

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

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

## NEWSLETTER

Week beginning 23rd March 2026

### Message from Mrs Copus



As we reach the end of the Spring Term, we reflect on what has been a wonderful few weeks filled with memorable experiences and valuable learning opportunities. Thank you to everyone for your continued support throughout the term. We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 13th April. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy a well-deserved break—take time to rest, relax and have fun with friends and family.

### Living Church Links



**Easter Eucharist** - we welcomed Father Paul, Mr Holloway and Mr Hancock to our Easter Eucharist today. The choir sang, Year 5 shared their art work on the cross, Year 2 read our prayers and we watched a creative video by Teddy (NZ), which describes the events in the Bible.



# News



## Attendance

This week's attendance was 90.4% - our target is 96.4%

90.4%



## Staffing

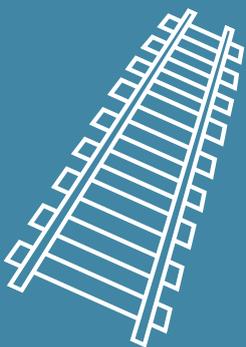
Miss Heasman is getting married over the Easter break and we look forward to welcoming her back as Mrs Heasman-White. We wish her and her new husband all the very best for their wedding.



We also say goodbye to Miss Sleat as she moves on to a new career. We thank her for her dedication to our children and wish her all the very best for the future.

## Lions Book Giveaway

A big, heartfelt THANK YOU to Billingshurst & District Lions Club for our wonderful school book giveaway! It's so special knowing that every single child received a book to enjoy, what an amazing gift to inspire a love of reading! We are incredibly grateful for your generosity and support!



## Railway Sleepers

We are looking for railway sleepers to rebuild some of our flower beds. If you have access to any then please do let us know [office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk)

## PTA - Reading Corners

Thank you so much to everybody who supported our PTA event by purchasing some new books for our classrooms. Our children will benefit hugely from this and are so excited to get some new material to read together.





## 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 13th April - Back to school  
Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> April - Year 5 Cobnor residential meeting, 3.30pm  
Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> April - EYFS Phonics open session 2.45pm  
Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> April - UK & Thailand Planrtarium Workshop  
Weds 6th - Fri 8th May - Year 5 Cobnor Residential trip  
Mon 11<sup>th</sup> May - Year 6 SATS week  
Fri 15th May - Non-uniform day for school summer fayre  
Mon 18<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Year 6 PGL Bethany House residential  
Mon 25<sup>th</sup> May - HALF TERM WEEK



### Celebration Assemblies

These will be at 9am for this term and it is so valuable for parents to share the learning that has been going on.

20<sup>th</sup> May - New Zealand 21<sup>st</sup> May - China  
4<sup>th</sup> June - Australia 11<sup>th</sup> June - Italy  
18<sup>th</sup> June - Sierra Leone 24<sup>th</sup> June - Mexico  
25<sup>th</sup> June - USA 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Thailand  
8<sup>th</sup> July - India 9<sup>th</sup> July - UK  
22<sup>nd</sup> July - Japan & SA 9.30am



# Curriculum

## Learning Forest School



India class enjoying their last Forest School of the year. Playing in the mud kitchen, making smores on an open fire, hot chocolate, playing in the mud kitchen and enjoying some crafts.



## Al-Fresco Writing

Thailand class took advantage of the sunny weather earlier in the week to do some al-fresco writing during their 'Explore and Learn' time! It was lovely to see them relaxed and enjoying working in the sunshine.



## Choral Day

Some of our Year 5 children attended the [Christ's Hospital Choral Day](#), where they made incredible progress in their choral skills and gave a wonderful performance in the chapel. The day was made even more special with time to enjoy lunch together and watch the marching band in the sunshine.



## Maths Challenge

Christ's Hospital invited some of our talented Year 5 mathematicians to a special event on Wednesday afternoon. They took part in a series of maths challenges and had to work hard against children from other local schools. It was a pleasure to see them participate and really excel in this area.



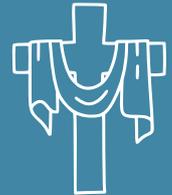


# Curriculum

## Learning Easter Celebrations Easter Play



The huge amount of time and effort the children and staff put into rehearsing for the Easter play really paid off - what great performances they treated us to! We all felt very lucky to have been able to watch the children shine - well done and thank you to all of those involved with costumes, music, sound and performing.



## Disco

A brilliant evening that everyone thoroughly enjoyed, from the children to all of our amazing teachers and staff who helped make it such a success. What a lovely way to raise funds for our school while bringing the whole community together - we're thrilled to have raised £1100! A huge thank you to everyone who gave their time and effort to make the evening happen, it really was appreciated.



## Bonnet and Hat Competition

What a fantastic effort this year! We have some very creative and talented artists amongst our students which, as always, made the judging very difficult. Our eventual winners were - **UK** - Robin, **Thai** - Owen, **Italy** - Elsie, **India** - Elena, **Aus** - Daisy M, **NZ** - Luna, **SL** - Savannah, **USA** - Zara, **China** - Imogen, **Mex** - Alexa, **SA** - Amelie-Joy and **Japan** - Maryanne. Well done to everyone who participated!





# Sport

## Cross Country

What a fantastic effort from our pupils!

Nine of our Year 5 and 6 children proudly represented the school at the Horsham Schools Cross Country event held at Christ's Hospital School. Despite the chilly weather, every single runner showed incredible determination, resilience, and team spirit from start to finish.

It was wonderful to see them supporting one another and giving their all on the course, a true display of perseverance and positivity!

A huge well done to the whole team, we are very proud of you all!



Back in November, Isabella and Mattie (Mex) came first and second respectively and Jayden (SA) came third in The Weald locality cross country event. Today, they headed to the county finals competing against 180 other students in each category - we are thrilled to share that they came 44th, 85th and 18th respectively, which contributed to Mid-Sussex coming 2nd overall! We couldn't be prouder of them and the time & effort they (and their parents!) have put in.



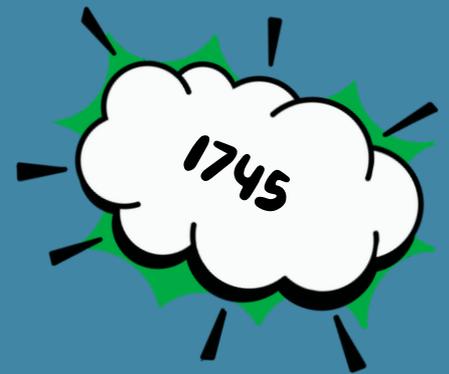


# Celebrations

## Loving House Cup

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

**Australia Class - Creativity** - for showing immense courage when performing multiple songs in our celebration assembly. It is not easy to perform a new skill in front of lots of people. They excelled at the glockenspiel, boom whackers and body percussion this term! **Amelie-Joy (SA) - Perseverance** - for always trying your best.

**Kaiser - Wisdom** - for your valuable contributions and retention of knowledge during our Maths learning about mass. **Horatio - Courage** - for singing with such enthusiasm during the Easter Play. Even though he was at the back with the stage crew, he still sung his heart out. **Orla (NZ) and Mia (Mex)** - Generosity and Service - for helping someone out at the disco by sharing their money and sweets so the other child felt included. It was a true selfless act.

## Celebration Assembly

### India Class

India wowed us all as they shared their exciting topic on Frozen Kingdom and their Memory Box. From confident reading to beautifully written work, they truly impressed us every step of the way. And the highlight? Their uplifting performance of My Lighthouse, it was absolutely brilliant and had everyone smiling from ear to ear! We're so proud of their enthusiasm, confidence, and creativity. Well done, India!





# Celebrations



## Achievements



William (SA) - passed his first grading at Tai Kwon Do & was awarded Player of the Match at football



Sienna-Jane (USA) - came 4<sup>th</sup> in Fast, 3<sup>rd</sup> in Slow and 6<sup>th</sup> in Street at a dance competition



Ada (USA) - came 1<sup>st</sup> in Slow and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Fast at a dance competition





**FREE**

# EASTER EVENT FOR SEND CHILDREN

Storrington and Sullington Neighbourhood Wardens  
in partnership with WSCC Horsham Family Hub



**Friday 10 April**  
**10am - 11.30pm**  
**or 1pm - 2.30pm**

**Chanctonbury Leisure Centre,**  
Spierbridge Road, RH20 4PG

**A fun packed session for young people to enjoy lots of new activities!**

Enjoy the Sensory Dome with sensory toys and games. We also have a bouncy castle, table tennis, soft play and quiet area. Parents are required to supervise, siblings welcome.

**BOOK TODAY**

For bookings and enquiries please call: **01403 213590**  
For any further information please email:  
**Storrington-Sullingtonwardens@horsham.gov.uk**



**NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS**



**Horsham District Council**

L26\_CS04



# Reaching Families

**Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person in West Sussex who has, or may have, special educational needs and disabilities?**



**Reaching Families is a parent-carer led charity which aims to empower parent-carers and families of children & young people with special educational needs and disabilities in West Sussex through the delivery of information, advice, training and peer support.**

## **Making Sense of it All**

**In-depth parent-carer guide covering SEND issues from birth to adulthood**

## **Umbrellas**

**Parent support groups based at locations across West Sussex and online, via Zoom**

## **Training**

**Workshops and courses on a variety of issues delivered online, via Zoom**

## **Face-2-Face**

**Peer based befriending for parents of children undergoing diagnosis**

## **Animations**

**Short animated films on a variety of subjects**

## **Fact sheets**

**Covering a range of SEND issues localised to the needs of West Sussex families**

## **Benefits Advice Service**

**1-2-1 advice & claim checking support for families applying for DLA, PIP & Carers Allowance**

## **NDP Navigation Service**

**Support service for parent-carers of children undergoing assessment on the West Sussex Neurodevelopmental Pathway (via referral from a professional)**

## **Facebook Group**

**An online parent support group providing news, information and peer support**

**If you would like more information about how Reaching Families can help, please contact:**

**Email: [admin@reachingfamilies.org.uk](mailto:admin@reachingfamilies.org.uk)**

**Telephone: 01903 366 360**

**Reg Charity No 1150906**

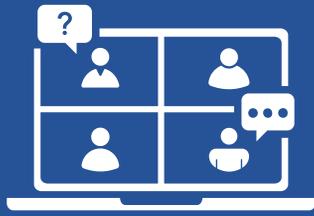


# Reaching Families

**[www.reachingfamilies.org.uk](http://www.reachingfamilies.org.uk)**

# TRAINING

## SUMMER TERM 2026



### WORKSHOPS

**Making Sense of Behaviours that Challenge in Adolescence**

**Tuesday 21st April**

**7.30 - 9.30 pm**

**Making Sense of Masking**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

**10.30 am - 12.30 pm**

**Understanding Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April**

**7.30 - 9.30 pm**

**Making Sense of Wellbeing: Communication skills for parents and carers**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

**7.30 - 9 pm**

**Understanding Demand Avoidance**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

**7.30 - 9.30 pm**

**Making Sense of Education Health & Care Needs Assessment and Plans (EHCPs)**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.30 am - 12.30 pm**

**Understanding Autism in Girls**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.30 am - 12.30 pm**

**Making Sense of Disability Living Allowance (DLA)**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.30am - 12.30 pm**

**Making Sense of SEN Support at School**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May**

**7.30 - 9.30 pm**

### THE SEND FOUNDATION COURSE

An introduction to SEND and the key issues parent-carers will encounter as their children grow and develop.

**Wednesday, 22nd & 29th April**

**10.00 am - 1.15 pm**

**All of the above training will be delivered on Zoom**

**For further information visit our website or email: [outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk](mailto:outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk)**



SCAN ME

All our workshops are free of charge. For more information or to book a place, please visit our Eventbrite page or scan the QR code.

**[reachingfamilies.eventbrite.com](https://reachingfamilies.eventbrite.com)**



**Reaching Families**

**[www.reachingfamilies.org.uk](http://www.reachingfamilies.org.uk)**

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# UMBRELLAS

## Parent Support Groups

**Summer Term 2026**

Connecting parents and carers of children and young people in West Sussex with special educational needs and disabilities



### **Burgess Hill Umbrellas**

**Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am**

**The Cherry Tree Centre**

**14<sup>th</sup> Apr / 5<sup>th</sup> May / 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun / 30<sup>th</sup> Jun**

### **Littlehampton Umbrellas**

**Wednesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am**

**Creative Heart Community Hub (upstairs)**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Apr / 13<sup>th</sup> May / 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun / 1<sup>st</sup> Jul**

### **Worthing Umbrellas**

**Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am**

**Durrington Community Centre**

**21<sup>st</sup> Apr / 12<sup>th</sup> May / 16<sup>th</sup> Jun / 7<sup>th</sup> Jul**

### **Umbrellas Online**

**Thursdays via Zoom**

**7.30 - 9pm**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Apr / 14<sup>th</sup> May / 11<sup>th</sup> Jun / 9<sup>th</sup> Jul**

### **Horsham Umbrellas**

**Wednesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am**

**Horsham Family Hub**

**15<sup>th</sup> Apr / 20<sup>th</sup> May / 17<sup>th</sup> Jun / 15<sup>th</sup> Jul**

### **Shoreham Umbrellas**

**Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am**

**Adur East Family Hub**

**28<sup>th</sup> Apr / 19<sup>th</sup> May / 23<sup>rd</sup> Jun / 14<sup>th</sup> Jul**

### **Bognor Regis Umbrellas**

**Thursdays, 10 am - 11.30 am**

**Arun West Family Hub**

**30<sup>th</sup> Apr / 21<sup>st</sup> May / 25<sup>th</sup> Jun / 16<sup>th</sup> Jul**

If you would like more information about Umbrellas or the link to join Umbrellas online, please contact our outreach team.

[outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk](mailto:outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk)

