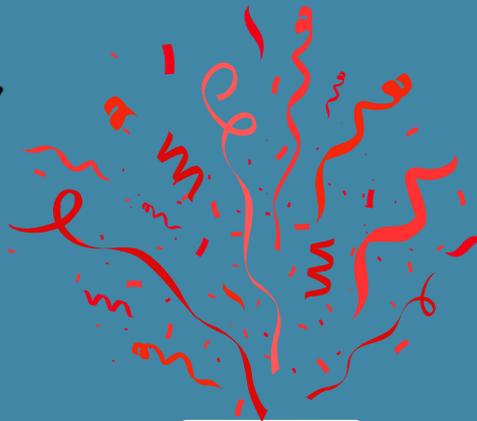


Celebrations

Loving House Cup

The children have collected Class Dojo points all week and this week's winners are
- St Matthew's (Red 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

Harmony (Ind) - Generosity - for lending her whiteboard to a child without being asked. Elena, Gracie and Esame (Ind) - Friendship - for looking after their friend at forest school. Theo (Ita) and Nathan (Ita) - Service - for helping to carry some PE equipment, even though it was very heavy! William (SL) - Perseverance - for showing great resilience with reading this year. You have made so much progress as a result. Nancy (SL) - Perseverance - for showing such a positive attitude towards the maths test. There were some challenging questions, but you didn't let that hold you back from trying your best. Lagertha, Lilly, Leo, Bea and Huntley (UK) - Perseverance - for creating a spark with a fire steel. They were determined to do it and were rewarded. Bea (SA) - Friendship - for supporting a younger peer in musical theatre club to feel supported and confident. Ronnie H (Chi) - Wisdom - for working exceptionally hard to achieve results he is proud of in his PIRA and PUMA. Alfie (Chi) - Wisdom - for writing a brilliant news report as well as for perseverance for making excellent progress in his handwriting and presentation!

Achievements



Amelie (SL) - was selected as Pulborough RFC as Player of the Week



Sophia (Ind) - moved up to orange belt at her recent karate grading



Ben F (USA) - passed Stage 5 swimming



Ada (USA) - came 3rd in Fast and 5th in Slow at a Brighton dance comp