NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM
WEEK 5

Follow us on Instagram
@stmarys_primaryschool

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

OUR VISION: GOOD GROUND GROWS WELL

Click here for upcoming dates or check your Class Dojo events

UPDATE FROM MRS HALE

We have been celebrating Energy Saving Week at St Mary's, thinking about how small changes can make a big difference to our planet. The children explored ways to save energy, reduce waste and be more environmentally friendly at school and at home. We also held a competition to design an energy-saving project. A huge well done to our winners, Advik, Rishan and Sarah, for their fantastic efforts!



Our new School Council held its first meeting, led by the new chair, Daniel. We were also delighted to welcome our Chair of Governors, Mr Graham Beeden, who helped the councillors understand their roles and think about what they could achieve together. The children discussed their aims and how they can make a positive difference to St Mary's.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined our online phonics workshop this week. We hope you found it helpful! We regularly offer parent workshops through our partnership of schools, covering different ways to support children's learning and development at home. Our next session will introduce families to Century, our online learning platform, on Wednesday 14 October, from 4.30pm to 5pm online. We hope you can join us to find out more about how Century supports children's learning at school and at home.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Hale



Year 6 hosted the Grandparents Coffee Morning

Notices:

Please check you have an appointment time confirmed for parents evening. If you are not able to attend parents evening in person, please get in touch with your child's teacher on Class Dojo to arrange a time for a phone call.

Thank you so much for giving to our school community!

amazon wishlist

ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS!

1	Ash	97%
2	Grey Willow	97%
3	Elm	96%

How we have grown this week!



Sapling

Saplings learned how to take care of our pets, practised identifying sounds in phonics, created animals using shapes, investigated measuring tools and discussed what makes each of us special in RE.

Ash

Ash Class enjoyed *How to Get Your Teacher Ready for School*. They wrote instructions, practised giving directions and explored emotions. They also investigated animals through Science, Maths and RE.

Beech

Beech Class explored biographies through *Bold Women in Black History*. They practised addition and subtraction within 10, investigated seasonal changes and materials, developed their writing and enjoyed PE.

Chestnut

Chestnut Class began learning about big cats and writing fact files about cheetahs. In maths, they compared numbers using greater than and less than. They also started building teddy chairs in DT.

Damson

Damson Class enjoyed litter picking in Norwood Green and discussed caring for our community. In English, they created persuasive holiday brochures to encourage others to visit exciting destinations.

Elm

We have been adding two 4-digit numbers with no exchange, one exchange and more than one exchange. We learnt to add from the smallest value column first and asked the question, "Do I have enough ones/tens/hundreds to make an exchange?" We have been looking at the reasons for and against feeding animals at National Parks.

Field Maple

The children planned a Science investigation into water resistance and explored The Highwayman in English. For Black History Month, they created a timeline of Walter Tull's life and demonstrated our school value of service through local litter picking.

Grey Willow

Grey Willow Class classified microorganisms in Science and began exploring Black History Month. They developed their problem-solving skills in maths and had great fun with our new playground equipment!

Thought for the week

> The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. *Psalm 19: 1*

Have you ever stopped to look up at the sky? Perhaps you have seen a beautiful sunrise on your way to school, watched the clouds making different shapes or noticed the stars shining brightly at night. Sometimes we are so busy with our everyday lives that we forget to stop and appreciate the wonderful world around us.

This Bible verse reminds us that God's greatness can be seen everywhere in creation. From the tallest trees to the smallest flowers, from the changing seasons to the birds singing in the morning, the natural world is full of reminders of God's love and creativity.

As we move further into autumn, we can see the leaves changing colour and feel the cooler air around us. These changes remind us that God's world is constantly growing and changing, just as we are.

This week, let's challenge ourselves to slow down and notice the beauty around us. We can also think about how we can care for God's wonderful creation, showing our gratitude by looking after the world and everything in it.

What wonderful things can you see in God's creation this week, and what small action could you take to help protect them?

Something to pray

Dear God,
Thank you for the beauty of your wonderful world.
Thank you for the bright skies, the shining stars, the colourful trees and all the amazing things you have created.
May we always be thankful for the world you have given us and never take its wonders for granted.

Amen.

Forest School

What to wear – Autumn Term



Forest School is an amazing opportunity for children to explore, learn and be active outdoors. To keep them safe, comfortable and able to fully enjoy their time in nature, please make sure they are dressed appropriately for the weather and the environment.

Essential kit for the autumn term



Wellies and socks

Wellies keep feet dry and safe. Please send your child with warm, comfortable socks to wear with their wellies (not trainers or thin socks).



Waterproof trousers

Keep legs dry and comfortable, whatever the weather.



Waterproof jacket with a hood

Keeps your child dry and warm, and provides protection in wet and windy conditions.

In colder weather...



Woolly hat



Gloves



Thick wellie socks



Multiple thin layers underneath the waterproof jacket

Layers work best – they keep your child warm and comfortable and can be adjusted as the temperature changes.

Please note: school coats are not suitable for Forest School.

They are not waterproof, are not designed for rough outdoor play and can become heavy, wet and uncomfortable. They also do not provide the right protection for outdoor learning activities.



The right clothing makes all the difference

When your child is dressed for the weather, they can:

- stay warm, dry and comfortable
- move, explore and take part fully
- enjoy getting muddy and dirty without worrying about it
- focus on the fun and learning, not on how they feel or look.

We want every child to enjoy Forest School – safely, comfortably and with confidence.

Thank you for helping your child come prepared so they can make the most of their Forest School sessions!

Ecclesia partnership