

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

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



## NEWSLETTER

Week beginning 6th July 2026

### Message from Mrs Copus



We are in full swing with the rehearsals for Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The children are really getting into their roles and drama, speaking and listening are at the forefront of the curriculum. The Big Top goes up at the weekend and if you have not been to see it before it is well worth booking a ticket and coming to see the play!

### Living Church Links

Life Church – We welcomed Nick to our worship about 'Strong Foundations'. We talked about the need for strong foundations in our lives. Bertie tested Nick by pushing him and we talked about what firm foundations would look like. Arlo, Immy and Elisha joined Nick to look at different substances and what would create a firm foundation. The soggy Weetabix with rice pops was a favourite!! We talked about 'The Wise man and the foolish man' as our Bible story and reflected on our firm foundations. Thank you to Nick for coming to worship and thinking about our firm foundations for September.





# News



## Attendance

This weeks attendance was 93.7% - our target is 96.4%

**93.7%**

## 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/](http://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](http://www.feedwestsussex.co.uk). If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact [office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk)



FEEDING EXCELLENCE EVERY DAY

## Mobile Phone Reminder

A reminder that only Year 6 pupils are permitted to bring a mobile phone onto the school site, and only if they are walking home independently. Phones should be a basic 'brick' style device that can be used to make calls and send or receive text messages only.





# News



## Safeguarding



During the school holidays, the school's safeguarding team monitors the safeguarding email inbox once a week. If you have an urgent safeguarding concern, please do not wait for a response from school.

- If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.
- For other serious or urgent safeguarding concerns, please contact Integrated Front Door Children's Services directly on 01403 229900. You can also request support or raise concerns online by clicking [HERE](#)
- Children and young people can contact Childline free and confidentially on 0800 1111.
- Parents and carers can access advice and support from the NSPCC Helpline by calling 0808 800 5000.
- If a child or young person is struggling with their mental health, they can text YM to 85258 to access free, 24/7 crisis support. Parents and carers seeking advice can also contact the YoungMinds Parents Helpline on 0808 802 5544.



## Mental Health



We all know that supporting young people's mental health is more important than ever. This website provides a range of helpful information, advice and resources for children, young people and their families - click [HERE](#)



# News



## Summer Reading Challenge

Bev from the West Sussex Library Service joined us recently to tell us about the Summer Reading Challenge, which returns this year with the exciting theme, Read to the Beat!

The challenge launches at our local libraries this Saturday and runs throughout the summer holidays. It's completely FREE to take part and is a fantastic way to encourage children to keep reading over the summer holidays while having lots of fun.

Children can sign up now and then visit the library from Saturday onwards to collect their starter pack and begin their reading adventure. Please see the attached flyer for full details on how to register.

We're incredibly proud that last year St Mary's had the highest number of children completing the Summer Reading Challenge in West Sussex, earning their medal and certificate – an amazing achievement! We'd love to see our pupils retain that title this year, so we encourage as many families as possible to get involved.

As always, every child who completes the challenge and brings their certificate into school in September will be awarded Dojo points to celebrate their fantastic reading achievement.

We're also happy to share that Mrs Adams, our school secretary, will be volunteering at the library on various days throughout the challenge. She'll be based mainly at Billingshurst Library and would love to see lots of our St Mary's children there over the summer.

Happy reading and good luck with the challenge!







# News



## Production Tickets

Tickets for our Year 6 Production, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, are selling fast for all of our much anticipated shows next week. You can still purchase tickets via your MCAS app or visiting the school office - but be quick!

## Air Conditioning Help

As we continue preparations for the production, we're looking to borrow portable air-conditioning units to help keep everyone cool during the installation of the big top tent and during the performances.

If you or your business could lend a unit tomorrow (Saturday) and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings next week (from 5.30pm), we would be incredibly grateful. All equipment will be looked after carefully and returned promptly. If you can help, please contact the school office on 01798 872007 or email [office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk).

Thank you for supporting our school community!

## Kallax Units

We are looking for IKEA KALLAX storage units for our Early Years classrooms. If you have one in good condition that you no longer need and would be happy to donate, we would be very grateful.

If you are able to help, please contact the school office at [office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk).





# News



## School Bear



Taylor Made Uniforms, our school uniform supplier, have very kindly given us our very own school mascot teddy bear. It was delivered to us this afternoon and we are very grateful to have received it. It does now need a name though - we will run a competition for the children in September to come up with one!



## Move Up Afternoon

Today, our children enjoyed their annual Move Up Afternoon, giving them a wonderful opportunity to experience a transition taster in their new classrooms. They met their new teachers, spent time with the classmates they will be learning alongside next year and took part in a range of fun and engaging activities. It was fantastic to see so much excitement and enthusiasm and we were especially delighted to welcome many of the new children who will be joining our school community in September.



## School after 3.15pm

We have had a number of children return to school after 3.15pm this week to use the toilets while they are playing at the park or recreation ground. We are, of course, happy for children to use the school toilets; however, all children must be accompanied by an adult when returning to the school site after the end of the school day. Thank you for your support and understanding.



## 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.

**Complete until the new school year!**

### Dates for your diary

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

Thur 16<sup>th</sup> Jul - Year 6 production 'Charlie & the Chocolate Factory' 6pm

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

Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Jul - Year 6 production 'Charlie & the Chocolate Factory' 6pm

Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Jul - Year 6 Leavers' Prom 6-8pm

Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Jul - China & Mexico class - Bowls Club visit

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Jul - Leavers' Assembly

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Jul - Last day of school



### Autumn Term 2026

Tue 1st / Weds 2nd Sep - Inset Day - Staff Training

Thur 3rd Sep - Children back to school

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Sep - Non-uniform for Harvest Fayre contribution

Weds 16<sup>th</sup> Sep - Year 3 / 4 school trip - details to follow

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Sep - Flu vaccinations

### Celebration Assemblies

Our final celebration assembly of this school year -

22<sup>nd</sup> July - **Japan & SA** 9.30am





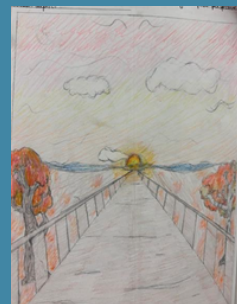
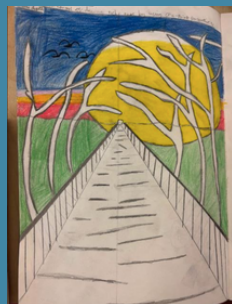
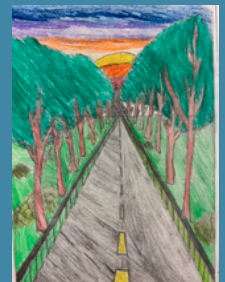
# Curriculum

## Art

South Africa and Japan Class Year 6 have been studying the Brazilian artist Romero Britto this term. We learnt that his unique style is inspired by cubism and graffiti art. His 'Happy Art Movement' aims to create a world with more compassion. The children created portraits in Britto's style, including a black and white photograph, portrait sketch and bold, vibrant backgrounds.



Japan Class have also been working on one point perspective drawings



Thailand Class have been busy artists this week. First they drew around the plant and flower shadows. Then they chose watercolours and layered it to create these masterpieces.





# Curriculum

## English

Australia Class invited Mrs Copus to one of their English lessons this week to try and persuade her with their writing. The language they used was very persuasive and they have tried to convince her about a school teddy bear, a football pitch, fish and animals! Let's see what the Autumn Term brings and if they persuaded me!



## STEM

Keith, a STEM scientist, came to work with Year 5 and Year 6. With Year 6 children he built catapults using lolly sticks and elastic bands and they looked at forces and propulsion.

With Year 5 children they were investigating aeronautical design, they looked at air resistance and surface area as well as the force of gravity.



## Design & Technology

Sierra Leone and NZ Class continued their project and many more children have completed their cushions, refining their running stitch along the way!







# Sport

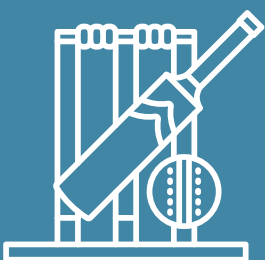


## Cricket

Our Year 5/6 cricket team recently travelled to Blackstone Country Ground in Henfield to compete in the County Cricket Finals, proudly representing St Mary's and West Sussex. The boys played six competitive matches throughout the day, demonstrating fantastic teamwork, determination and resilience.

We are incredibly proud of all the children for the excellent sportsmanship they showed, as well as the encouragement and support they gave one another both on and off the pitch. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

A huge thank you to Mrs Castle for her dedication to our cricket programme throughout the year. She has given so generously of her time, running extra curricular groups after school, taking the children to numerous local events and providing them with so many opportunities to develop their skills, enjoy the game and truly shine. We are extremely grateful for her enthusiasm, commitment and support.



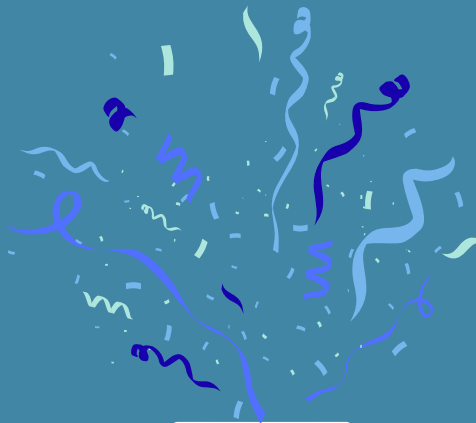


# Celebrations

## 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

Danny (Tha) - Perseverance and Wisdom - for putting SO much effort into his drawing club this week and writing 11 pages over 2 days. We are SO proud! Keeyan (Chi) - Perseverance - for completing his guided reading with great focus and determination. Lilly and Alexa (Mex) - Friendship - for supporting their classmates and being fantastic cheerleaders for others, always celebrating their success.

Josh (Mex) - Generosity - for being quick to lend things to people if they are without, be it a rubber in class or a long stick to use as support in a den at Forest School Isabelle (Ita) - Humility - for offering to help a friend when they were hurt.

## Class Assembly

India Class - On a very hot morning, India showed us their learning. They showed us art by Jo Peel, sang about cities and described their learning in their topic of Bright Lights, Big City. They spoke with confidence and are ready for September.



UK Class - UK were brilliant during their class celebration. They shared their learning on shadows and reflections with such confidence, even singing a song all about shadows. They also created beautiful artwork inspired by The Big, Big Sea. We are incredibly proud of everything they achieved.





# Celebrations

## Achievements

Raphie (NZ) received a gold medal at gymnastics



Wynter (USA) gained her blue belt this week at karate grading



Macie (USA) attended grading for karate this week and gained her red belt



Oakley (Aus) completed stage 1 swimming this week.







# Terrific Tigers

Learn more about these amazing big cats, and get crafty to create a tiger face mask or puppet



**Thursday 23 July**  
**10.30-11.30am**  
**Pulborough Library**

**Suitable for children aged 5-7 years**

Booking essential – please speak with staff to reserve a place  
Parents and carers must remain with their child during this activity

This event is being supported by the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation's education team  
Registered charity no: 1106893

# EYES UP

# SLOW DOWN

# CROSS SAFELY

THINK!

SAFE  
ADVENTURES

## ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR SAFE ADVENTURES?

Explore the scenarios to see if you're ready to take on independent journeys to school and beyond!

### START HERE

It's your first solo journey to secondary school! You've done the practice walk, you've got this!

If you reach a dead-end, go back and think again!

1

You've waved goodbye and you're on your way. You're a bit late this morning and need to make up time. There are two routes you can take. You...

TRY AGAIN

Take the shortcut and cross in-between parked cars.

Walk down the street to use the crossing.

2

You're about to cross the road when your phone buzzes. You...

TRY AGAIN

Wait until you have safely crossed the road.

Look at it straight away - it could be important!

3

You've reached a pedestrian crossing and pressed the button. You...

TRY AGAIN

Stop and wait for the green man and then check traffic has stopped in both directions.

Run across the road as soon as there's a gap.

5

You're waiting to cross a road. You stand...

TRY AGAIN

On the edge of the kerb - so it's quicker to get across the road.

On the pavement behind the kerb, avoiding bends or the top of hills where you can't see clearly.

4

Before you cross the road, you stop and...

TRY AGAIN

Look one way then start across the road.

Look right, look left, and look right again to double check that it's clear before you cross.

6

You see a car coming towards you, but you think there's enough time to cross. You...

TRY AGAIN

Wait - it's not worth the risk.

Sprint across the road - you're pretty fast.

7

Outside the school, a bus stopped at the bus stop is blocking your view. You...

TRY AGAIN

Cross in front of the bus.

Wait until the bus leaves and you can see the whole road - remember Eyes Up, Slow Down and Cross Safely!

WELL DONE  
YOU'VE  
MADE IT!

Use these skills on every journey to school and look forward to lots of Safe Adventures...