



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term Issue 3
19th September 2025

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Another busy week comes to an end at St Mary's. In addition to the excitement of the school needing to close on Tuesday afternoon as a result of the lack of water in Welham Green, we had a visit yesterday morning from one of our Diocesan Schools' Effectiveness Advisers. It is a while since she last visited St Mary's and she was very impressed by the improvements that she was able to see as we toured the school, which have resulted from our post-Ofsted Rapid Action Plan. The purposeful atmosphere in the classrooms was very evident, not only during her visit, but it has been the case all week. This is when effective learning can and does take place.

What is not so positive, as we come to the end of our second full week of term, is that, yesterday morning, we already had 41 children who had not achieved 90% attendance of the days available so far. That is 28% of the total pupil body. Just before term started Bridget Phillipson, the Secretary of State for Education, said that those children missing school in the first few days of term, were far more likely to be persistently absent throughout the rest of the year. Being absent at this stage of the year means that some important academic foundations, that will be built on during the rest of the year, are going to be missed. The more school that is missed means that it is harder for the children to catch up academically, but also they find it harder to fit in socially. Please do everything you can to ensure that your child or children are in every day: it is crucial for their development. As you will see from this newsletter, only one class—Year 3— have achieved more than 92% attendance this week, which is really disappointing.

We have been continuing to look at the value of respect in Collective Worship this week and I will leave you with a quote from Alexandra Penney, which demonstrates a key point about respect between two individuals:

"The ultimate test of a relationship is to disagree but to hold hands."

Have a good weekend.

Adrian Petty

Headteacher



Flourish for the future

Our value this half term is:

Respect

In all things you yourself
must be an example of
good behaviour. Be
sincere and serious in
your teaching.

Titus 2:7

Contact us 8:30am to 4pm at...



01707 276725



admin@stmarys565.herts.sch.uk



www.stmarys565.herts.sch.uk



Dellsome Lane, Welham Green, AL9 7NE

HOUSEPOINTS



I am pleased to report that House Points this week were as follows:

205

91

165

200



Well done Badgers!

335

200

262

294

STARS OF THE WEEK

ATTENDANCE STARS

Curie

97.6%



The following children were nominated this week and had their lunch with Mr Petty on Star Table.

Reception - Ohene

Year 1 - Ronnie

Year 2 - Shane

Year 3 - Wade

Year 4 - Lola

Year 5 - Nancy

Year 6 - Michelle

Congratulations to all these children.

SCHOOL DIARY



Date	Event
Wednesday 1st October	Individual School Photos
Monday 6th October	Harvest Festival—10am St Mary's Church
Tuesday 14th October	Parents' Evening (in person) 3.30pm –6.00pm
Wednesday 15th October	Parents' Evening (in person) 3.30pm –6.00pm
Wednesday 22nd October	Inset Day
Thursday 23rd October	Inset Day
Friday 24th October	Inset Day
27th—31st October	Half Term
Friday 5th December	Arts Afternoon—3:30pm
Tuesday 9th December	KS2 Christmas Carols—5:30pm
Wednesday 10th December	KS1 Christmas Production—2pm
Thursday 11th December	KS1 Christmas Production— 9am
Friday 12th December	Rocksteady Concert—9:30am
Monday 15th December	Reception Nativity—2pm
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18th December	Term ends—School closes 1:45pm
Friday 19th December	Occasional Day—School Closed
Monday 5th January 2026	Inset Day—School Closed
Tuesday 6th January	Term starts—Children back at 8:40am
16th-20th February	Half Term
Friday 27th March	Term ends—School closes 1:45pm

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We are a welcoming Christian community where every child has the chance to flourish.

We bring and share joy, inspire daily and creatively equip children for the future.

We're thankful for all that God has provided; proud of where He has placed us; and excited at the potential to come.

”



The Elizabeth Fry Award for

Respect



*"Overflowing with thankfulness,
inspiration and joy"*

Respect everyone, love your fellow-believers, honour God, and respect the authorities. (1 Peter 2:17)

Prayer of the Week

Dear God, Help us to be kind and patient with one another and always show respect. No matter what race, age, gender or religion people are, help us to be fair and kind to them. Help us to co-operate, be helpful and listen. Protect all of us and help us to make our school and the world a better place. Amen.

Reception - Watson

Another busy week in Watson class. In Maths we have been looking at sorting different objects into groups and exploring patterns in the environment. In phonics we have been focussing on the sounds D, M, N and I and have been practising how to write these letters correctly. The children have enjoyed learning about the season Autumn and exploring the different types of resources relating to Autumn. All the children coloured in a leaf using coloured pencils, for our investigation area display. Lastly, the children used colouring pencils to create their own self-portraits which look incredible and they are now on display. Another fabulous week and well done for winning Attendance Ted on your first week of school! The children loved their extra ten minutes of play on the orangutan.



Year 1 - Donaldson

We have had another fantastic week of learning in Year 1, and the children have continued to work hard all week. In Phonics, we have been learning the sounds, 'igh' and 'oa' and the children have been fantastic in reading and spelling words that contain these sounds. In Maths, we have been focussing on adding 'one more' and taking away 'one less'. We have enjoyed using multilink, tens frames and number tracks to support our understanding. In English, we have been inspired by the 'naughty bus', to create our own 'naughty toy' and have written a sentence to describe them, focussing on capital letters and full stops. Our History topic this half term is 'Making my own History' and we started to think about timelines and how we have changed since we were babies. Keep up the excellent work Donaldson Class!



Year 2 - Elizabeth

Year 2 - Elizabeth

Thank you for ensuring your children maintained a high attendance last week. The class have settled in well this week and are making positive progress with the classroom routines.

In Maths, we are continuing with place value. We have been learning about part whole models and using this to solve base ten questions. Remember to write your tens and ones units above the numbers so that you can see how many tens the number has and how many ones. For example, the number 68 has six tens and 8 ones. We have moved onto the next step of partitioning numbers using base ten. Some of the class found this tricky, but we have been practising different examples using whiteboards and part whole model templates. Great effort and keep practising. Engaging in the weekly Mathletics homework will further embed their knowledge.

In English, we are continuing with the story of Goldilocks and the three Bears. The class have been working on writing up the story in five paragraphs using sentence openers. The first paragraph introduces Goldilocks walking through the woods and seeing the cottage, the second is the porridge scene, the third is breaking Baby Bear's chair, the fourth falling asleep in the bed and the final scene with Goldilocks running out of the cottage after seeing the three bears. Excellent effort from the class. Well done!

In RE, we have been learning about Matthew who was a tax collector. He was an unpopular person due to the nature of his job. We watched a video animation about him and learnt that Jesus invited him to his house for dinner as he saw that he was a good person and wanted to change. Matthew later became one of Jesus's disciples and became a changed person for the better. We had lots of discussions about how the other disciples felt about having Matthew in their group. They then completed a three-box comic strip about the story of Matthew. Lovely drawings and writing. Well done Elizabeth class.



Year 3 - Curie

This week in Year 3, we've been busy with lots of exciting learning! In Science, the children explored the lengths of the bones in their bodies by carefully measuring and comparing them – a great way to see just how amazing our skeletons are. In English, we have been planning our very own magical stories inspired by *Leon and the Place Between*, letting imaginations run wild with exciting characters and settings. We have also been getting creative in art, learning about the work of famous artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe and Yayoi Kusama, and beginning to explore their unique styles.



Year 4 - Hawking

This week, Year 4 have been working hard across all their subjects! In Maths, we have been focusing on place value, exploring numbers up to 10,000 and practising how to plot them carefully on a number line. In English, the children have been learning the features of persuasive writing. We also finished reading our class book *Varmints*, which led to some great discussions and reflections. In Science, we turned our attention to teeth, learning their names, functions and labelling diagrams accurately. Finally, in History, we explored what life was like for Tudor children, comparing their daily routines and education to our own.



Year 5 - Mandela

This week, we had a terrific Science lesson about space in which we researched planets, created clay models and posters planets of our choice. We also learnt about geocentric, heliocentric and static Models. In P.E., we learnt basketball skills such as dribbling and various passes before playing mini matches. In History, we learnt about the working lives of children in Tudor times. We continued writing around the text *Hidden Figures*. We wrote (in role) formal and informal letters; learnt about conditional clauses and watched clips from the movie. Most of us would like to watch the full movie and the adults have advised we ask at home as it is PG rated. In Maths, we have continued learning about number and place value of numbers up to 1,000,000. We explored partitioning in different ways. In Music, we started rocking out for our warmup and started learning the song 'Like a Prayer'. This was also the week where we started splitting for Monday PE lessons, with some of us continuing swimming whilst others stayed at school.

Rishika & Diana



Year 6 - Attenborough

This week in Year 6, we began our new Art topic on perspective and illusion. We had great fun exploring different pieces of artwork and discussing how artists create clever effects. Over the coming weeks, we will continue this journey by producing our own illusion-inspired pieces.

In English, we are still gripped by *Boy in the Tower* and this week we finally discovered what has been destroying the city – the terrifying Blutchers! The suspense is keeping us hooked as we read on.

In Maths, we have been building our confidence with place value, rounding, and negative numbers. Next week, we'll be moving on to our new topic: adding and subtracting.

In Science, we have been learning about classification and how Carl Linnaeus developed the Linnaean system to group and organise living things. The children have enjoyed exploring how this system helps us make sense of the natural world.

We also took part in our first fitness session of the year, which included skipping, sprinting, the T-test, and balance activities. Everyone put in a fantastic effort and showed great determination.

It has been a busy and enjoyable week – well done, Year 6!



CLASS PE DAYS

Donaldson - Year 1	Wednesdays & Fridays
Elizabeth - Year 2	Tuesdays & Thursdays
Curie - Year 3	Mondays & Thursdays
Hawking - Year 4	Mondays & Tuesdays
Mandela - Year 5	Mondays & Wednesdays
Attenborough - Year 6	Mondays & Thursdays



SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes -
more funds for
your organisation.
1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS
ARRANGED ON:

17 OCTOBER
FRIDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND
BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION
WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

✓ WE ACCEPT

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Bags
- Hats & scarves
- Belts
- Fashion accessories
- Swimwear, lingerie
- Jewellery
- Perfumes

✗ WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Uniforms
- Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- Traditional clothing
- Duvets & pillows
- Single shoes
- Toys, stationery
- Bric-a-brac & electrical items
- Books, CDs, DVDs
- Workwear
- Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- Hygiene items, diapers
- Linen & towels

PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING
AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES



ST MARY'S CHURCH, NORTH MYMMS

North Mymms Park, Tollgate Road, Hatfield, Herts AL9 7TN

Tel: 01727825578 Registered Charity No: 1130079


COFFEE POTS AND TINY TOTS

Our Baby and Toddler group meet every Wednesday morning from 10-11.30am (Term times only)

Our hall has plenty of space for free play, crafts, stories and songs

Drop-in fair from 2pm

Explore stalls from local support and information services

 SEND
0-25 years
Hertfordshire's Local Offer

 SPACE

**Author talk with Cathy Reay:
How to be Disabled and Proud**

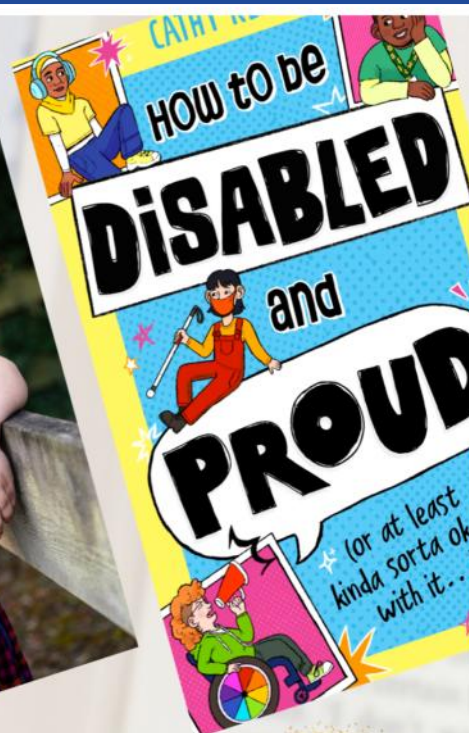
Wednesday 1 October, 5pm

Welwyn Garden City Library

Suitable for parents and carers

Book your free ticket in the library

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries100



An Autumn Serenade *Coming Home*

Join us for a programme of choral music including folk songs, pop classics and a 1945 tribute

performed by

Positif Chamber Choir
directed by Jill Knight



Saturday 4th October at 5pm
St Mary's Church,
North Mymms, AL9 7TN

Tickets £12 for adults, £5 for under 16s
Available from Ticketsource or at the church

www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-marys-church-north-mymms





**Fourth Sunday of the month from 2.30pm.
We will have an activity at church in our outside
space relating to the Season.**

**Dress appropriately for the weather and all to get
involved.**

No need to book, just turn up or go to our website
stmarysnorthmymms.org.uk
or email
mail@stmarysnorthmymms.org.uk