

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

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

NEWSLETTER

Week beginning 15th June 2026

Message from Mrs Copus



The week has been full of laughter with Survivor day in Mexico class, lots of cricket, an inclusion event for some of our children and rehearsals starting for Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Phonics testing and Multiplication Tests are finished and we are proud of the time and attention the children gave these.



Living Church Links

Friendship – This week we shared the book Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers in worship. We thought about the qualities needed in a friendship and shared the hymn 'What a Friend we have in Jesus'. We looked at the bible verse from 1 Corinthians and were able to find times in the story that reflected all the comments.





News



Attendance

This weeks attendance was 94.5% - our target is 96.4%

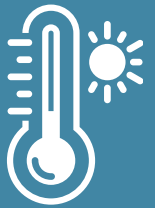
94.5%

We are continuing to work towards meeting Government attendance targets and would appreciate your support with this.

The Department for Education (DfE) has provided schools with lists of pupils who are currently recorded as persistently absent. If your child's name appears on this list, you will receive a letter from school.

Improving attendance remains a priority for us, and we hope to work together with families to ensure every child has the best possible opportunity to learn and succeed.

Hot Weather



We are expecting exceptionally hot weather next week. In view of this, children can wear their school PE kit in on Monday and Tuesday (no other sports kits please). Please ensure that they bring in water bottles, hats and have sun cream applied in the morning.

Meal Provider - September

From September 2026, school meals at St Mary's, Pulborough will be provided by ISS Education, who are taking over from Chartwells as part of a new West Sussex County Council contract. ISS will be bringing exciting new menus and a brand new online ordering system to make managing school meals easier than ever for families. Meals will be just £2.95 per day, which is 25p less than the current charge. If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals then check the WSCC website and apply today www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/ - the criteria for qualifying is in the process of changing so more families may now be eligible for this benefit and we would encourage you all to apply. To find out more about what's coming, including menus and how the new ordering system will work, visit www.feedwestsussex.co.uk. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk



FEEDING EXCELLENCE EVERY DAY



News



Summer Fayre

The Summer Fayre was a great success last weekend, with a fantastic range of activities and attractions for everyone to enjoy. Visitors were treated to candy floss, slushies, jacket potatoes and delicious homemade cakes, alongside bouncy castles and stalls from EWA, Splash and PDCCA.

It was wonderful to see so many activities available for the children, and the day was made even more special by performances from Boxercise, Dance Hut, Dance UK and a magician, who entertained the crowds throughout the event. A huge thank you goes to the PTA, whose hard work, dedication and countless hours of planning made the Fayre such a success. We are incredibly grateful for all the time and effort they invested.

Thanks to the generosity and support of our school community, the event raised an impressive £2,700.



Community

Congratulations to Daisy, Freya, Delilah and Oscar, who have been busy raising money for Age UK. As part of their fundraising efforts, they completed 10 laps of The Anchorage grounds in support of the charity.

A special mention goes to Daisy, who raised an incredible £762 for Age UK West Sussex, Brighton & Hove. This is a fantastic achievement and we are very proud of the children's commitment, determination and generosity in supporting such a worthwhile cause.





News



Transition and Open Week

As mentioned a few weeks ago, we know that change and transition can be challenging for some children.

It is a natural part of growing up and we are here to support your child as much as we possibly can. To help make the transition to new classes smooth and exciting, we will be sending home transition booklets for you to share with your child and explore together.

We have also started the familiarisation process for our youngest children and look forward to welcoming our new Reception starters during Open Week from Monday.

Book Signing Event

Calling all Lottie Brooks fans! We are delighted to share details of an exciting book-signing event at The Steyning Bookshop with bestselling author Katie Kirby, creator of the hugely popular Lottie Brooks series. The event will take place on Tuesday 7th July from 3.30pm–6.30pm. Tickets cost £8.99 and include a copy of Lottie Brooks vs the Ultra Mean Girls for signing. Accompanying adults do not require a ticket. Please see the attached poster for further details. There are also some exciting children's events planned at the bookshop during the summer holidays, including a comics workshop and a special You Choose event with Nick Sharratt and Pippa Goodhart.



Miss Dunstall

As you know, Miss Dunstall is retiring after 30 years of teaching. We are keen to hear from ex pupils or ex staff to pass on messages. If anyone you know would like to write a message then please do send it to school
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.

July cut off dates

Thurs 25/06 for w/c 06/07

Thurs 02/07 for w/c 13/07

Thurs 09/07 for w/c 20/07

Dates for your diary

Wed 24th Jun - Year 6 Leavers' Service at Chichester Cathedral

Mon 29th Jun - Summer Reading Challenge launch event

Fri 10th Jul - Move Up Afternoon

Tue 14th Jul - Year 6 production 'Charlie & the Chocolate Factory' 1pm & 6pm

Thur 16th Jul - Year 6 production 'Charlie & the Chocolate Factory' 6pm

Thur 16th Jul - Year 6 Leavers Service St Mary's Church, Pulborough

Fri 17th Jul - Year 6 production 'Charlie & the Chocolate Factory' 6pm

Sat 18th Jul - Year 6 Leavers' Prom 6-8pm

Mon 20th Jul - China & Mexico class - Bowls Club visit

Wed 22nd Jul - Leavers' Assembly

Wed 22nd Jul - Last day of school



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.

24th June - Mexico

25th June - USA 2nd July - Thailand

8th July - India 9th July - UK

22nd July - Japan & SA 9.30am



Curriculum

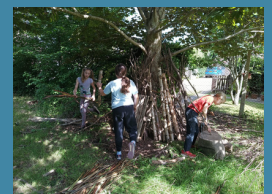
Art

Mexico Class have recently completed their Oceans art topic and we have been amazed by the creativity, skill and attention to detail shown in their stunning coral reef artwork. They have produced some truly impressive pieces that they are very proud of.



Super Starter

Mexico Class had their Super Starter day this week to test their survival skills like those on the Titanic. The children worked in groups to make their own shelters with the idea of keeping dry to survive. They then tested their shelters to find out how waterproof they were!



UK / Thailand visit

UK & Thailand class visited the local Tesco to speak to the staff and learn all about fruits & vegetables. They talked about which ones grown on trees and grow in the ground and then went on a hunt to see if they could find a rainbow of fruits and vegetables. Thank you to Tesco and the volunteers who joined us.

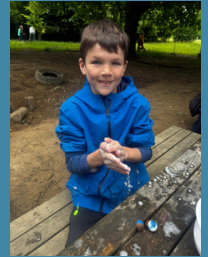




Curriculum

Forest School

China Class have now completed their Forest School sessions and what a wonderful time they've had the last few weeks. They've built dens and attempted to make them waterproof in the rain, used flint and steel to start a fire and then explored what materials they need to keep it going and enjoyed lime leaf flapjacks and apple juice warmed on the fire amongst many other things. What a great experience for them.





Sport



Sports Day

After a rain delay, KS1 and Early Years managed to complete their Sports Days this week - it was lovely to see the children persevering and trying their very best at the activities and races, supporting their teams and providing lots of encouragement. The winners are as follows -

Italy, India and Australia Class - St Matthew's (Red)

UK and Thailand Class - St Mary's (Blue)





Sport



Street Cricket

Our Year 5 and 6 mixed cricket team travelled to The Weald School to take part in the Locality Street Cricket Festival.

They played with determination, teamwork and brilliant sportsmanship throughout every match. In an incredibly close finish, they secured silver, missing out on gold by just 2 points. An amazing achievement and something they should all feel very proud of.



SEND Festival

Five of our children were invited to take part in The Weald School's SEN Festival, where they threw themselves into a full carousel of activities with determination, focus and grit.

They showed brilliant sportsmanship throughout, encouraging others, giving every challenge their all, and demonstrating the kind of cooperation, communication, and togetherness that makes us so proud.

Girls Cricket

Our girls cricket team headed to Southwater Cricket Club for an inter-schools tournament. They played so well as a team, inspiring each other with both bowling and batting. Even when it started raining they still played as the same joyful team. They were all committed and represented the school outstandingly



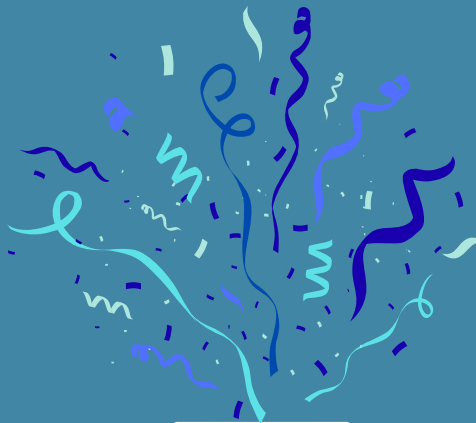


Celebrations

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

Harper (SL) - Friendship - For being one of the greatest encouragers I have ever met. **Esmee (Ind) - Perseverance** - For solving problems with fractions in maths. **Maddie (Ind) - Wisdom** - For sharing her in-depth knowledge on Mary Anning and why she was an inspirational person in history. **Rosie (Ind) - Courage** - for contributing her ideas and knowledge about our topic of Movers and Shakers.

Darcey (Ita) - Friendship - For encouraging others during our PE lesson and cheering them on! **Raff (Mex) - Peace and Friendship** - For happily persevering in building his groups design in DT despite being disappointed that his wasn't chosen. **Aria (Mex) - Friendship** - For working and supporting people in her group that were finding things challenging. **Ava (SL) - Courage** - for showing great courage this week by putting her head under water in swimming.

Kindness Shield



June - Delila (Japan) - Delilah you are humble, compassionate and thoughtful in everything you do. You are always ready to support others and have a special gift for noticing when someone is feeling low, instinctively knowing exactly how to make them feel valued and included. Your kindness, empathy and caring nature shine through every day, making you an outstanding role model for others. We are incredibly proud of the warmth and positivity you bring to our school.

Class Assembly

Well done to **SL**, who spoke so confidently and clearly about their learning. They delighted their families by singing about the Romans and proudly showcasing their impressive sculptures inspired by the figures of Pompeii. The children were also able to confidently recite Roman numerals and talk knowledgeably about their newspaper writing. It was wonderful to see them sharing their learning with such enthusiasm and pride.





Celebrations

Achievements



**Annabelle (Chi) -
passed her Bronze
medal exams with the
British Theatre Dance
Association**



**Rosie (NZ) - passed
her Stage 2 Water
Safety badge**

POP-UP 2026 - ART EXHIBITION

Presents 'Young Arts' 12th year of exciting artwork from inspirational young people

Wednesday 15 July
– Saturday 18 July
10.00am-5.00pm

Everyone
Welcome,
Opening Reception
15 July at 4.30pm

Venue Fittleworth
Village Hall – RH20
1JB –Free Parking

Young Talented
Artists – from 22
local schools &
beyond





BOOK-SIGNING WITH

KATTIE KIRBY



CELEBRATING THE PAPERBACK RELEASE OF

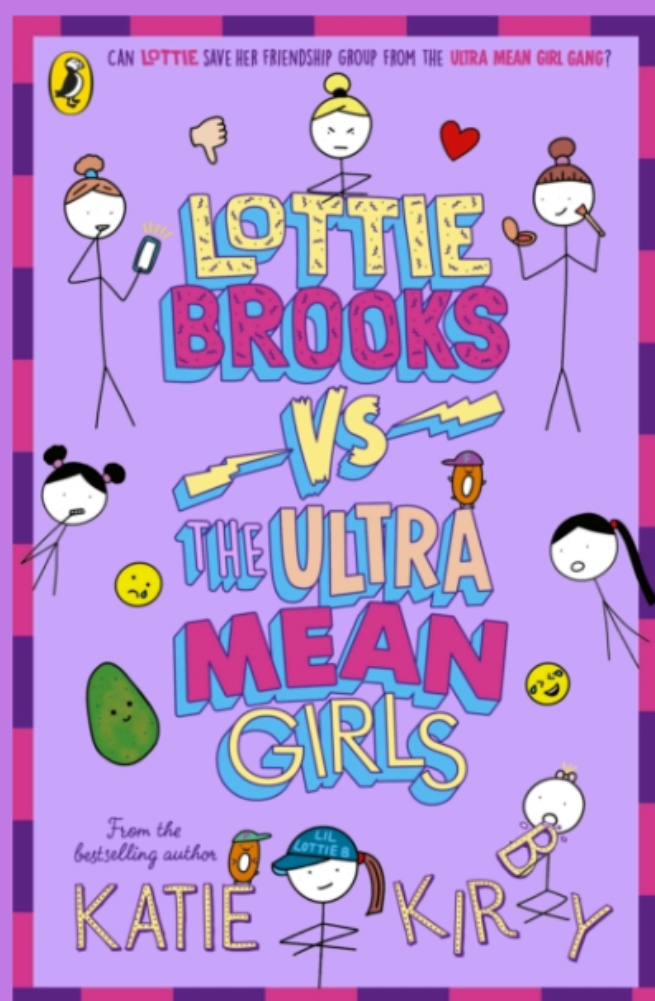
LOTTIE BROOKS VS THE ULTRA MEAN GIRLS

TUESDAY 7TH JULY

3.30PM-6.30PM

AT THE STEYNING

BOOKSHOP



PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL

TICKET £8.99 INCLUDES 1 COPY OF 'ULTRA MEAN GIRLS' IN PAPERBACK

ACCOMPANYING ADULTS FREE

SCAN QR CODE FOR TIX, OR BUY FROM THE STEYNING BOOKSHOP 01903 812062

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