

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

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

NEWSLETTER

Week beginning 20th April 2026

Message from Mrs Copus



What a lovely sunny week we have had and this has enabled all of our KS2 to swim this week. Forest Schools for Year 3 and Early Years children used our dandelions to cook with to make dandelion shortbread and PE lessons have been outside utilising all of our space. Let's hope the gorgeous weather continues!

Living Church Links

Thank you to everyone who came to the Easter workshop at St Mary's Church on Good Friday - it was so well attended and was lovely to celebrate together.

It was also wonderful to see so many children wearing their club uniforms for St George's Day on Thursday.



News



Attendance

This week's attendance was 93.5% - our target is 96.4%

93.5%

Staffing

Miss Aburrow's baby is due in June and she will go on maternity leave - her last day in class will be Friday 22nd May, the last day of this half term. We are currently recruiting for this position and will let you know as soon as an appointment has been made.

Church Hill

Please be aware that Church Hill remains closed at this time. This is having implications on increased traffic and parking restrictions around the school. Please be extra vigilant and mindful. - as always, parking is available at the Sports and Social Club across the recreation ground.

Phonics Drop In Sessions

It was lovely to have so many parents join us for the phonics drop in session in Thailand class this week. It makes such a difference to the children's progress when we can all work together!

PTA Mini Marathon event

Tomorrow sees the inaugural PTA 'mini marathon' event, sponsored by Dynamic Movement Therapy, which will be held on the Recreation ground from 10am. We are so grateful for all the support that the PTA give us and know that tomorrow's event is going to be fantastic fun for everyone.



Mental Health & Wellbeing

This month's Mental Health Newsletter has been sent out to parents / carers this week but can also be found on our website under 'News'.

Playground Equipment

As part of our Sports Premium Grant we are thrilled to have invested in new playground equipment, which has arrived this week. We are just as excited as the children to give the new toys and games a go at break time!

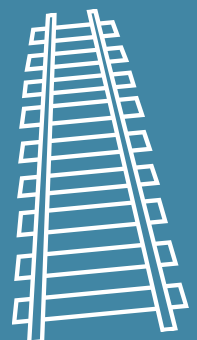
Garden Gang

The Garden Gang were delighted to be given a small greenhouse for their club. Assembly without any instructions provided several hours of entertainment! However, it is now assembled - the next stage will be to put the cover over it. Well done to our garden gang for their perseverance. Also to Emma for her input and thank you to Miss Fuller for the original donation!



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





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.

May cut off dates

Thurs 30/04 for w/c 10/05
Thurs 06/05 for w/c 17/05

HALF TERM

Dates for your diary

- Sat 25th April – PTA Mini Marathon event
- Mon 4th May - Bank Holiday Monday - school closed
- Weds 6th - Fri 8th May - Year 5 Cobnor Residential trip
- Weds 6th May - Year 4 Multiplication Test chat for parents 3.30pm
- Mon 11th May – Year 6 SATS week
- Fri 15th May – Non-uniform day for school summer fayre
- Mon 18th May - Fri 22nd May - Year 6 PGL Bethany House residential
- Thurs 21st May - New Parents (Sept 2026) meeting - 7pm
- Mon 25th 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.

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

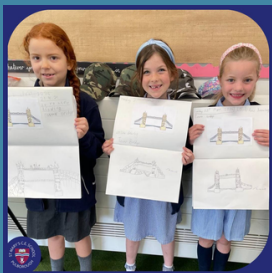
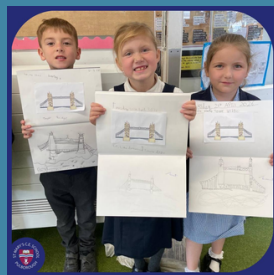
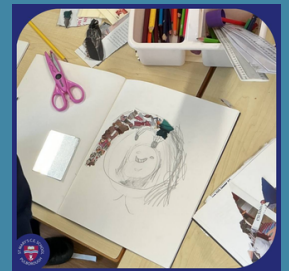


Curriculum



Art

Italy Class have been working on self-portraits, combining pencils, crayons and collage to explore texture, colour and shape. This project has helped them study facial features, practise careful observation and experiment with mixed-media art. Their finished pieces show fantastic creativity and growing artistic confidence.



India Class have been learning about the work of Jo Peel, exploring what makes her such a distinctive and influential contemporary artist. Inspired by her urban-themed style, the children have focused on creating detailed line drawings of Tower Bridge as part of their Bright Lights, Big City topic. Through this work, they have been developing their observational skills, experimenting with line, shape and perspective, and gaining a deeper understanding of how artists represent cityscapes.

Thailand Class read the Tiny Little Seed book by Eric Carle this week. They then worked collaboratively to make their own giant flower artwork by using the layering of paints and collage to create textures.





Curriculum

Super Starters

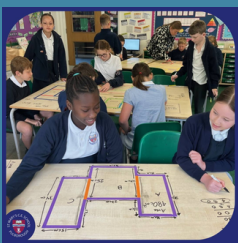
NZ, SL & USA Classes have taken part in a science experiment to look at the effect of volcanoes when they erupt. They were astonished at how quick and powerful the reaction was!



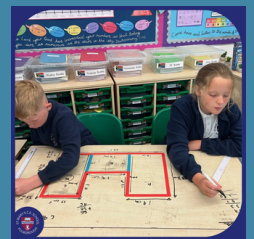
Italy, India and Australia Classes went on a virtual trip to London to start off their new topic Bright Lights, Big City. They 'explored' all of the famous landmarks including Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament before watching Paddington.



Maths



South Africa Class have been calculating area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes as well as revising key skills of measuring, rounding, addition and long multiplication.





Curriculum

Forest School

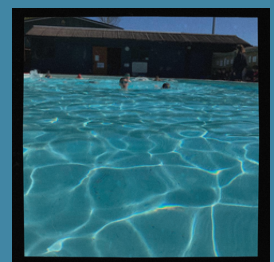
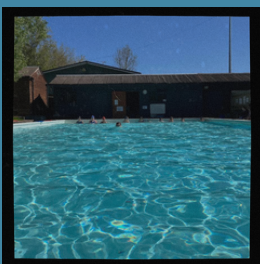
UK Class have had a great day in the sunshine at forest school today making dandelion biscuits over the fire!



Swimming



Swimming lessons are back and every class managed to get over to the pool this week - what beautiful weather we had for it too! As you can see - lots of fun was had in the sunshine.





Curriculum

English

Isabella (Mex) had an interesting encounter with a cat this week and used the opportunity to write a news report about it!

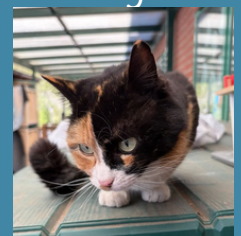
Feline Thief!

Cat Steals Child's Snack at Leisure Centre!

On Monday 20th April two students from St Mary's Primary School, Pulborough had a strange encounter with a curious cat called Autumn (after they had gone swimming in Billingshurst). They had just come out of the pool when rumours started to spread that the mysterious cat was back! This fascinating feline had started to become a bit of a celebrity! So, the children -Matty and Isabella- got changed and headed round to the hair dryers, their minds set on getting out before anyone else!

While they were drying their hair, Matty left the changing rooms to give her swim stuff to her Mum, but when she came back, she quoted that she had seen the friendly cat! They both left the hair dryers about 2 minutes after to find that the cat was still there and ready for cuddles! As she was so cute, Matty, Isabella and their friend Eliza, all wanted to stroke her and so Matty said 'let's sit in a triangle and whoever she goes to gets to sit with her!' This seemed like a good idea, but Isabella had a trick up her sleeve. She pulled out her snack and began to open it, but before Isabella could even think about feeding herself Autumn hopped up onto her lap and Isabella put her snack on her knee. Instantly, Autumn snatched up the bar in her mouth and ran off! The children looked at each other and took chase! About 15 meters away the thief stopped and began trying to open her prize! In the end the children did manage to get their snack back and have noted to bring cat treats next time they go swimming!

News Report by Isabella.C





Sport

Football

What a weekend for some of our boys, representing Pulborough U9s and the Storrington Swans U10's football teams.

They put in an exceptional performance to lift the Margaret & Peter Saywell Cup and Plate Final respectively

Pulborough stormed to an 8-1 victory over Bognor Regis City Youth Green and Storrington won convincingly 6-1 at Horsham FC.

Well done boys! What a fantastic result and a moment to remember!



Football - local interest

One of our parents is exploring the possibility of starting an Under-8s football team next season for children in Years 1 and 2.

At this stage, he would like to gauge interest from families to help him determine whether there is enough enthusiasm to move forward.

If your child would be interested in taking part, please contact Simon on 07810 141204.



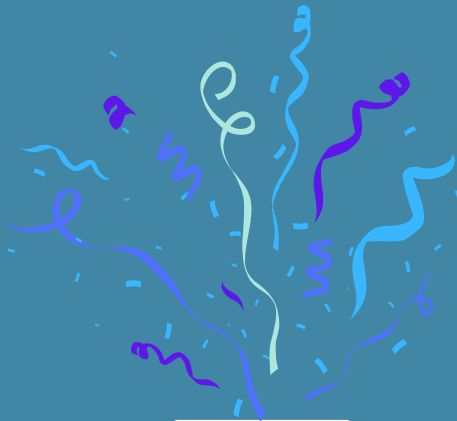


Celebrations

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

Noah and Harrison (SL) - **Wisdom** - For having such a great recall of key vocabulary from previous lessons, and always being fully engaged with the learning. Harper-Grace (Tha) - **Compassion** - for giving the hula hoop to another child, who she could see really wanted to play with it. River (UK) - **Perseverance** - for building her tube tower. Isabelle (Ita) - **Wisdom** - for making connections in our learning and sharing these with the class. Willow (Mex) - **Perseverance** - for being determined to complete her maths work, even choosing to miss the first few minutes of break to finish it! Reuben (Ind) - **Perseverance** - for settling in beautifully to India class and challenge himself to all tasks set to him. Amelia (Ind) - **Wisdom** - for sharing her thoughts in class discussions and challenge herself to complete her work independently.

Achievements



Leah (USA) - passed her karate grading despite her nerves!



Archie P (SA) - won Man of the Match two weeks running and scored 4 goals in one match

St Mary's PTA Exclusive Offer

DMT

DYNAMIC MOVEMENT THERAPY
THERAPY & WELLBEING

Feeling tight, sore, or just not quite yourself?

Take this as your moment to reset.

When you book an **Initial Consultation**
or Initial Massage, you'll receive:

- A deeply personalised assessment or treatment focused on what your body needs most
- A FREE 7-day experience at The Den, A space to move, recover, and feel like you again

***Because when your body feels better,
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Appointments before: **9th May**

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