

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

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

NEWSLETTER

Week beginning 20th July 2026

Message from Mrs Copus



Enjoy the holidays, make memories, spend time with your loved ones and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Thursday 3rd September.

Church Links

We were delighted to welcome Fr Paul to school today for our final assembly of the academic year. He offered a special blessing for our school community, praying for everyone as we reflected on another wonderful year together. The assembly also marked a number of significant farewells. We wished our Year 6 pupils every blessing as they prepare to begin the next exciting chapter of their education and we know they will carry the values and memories of our school with them wherever they go. We also said a heartfelt thank you to Miss Dunstall, who is retiring after an incredible 32 years of dedicated service and she leaves with our deepest gratitude and very best wishes for a happy retirement. Finally, we wished Mrs Hatcher every success as she embarks on her new role as a Headteacher. We thank her for all she has contributed to our school community and pray that God will guide and bless her in this exciting new chapter.





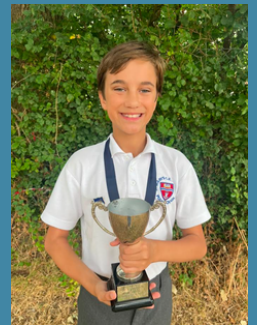
End of Year Celebrations

Year 6 Awards

Every year at the end of Year 6, we present awards to celebrate and recognise outstanding effort, achievement and all the qualities that make our children truly special—not just academically, but in every aspect of who they are. This year, the awards have been presented to the following children

Literacy Cup

Peter - You have a vivid imagination, and your creative flair shines through in English. Throughout the year, you have approached your writing with enthusiasm, care and an exceptional level of skill. My personal highlights include your detailed Wolverine report and your exciting sci-fi adventure story. You always consider the impact of your language choices. Reading your work, I have experienced many emotions - from tension and fear to joy and laughter. You are also an excellent reader. I was especially pleased to see you not only finish every book in the Weald Book Award but also complete every task to a consistently high standard. Well done, Peter.



Ella C - You are a creative learner whose innate passion for both reading and writing is a delight to see. You are a highly competent reader, navigating a wide range of texts with great confidence and fluency. You analyse texts with precision, showing maturity, attention to detail and an impressive ability to elicit meaning and make connections. These skills are reflected in your writing, where you consistently produce original and engaging work which demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of language and a clear awareness of audience and purpose. Your poignant World War 2 poetry and skilfully crafted Weald Book Award trailer script were unique and memorable pieces which showcased your talent and versatility as an author!





End of Year Celebrations

Maths Cup

Ella S - You are a capable and enthusiastic mathematician, always ready to embrace challenge. You have shown a secure understanding of all curriculum strands, working methodically and drawing competently on prior learning to deepen your knowledge and skills. You have worked with impressive pace and accuracy during arithmetic and have shown an aptitude in interpreting the components of word problems, applying your reasoning skills with confidence. You embrace opportunities for collaboration and use these as a platform to extend your mathematical thinking. Your determination and commitment to your learning have enabled you to achieve consistently high standards in Maths this year.



Roe Cup - Science (boys)

Ayden - You have a thirst for knowledge and always seek to learn more about the subjects that capture your imagination. Your interest in natural history, particularly palaeontology, has helped you develop into an inquisitive and knowledgeable young scientist! Across the different units we have studied, you have demonstrated an excellent understanding of new scientific vocabulary and challenging concepts. During our investigations, you have paid close attention to detail, carefully collecting observations and data before drawing thoughtful conclusions. Keep asking questions, exploring new ideas and nurturing your curiosity; it will take you far. Well done, Ayden.



Berry Cup - Science (girls)

Victoria - You are a diligent and organised learner who has demonstrated a deep understanding of the enquiry skills at the heart of the Science curriculum. You have shown interest in the topics covered this year, approaching new concepts with curiosity and analytical thinking and using practical work to test your predictions and hypotheses with competence. Your inquisitive mindset is evidenced by the thoughtful questions you ask to deepen your knowledge and understanding. Your investigations are always carefully planned, linking precise observations, detailed evaluations, relevant conclusions and suggesting new directions for future practical work.





End of Year Celebrations

RE Award

Amelie-Joy - This award is greatly deserved in recognition of your exceptional achievements in RE throughout your time at St Mary's. You have shown an unparalleled ability to recall Bible stories in detail, skilfully drawing out their key messages, reflecting on their relevance to our own lives and articulating your understanding with clarity. You have approached our learning on both Christianity and world religions with conscientiousness and respect, reflecting thoughtfully on these diverse beliefs and demonstrating your understanding creatively. You deserve a tremendous amount of credit for your consistently kind, thoughtful and resilient nature, demonstrating the values of wisdom and love in all that you do.



Hodges Cup - Sport (girls)

Freya - you have been an exceptional ambassador for sport at St Mary's. At every event you have attended, you have conducted yourself with maturity, respect and humility. I have also enjoyed hearing about your experiences beyond school in both swimming and tennis, which reflect your genuine passion for sport. You embody everything it means to be a team player, encouraging others and always giving your best. Time and again, you have shown tenacity and resilience, responding to setbacks with determination and positivity. Thank you for your outstanding contribution to sport at St Mary's. You should be immensely proud of all you have achieved.



Lucy - Your contribution to sport at St Mary's has been outstanding and you have demonstrated talent and grace across a wide range of sports including Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics and Cricket. You have excelled in your Team Captain role, leading with thoughtfulness and consistently providing a positive example to others. As a naturally generous and empathetic individual, you are always aware of your teammates, encouraging and supporting them to ensure that they feel part of the journey. You have shown tremendous resilience when challenges are encountered and what makes you stand out as a sportswoman is your unwavering determination and refusal to give up. These qualities will continue to serve you well in your future endeavours - believe in yourself as you can do anything you put your mind to!





End of Year Celebrations

Symes Cup - Sport (boys)

Jayden - You amaze me with your sporting achievements this year! You have taken on so many different sports and turned your hands to each and every one. You are one of the most competitive pupils we have ever had and you always started with the determination that you will be first! Cross country has definitely been your thing and we have been inspired by watching the talent you have - I know you will go on to compete and WIN in everything!



Pavey Cup - SEN

Alicia - You are a hardworking and well-motivated learner, fully deserving of this award in recognition of your resilient and determined attitude towards all areas of the curriculum. Your can-do attitude and positive mindset have enabled you to make impressive strides forward with your learning this year. You have shown versatility and initiative, rising to the challenge of learning Braille and making exceptional progress in both your reading and writing. You have shown tremendous courage both in the classroom and beyond - epitomised by your achievements on the zipwire and trapeze on residential! Your accomplishments this year have been inspirational - very well done Alicia!





End of Year Celebrations

Art Award

Emily P - You have a sophisticated understanding of artistic skills and techniques well beyond your years. No matter the medium, you seamlessly use elements such as texture, perspective and tone to create striking artwork. Beyond the classroom, your passion for art is evident in the projects you have proudly shared, including oil paintings on canvas and an intricately crafted 3D mask. You have developed a distinctive style, confidently expressing your own ideas and bringing originality to every piece you create. The quality of your work is exceptional and would not look out of place in a gallery.



Cargill Treble Clef - Music

Arlo - You have been awarded this year's Music Award for performance and theatre. As Grandpa Joe in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, you learnt every one of your lines, sang beautifully and gave 100% in our rehearsals. Your comedic stage presence, combined with your expressive acting and storytelling, brought your character to life and captivated your audience. Whether you are acting or singing, you bring energy, expression and enthusiasm to every performance. Your confidence shines through every time you step onto the stage. Congratulations, Arlo.





End of Year Celebrations

Kim Frey Award

Delilah - Your quiet dedication has made a lasting impact on the office staff. You work quietly behind the scenes each day and your approach to everyday tasks is done with positivity, kindness, an unwavering willingness to help and a smile, always. Your maturity, responsibility and commitment shine through in all that we see, setting an outstanding example for those around you. We have been incredibly impressed by the way you have navigated the past year, growing in confidence and embracing every challenge with such grace. Your smile brightens each and every day. We are so proud of everything you have achieved and cannot wait to hear about the exciting adventures that lie ahead. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.



Ian Jenkins Community Award

Daisy - You are a compassionate and inspiring young person who always puts others first. Your dedication to supporting the care community reflects our Christian values of courage, compassion, responsibility and humility. Your inspiring 'Through the Eyes of a Child' initiative has united children and care home residents, creating lasting friendships and countless moments of joy. We are proud that your outstanding work was recognised with the Community Award at the Child of Sussex Awards 2026. This honour was richly deserved. Thank you for making such a positive difference to the lives of others.



Henry Adams Outstanding Achievement

Beatrice - You are a highly motivated and ambitious learner, setting yourself high expectations and demonstrating a thirst for challenge in all that you do. You approach all curriculum areas with purpose and enthusiasm, regularly providing insightful contributions to class discussions and showing a willingness to share your knowledge and wisdom with others. You are a highly competent reader, an imaginative writer and a talented mathematician. We have also been privileged to see you showcasing your skills in Art, Sports and Drama throughout the year. You have excelled in your role as Head Girl this year and this award is thoroughly deserved in recognition of your outstanding contribution to St Mary's.





End of Year Celebrations

Class Achievement Awards

UK Class

Hudson - I am delighted to present this Achievement Award for the fantastic effort you have shown in listening carefully and using strategies to help manage your emotions. It has been wonderful to see growing confidence, resilience, and a positive attitude towards learning. You should be very proud of all you have achieved—keep up the amazing work!

Bobbi - I am delighted to present this Achievement Award for the amazing perseverance shown throughout the year. No matter the challenges faced, she has continued to come to school with a smile, work hard, and give her best in all her learning. Her resilience, determination, and positive attitude have been truly inspiring. We are incredibly proud of everything she has achieved—well done!

Thailand Class

Danny - What can we say about this shining star in Thailand class. We love your happy nature and you're always smiling. You have grown in confidence so much since September. Your number facts are quicker than lightning and you've suddenly developed a huge love for reading and writing, presenting us with pages and pages of Drawing club work where you've tackled some really long and tricky words we wouldn't expect from a 6 year old and you're flying through the reading scheme books. You are the best tidy upper, our pencil pots have never been neater! Your friendships have blossomed and you can always be relied upon to make the right choices with friends and your work. You literally are amazing and we're so proud of all you have achieved. We know you'll continue to shine in Year 2. Well done Danny.



End of Year Celebrations

Thailand Class

Everly - This achievement award goes to someone in Thailand class who always tries her best. She loves to craft and write and has worked so hard on her writing this year that she is now making books! She takes such pride in her work and it is always presented beautifully. Her handwriting is always perfect and she attempts some really tricky words with confidence. She uses her phonics knowledge to help her read any book you give her and she is able to add expression to her reading. She is a delightful friend and popular with everyone. She is calm presence in the class and can always be relied upon to help out others and she tidies up without being asked. Overall, she has smashed her year in EYFS and we know she's going to go from strength to strength in Year 1. Keep up the amazing work and shine like the star you are, Everly.

Italy Class

Lola - Lola, your confidence has blossomed this year, and it has helped you make excellent progress across the curriculum. You have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and determination, and you should be incredibly proud of everything you have achieved, especially in reading, writing, and handwriting. Not only have you shown yourself to be an excellent learner, but you are also a kind, caring, and compassionate friend. Your positive attitude and willingness to support others make you a valued member of Italy Class. Well done, Lola—you should be so proud of all you have accomplished this year!

Nathan - Nathan, your smile and laughter are infectious! You bring such a positive attitude to every day, and it is a pleasure to have you in our classroom. You have been a wonderful friend this year and are a valued and popular member of our class. Your enthusiasm for learning is endless, and you approach every challenge with confidence and determination. You always respond positively to feedback, and your hard work has led to fantastic progress throughout the year. Well done, Nathan! You should be incredibly proud of everything you have achieved this year. Keep shining!



End of Year Celebrations

India Class

Lillian - Lillian, what a fantastic year you have had! Your enthusiasm for school shines through every day, and you are always excited to learn new things. Your confidence is growing so quickly, and we are all incredibly proud of you. You're joining in more during lessons, and this is helping you make brilliant progress – especially in maths, where you show excellent understanding and tackle number work with growing confidence, and across all subjects, where your knowledge and curiosity really shine.

You have such a kind and helpful personality, and your friendship qualities make you truly special – you include others with such ease, you share generously, and you always look out for your friends with a caring heart. It's wonderful to see you having fun and laughing with them. Well done, Lillian – you bring such warmth and joy to our classroom, and we love seeing you grow into your bright, confident self.

George - George, thank you for being the wonderful person you are. Your positive attitude and determination to do your best are truly inspiring. Even when things are difficult, you show great resilience and continue to approach challenges with a calm and thoughtful mindset. You take care with everything you do, listen respectfully to others, and are developing a wonderful sense of confidence each day. You are becoming an excellent role model, and this is something you should be incredibly proud of. It has been a joy to watch you grow and develop, and we are excited to see all that you will achieve in the future. Your passion for football brings such energy and enthusiasm to the classroom; whether you are sharing the latest results or giving your expert opinions, your excitement always brings smiles to those around you. George, you have made such a positive contribution to India Class this year. Your kindness, patience, and cheerful nature have helped create a happy and supportive classroom environment. As you move into Year Three, we hope you take pride in all you have accomplished. Continue to believe in yourself, embrace new opportunities, and keep shining – we know you are ready for the exciting challenges ahead.



End of Year Celebrations

Australia Class

Ivy - Ivy has been an absolute delight to have in the classroom this year. Her progression has been astounding and she is bursting with enthusiasm in all her learning. Despite not always finding learning easy, this has not stopped her or deterred her; she is determined and shows a level of perseverance beyond her years. She has been a joy to teach and it has been marvellous to watch her flourish. She is a kind and caring member of the class. It has truly been a privilege to watch her grow and develop into a more confident and capable learner. I have no doubt that she will continue to thrive as she begins her key stage 2 journey. Go get 'em Ivy!

Oakley - Oakley is simply kindness personified. There is NOTHING that is too much trouble for him. He comes into class each and every day with a huge, sincere smile. He has made my first year at St. Mary's so happy and I am so proud to be his teacher. He works hard and is always keen to help others if they are struggling. He is such a popular member of the class but always ensures he cares for others first. There have been so many times throughout the year where Oakley has made me proud with his wittiness, gentle nature and overall bubbly spirit. His academic ability has blossomed, he is a skilled reader and a keen scientist. I am sure that your new class will teacher will be just as proud as I have been to lead and nurture you through another school year. Continue to make me, and everyone who knows you, smile. Key stage 2 is lucky to be getting you Oakley!

New Zealand Class

Izarra - This award goes to Izarra for her outstanding achievements in Year 3. Izarra is a focused and determined learner who always gives her very best. She thinks carefully about her reader when writing and draws on her reading to make her work thoughtful and engaging. Izarra has achieved so much this year, and as her confidence continues to grow, there is no limit to what she can achieve. Well done, Izarra!

Monty - This award goes to Monty for his phenomenal achievements in Year 3. An exceptional mathematician, Monty has achieved greater depth and tackles every challenge with confidence. Nothing fazes him, and he has stormed through his mixed times tables with determination and skill. He is also a greater depth reader with an exceptionally high level of comprehension. Always eager to take on new challenges, Monty's resilience, enthusiasm, and love of learning make him a pleasure to teach. Well done, Monty!



End of Year Celebrations

Sierra Leone Class

Savannah - Savannah, what a fantastic year you have had. You have excelled in all areas of your learning and made phenomenal progress. Each piece of work you produce is completed to a very high standard, and you are always keen to help others overcome their challenges too. From starting the beginning of the year feeling nervous about maths, to blossoming in confidence, and now being proud of the work you produce each maths lesson, I am incredibly proud of you. You are an asset to our class and I can't wait to see how you continue to grow as you move up into year 5 and beyond. Well done Savannah.

Noah - Noah, it has been wonderful to have you as part of Sierra Leone class this year. You spread joy, kindness, and laughter throughout the classroom and make everyone feel included. You also show great enthusiasm in all lessons, and are keen to share your wealth of knowledge with the rest of the class. I have been particularly impressed with the progress you have made in your writing this year too. You think carefully about your choice of vocabulary, the effect this has on the reader and each piece of work you produce is always written to a high standard. Keep trying your best Noah, and I look forward to hearing about your time in year 5.

USA Class

Macie - The End of Year Achievement is awarded to Macie for outstanding effort and a fantastic attitude in Year 4. You are an exceptionally hard worker across all subjects, with a special talent and passion for Maths. Your determination to tackle every challenge, complete all activities, and never give up is truly inspiring. Thank you for being a wonderful role model, a friendly face in USA Class, and a student who consistently follows our class charter and lends a helping hand.

Andrew - You have been awarded the End of Year Achievement Award for your outstanding dedication to learning across all subjects this year! In mathematics, your hard work truly shines. You consistently complete every activity and push yourself to finish every single challenge. Throughout Year 4, you have demonstrated good listening skills, always raising your hand to answer questions and enthusiastically joining in class discussions. Your dedication to independent reading is equally impressive. You have put a massive amount of effort into using the Accelerated Reader library all year long. Thank you for bringing such an excellent attitude to everything you do. Well done, Andrew!



End of Year Celebrations

China Class

Zara - Zara, you have approached every subject with enthusiasm, always going above and beyond in your learning. Your wonderful writing talent, kindness towards others and determination to stand up for what is right makes you someone to be incredibly proud of. Congratulations on a fantastic Year 4, you have a bright future ahead of you.

Bertie - Bertie, you are a kind, thoughtful and wonderfully funny member of China Class who always gives your best and isn't afraid to ask questions that deepen your learning. Your curiosity, determination and positive spirit will take you far, so keep questioning, keep growing, and never lose your spark. Well done on everything you have achieved in Year 5!

Mexico Class

Charlotte - The first word I think of when I think of this person is kind, and honestly, that's the most important thing you can be. She has worked exceptionally hard this year and her determination and effort has really paid off, as she has made huge progress this year. I have been particularly impressed with her writing. She has transported me to tropical islands and made me fear imaginary sea creatures. I would like to wish Charlotte a huge well done, I'm very proud of you.

Josh - The second person I've chosen for this award is someone who couldn't deserve it more but I know will not expect it! They have made exceptional progress, especially in maths, and are working far more independently. This is a subject they have found challenging so this shows real grit and determination and what a fantastic attitude to have -if something is difficult, to focus and push yourself. I only wish they realised how clever and capable they are. Very well done, Josh.



End of Year Celebrations

South Africa Class

Emily - You have made huge strides forward this year and embraced the challenges of Year 6 with a consistently calm and positive attitude. You have worked with tremendous determination in all curriculum areas, taking responsibility for your learning and responding proactively to feedback. You are always kind, thoughtful and polite to others and have shown resilience when times have been challenging. Your progress this year has been exceptional and this is reflected in some highly impressive scores in the SATs assessments – you rose to the challenge and really showed what you are capable of! You should be incredibly proud of all you have achieved this year and we know that you will continue to shine as you move on to secondary school.

Jessilyn - This is a richly deserved award for someone who has made a phenomenal impression since arriving at St Mary's last year. Numerous members of staff have commented on your exceptional manners and kind, helpful nature. You possess a true love of learning, which has been reflected in your organised and diligent approach to your work, both at home and school. You set yourself high expectations and show a purposeful mindset by actively seeking out feedback to enable you to achieve even more. In addition to your outstanding achievements in core curriculum subjects, you are a reflective theologian, a talented artist and an amazing dancer. It has been a delight to have you as a member of South Africa Class; we know you will go on to achieve great things at secondary school and beyond!

Japan Class

Ross - You are an excellent artist, and this creative flair has shone through in your English. Your writing has impressed me, in particular you have a talent for writing dark, descriptive scenes filled with tension. This is one of the many areas in which you have persevered and made excellent progress. Believe in yourself, Ross – you can do it!

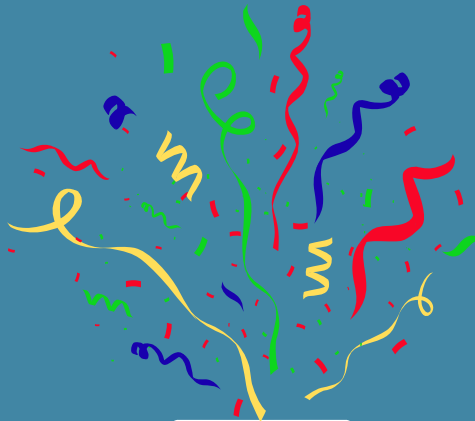
Charlie - I have greatly admired your determination and resilience this year. In every subject, you always give your very best and approach every challenge with a positive attitude. This has been especially evident in your swimming lessons, where you have shown great perseverance and a willingness to improve. You should be incredibly proud of the progress you have made and the effort you have shown throughout the year. Well done, Charlie!



Celebrations

Loving House Cup

The children have collected Class Dojo points through this academic year and have accrued a staggering amount - they should be very proud of themselves! Here are their final scores -





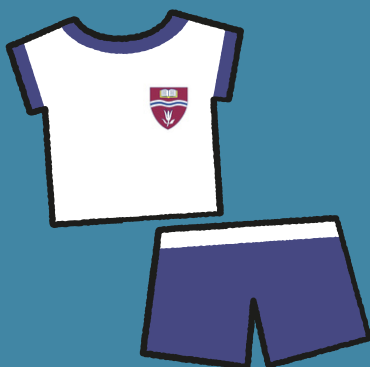
Things to know



Swimming - September

This is the proposed swimming timetable for September - these are subject to change but we will update where necessary. Children will need to bring swimming kit including costume, towel and swim hat on these days

Mon PM **USA**
Tue AM **China** PM **South Africa**
Wed PM **New Zealand**
Thur PM **Sierra Leone**
Fri PM **Japan**



PE Kits

The children in **KS2** will continue to come to school in their PE kits in September. A timetable will be shared in the Autumn Term. PE kit for all is to consist of navy blue shorts or joggers, a plain white or school logo tshirt and trainers suitable for running (not skater style or high top trainers please).

Dates for your diary

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

Thur 3rd Sep - Children back to school

Mon 7th Sep - Swimming lessons recommence

Weds 9th Sep - Forest School sessions commence for UK Class

Thurs 10th Sep - Parent Tea & Chat - Emotional Resilience 9am

Fri 11th Sep - Non-uniform for Harvest Fayre contribution

Fri 11th Sep - Meet our Inclusion Manager - Mrs Corr - tea & cake provided! 2pm

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

Fri 18th Sep - Flu vaccinations

Fri 18th Sep - Visits to St Mary's church commence, Year 5/6 worship assembly

Sat 19th Sep - Church Boundary walk

Mon 21st Sep - Fairtrade Fortnight

Fri 25th Sep - Visit to St Mary's church - Year 3 / 4 worship assembly

Sat 26th Sep - Harvest Fayre at Glebe Field

Mon 28th Sep - Bikeability - Year 6 (Year 5 on Friday)

Weds 30th Sep - Meet the Teacher



News



Rotary Donation

We are so grateful to The Rotary Club for their monetary donation that has enabled school to buy The Mud Kitchen. We are very excited to be able to add this to our Early Years garden in September.

Year 6 Prom

It was a fantastic end of year event for our Y6 Leaver's. They dressed the part, arrived in many different ways and were treated to a buffet, mocktails and a disco. We wish them all the very best on the next part of their journeys and wish them all the very very best.



Art Exhibition

We were pleased to receive a letter from Andrew Griffith MP regarding our Art Exhibition at Fittleworth Village Hall as part of our work with West Sussex Arts Society.

