

'Be the best you can be' Whatever you do, do it with all your heart' (Colossians 3:23



Newsletter – Issue 6 – 04/04/2025

Please note that should you wish to receive this newsletter in a different format please ask at the school office.

This term's Christian Value is Respect:

'Do to others as you would have them do to you.' Matthew 7.12

St Mary's Stars

Term dates

April 2025

22nd Start of Term 5 24th Class 5 Assembly 24th Class Photos 24th PTA Cake Sale 29th Penalty Shoot Out Day 28th - Nursery Parent Evenings (Mon -Thurs)

Little Acorns: Callum, Arlo, Freddie and Frankie.

Little Oaks: Sadie, Leo, Elian, Mya and Brayden.

Class 1: Maisie, Harry, Darcie, Maya, Dougie S and Dougie R.

Class 2: Kelston, Onie, Maisie, Harley and Zara.

Class 3: All of Class 3, Clarke, Oaklee, Layla, Olivia, Maddie, Ayden and Oliver.

Class 4: Oliver H, Flynn, Neda, Lola, Effie-Mae, Nova and Finley.

Class 5: Amelia, Priya, Sienna, Milo, Jack and Skye.

Class 6: Lily, Nathan, Baylee, Faith and the whole of Class 6 for their SATS practice. Breakfast Club: Lola, Zack and Eric.

Term dates

May 2025

5th Bank Holiday 7th – 9th Class 1 Family Numeracy Project. 12th SATS week 21st & 22nd Bikeability 23rd Inspiring People Day 23rd End of term 5

Millionaire Pins: Eleanor – who deserves a special mention for becoming a multi-millionaire.

100,000 Words: Luca, Layla, Clarke and Billie-Rose.

Other Achievers: Well done to the Writhlington litter pickers who took part in a community litter pick over the weekend: Luvinder, Oakley-Beau, Ophelia, Clarke, Dougie R, Neda, Mya, Lexie, George T and Eleanor. A HUGE thank you for being great ambassadors for our school, looking after our world and making Writhlington an area to be proud of.



Also a big well done to Arthur for winning 'Goal of the Month' for Paulton Rovers, earning a trophy and certificate for his achievements.

School Photos – CHANGE OF DATE

Please note, there has been a change of date for Class Photos. Photos will now take place on Thursday 24th April.

Sports Day - SAVE THE DATE.

In order to help you plan ahead, we have a proposed Sports Day date planned for Thursday 12th June:

EYFS and KS1 at 9.30am/KS2 at 1.30pm

PTA Cake Sale

The PTA will be holding a cake café in the school hall from 3.00pm on Thursday 24th April. Please bring in any cake donations in the morning – **ALL** year groups welcome.





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Breakfast Club Update

Our early Bird Breakfast Club pupils have enjoyed incorporating Easter-themed activities and treats alongside the usual healthy options this week. Pupils have discussed the story of Easter by creating



decorations, completing challenges and even enjoying Hot Cross Buns, thus providing a wonderful opportunity for children to socialize in a relaxed, fun setting before starting their school day.

Hub 1 Activities - Term 5

As we head towards the warmer weather, there will be a slight change to Hub 1 after school activities, as shown below. If you wish to book your child into Hub 1 or 2 please do so using Parent Pay by midnight the day before. If you wish to pay for Wrap Around Care using the Government Childcare Scheme please speak to Mrs Fenton in the School Office.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Green Thumb Gardening + Forest School	Cooking	Outside Games	Arts & Crafts + Football	Science

Music Lessons

Would your child like to learn to play a musical instrument?

Learning music has been shown to enhance students' cognitive abilities, including memory, attention, and problem-solving skills. Music students often perform better in subjects like math and reading, as it improves their pattern recognition and spatial-temporal skills.



Instrumental lessons at St Mary's are provided by teachers from West of England Music & Arts (WEMA). If your child would like to learn a musical instrument you may register via the link below:

http://www.wema.org.uk/register

Several students already enjoy guitar lessons but WEMA also offer keyboard and piano lessons should enough interest be generated.

<u>Absences</u>

We ask that you notify us before morning registration (or as soon as possible) if your child is going to be absent from school – this can be via phone, Dojo or email direct to the School Office.

In the event your child is absent with no explanation and we are unable to get hold of parents or carers then we shall carry out safeguarding procedures in line with our Safeguarding Policy.

Please also be aware we cancel lunches for all absent pupils at 9.30 am every morning, therefore if you are running late or at an appointment, please inform us in order to secure your lunch booking.



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Class 6

This term, Class 6 has been focusing on a range of exciting and engaging topics. They have been practising SATs-style questions to build their confidence and improve their test-taking skills, ensuring they feel well-prepared for the upcoming assessments.

In history, the class has delved into the fascinating world of the Ancient Mayas, exploring their culture, achievements, and way of life. Additionally, students have unleashed their creativity by creating their own adventure stories. It's been a term full of learning and growth across various subjects!



Class 5

Class 5 has had an exciting term filled with hands-on learning and creativity. Their visit to Shepton Mallet Prison brought Victorian justice to life, from oakum picking to the history of transportation and hanging. In science, they explored forces like air resistance, water resistance, and friction through engaging experiments.



In English, they became news reporters, crafting articles about fictional crimes inspired by *Murder at Twilight*. They also showcased their musical talents, performing on the ukulele for parents after two terms of hard work.



To conclude their R.E. learning on the Easter story and destiny, they visited the stunning Bath Abbey and reenacted the Easter story, exploring its key moments from different perspectives. A fantastic term of discovery and achievement!









Class 4

In Class 4, children have explored the fascinating world of the Ancient Egyptians, learning about pyramids, mummification, and hieroglyphics. In art, they developed their creativity through printing techniques, experimenting with patterns and textures. After a visit to the Museum of History at the start of term, they wrote their own portal stories in English, using the museum as an exciting way to begin their stories. They included fantastic descriptive language!





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Class 3



This term, the children have been striving to improve their fractions knowledge. They have blown Miss Norris away with their understanding and resilience in this unit of maths. They have been building on the historical knowledge of chronology by looking at events in history ordering them alongside the events during the Romans. In science Class 3 have been understanding forces, using freeze frames to guess whether the force being used was a push

or pull, or sometimes both.

They even enjoyed an amazing trip to The Roman Baths where they made mosaics, dressed as Romans and explored artefacts. The pupils also went underground to explore and dig for artefacts, created a Roman building and finally building an arch, using a manual crane to build pillars. At the end of a hectic morning, Class 3 explored the museum learning about Gods and Goddesses and the Roman Baths.



Class 2

Term 4 has been full of exciting learning opportunities for Class 2... We had a mystery visit

from Sunny the Meerkat all the way from the Savannah in English! And we have been writing our own African animal fact files. We have been lucky enough to go over and do Gymnastics at Writhlington every Friday afternoon, and the children have made such brilliant



progress with the skills they have been practicing! As well as learning all about mass and volume in Maths – the children have been very hands on with their learning in Maths this

Term, using scales and jugs to measure different masses and volumes.

Class 1



Class 1 started off the term with a visit to Radstock Museum to learn all about what it was like to have been part of a mining family. We learnt so much about what a job in the mines would have been like and how children worked in them too. Also, the children have been drawing pictures in the style of LS Lowry, who painted lots of pictures of the Industrial Revolution, which links well with our topic. All the pictures are amazing and on display in Class 1 and Ophelia's is



on display in Ms Lampert's office. After reading The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch, we made our own delicious sandwiches and sent them down the wire from the lighthouse. Luckily, the pesky seagulls didn't get them!









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Little Oaks



Little Oaks have been busy this term! Pupils enjoyed a tennis session delivered by instructors from the local Tennis Association.

They have also been learning to play the xylophone in music,

developing memory and concentration as well as

recognising and understanding patterns in music.

As part of their topic on Space, Little Oaks received a visit from Simon from Bath Astronomical Society- he even brought his own astronaut!







Little Acorns

Little Acorns had a fantastic time at Fairfield Animal Centre together. They enjoyed learning about the animals, feeding the goats, sheep and chickens and developing their physical skills on the play equipment. They listened well and had a great day.











Dance Umbrella

Pupils from KS1 and KS2 took part in Dance Umbrella 2025 at The Forum, Bath. As always, everyone had a wonderful time enjoying performances from several schools in the area.

As in previous years, we entered two dance groups this year. Pupils spent the afternoon rehearsing on stage before their evening production in front of a packed audience.

Well done to all of our dancers, we are super proud of you all, and a big thank you to parents and carers for your support in making this worthwhile event so successful.







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Solar Eclipse

We would like to say a huge thankyou to Bath Astronomers Group who donated safety glasses to KS2 students to view the recent solar eclipse.

The Bath Astronomers are a group of local Somerset amateur astronomers sharing a passion for observing the night and daytime sky. If you would like to know more or are interested in joining, please visit their website at the following link:



https://bathastronomers.org.uk/about-us/

Bedtime Stories



'Bedtime Stories' have become a cherished tradition at St Mary's. Children across the school enjoy returning in their pyjamas to enjoy hot chocolate and a biscuit whilst teachers read them a bedtime story.

Bedtime stories are instrumental in nurturing a child's language development and cognitive abilities. Children who are read to regularly show better language skills, increased vocabulary, and improved comprehension compared to their peers.

Easter Celebrations

A wonderful service was held this morning with all the creative and amazing art work on display in the hall. Children had obviously spent a lot of time and effort on their creations and whilst difficult to choose winners, we delighted in celebrating the effort, perseverance and creativity of all of the entries. All children who entered received a prize – we even had to buy more!!!! BRILLIANT The Nursery children joined us for a Easter Bonnet parade – it was lovely to see the confidence with which the children paraded their bonnets around the hall.

Easter Egg Hunt

Always looking for ways to extend the curriculum the children were challenged to day to compete orienteering to find the clues to work out the answer to the Easter Hunt puzzle. With music streaming out the children delighted in running around our amazing grounds, often with older pupils supporting and helping the younger ones to read the map and locate the hidden eggs. It was a joy to watch and I am pleased to let you know ALL managed to find the answer. Our thanks go to Reverend Nathanael and Mrs Hazelton and the PTA for organising such a great event.









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Easter Recording

Our school perform so well. We were proud of singing (and signing) an Easter Song and sharing the recording with our school community, the Diocese and all schools in our Trust.



So much sport...

As usual Term 4 has been an opportunity to continue our commitment to providing sporting opportunities for all:

- Year 5 and 6 took part in league game against Farmborough
- Year 3 and 4 played in a tournament against other schools on the astro at Norton Hill
 - Classes took part in Orienteering provided through the Sports Partnership
 - > A free taster from the tennis Centre at Writhlington for our younger pupils
 - Gymnastics at the Writhlington gym
 - Swimming lessons for Years 3 and 5
 - ► High quality PE lessons led by our sports coaches and teachers
 - > After school football and sports sessions

Penalty Shoot Out

!!!!!!!PLEASE help us by sponsoring your child!!!!!!!!

We will be holding a sponsored BIG PENALTY SHOOT OUT on

TUESDAY 29th APRIL

We are hoping to raise money to make improvements to the school grounds including our special Memory Garden. The aim is to HAVE A CONTINUOUS PENALTY SHOOT OUT throughout the whole day with children trying to shoot as many balls past their teacher and TA as possible.

We are excited to invite Scott Sinclair into the school in the afternoon. Scott has enjoyed an incredible career that saw him play for the likes of Chelsea, Swansea City, Manchester City, Aston Villa and Celtic, before returning to Rovers in October 2022. Sponsor forms are coming home today – please support children in raising as much money as possible.



The children will be encouraged to come to school in football or sports kit on the day of the sponsored event. In memory of Elias, we will also be having a Spiderman theme to the day so if your child would prefer to dress as Spiderman, or wear red and blue, that would be awesome!





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Community Notices:

(We bring these to your attention, without necessarily recommending them





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We have been asked by Miquill's, our new catering supplier to share the following job vacancies:



