



St. Mary's CE Primary School, Welham Green

NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term Issue 9
14th November 2025

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It has been a very full week at St Mary's and we seem to have fitted a great deal into it!

The Local Authority Attendance Officer visited us this week and looked at the new procedures for addressing absence that we have put in place and she could see how our updated process have improved the tracking of attendance.

Following her visit, we will be updating the Attendance Policy again and will share with you the additional strategies that we are going to be using.

On Monday we had our Odd Socks Day to mark Anti-Bullying Week. Wearing odd socks gave us the chance to be different and celebrate our uniqueness. Today we have marked Children in Need with pupils and staff paying a pound and wearing t-shirts, headbands and hoodies linked to Children in Need and Pudsey Bear.

On Tuesday we held our commemoration for Remembrance Day. Rev Ruth and I led it together in the school hall. We heard the Last Post and the Reveille and held two minutes of silence at 11am. As well as thinking about those who have lost their lives in conflict, we also thought about the way in which we can help towards a peaceful future. As we reflect on that and continue to think about our half termly value of Love, I leave you this week with the following quote from Mother Teresa of Calcutta:

"If you judge people, you do not have time to love them."

Have a good weekend.

Adrian Petty

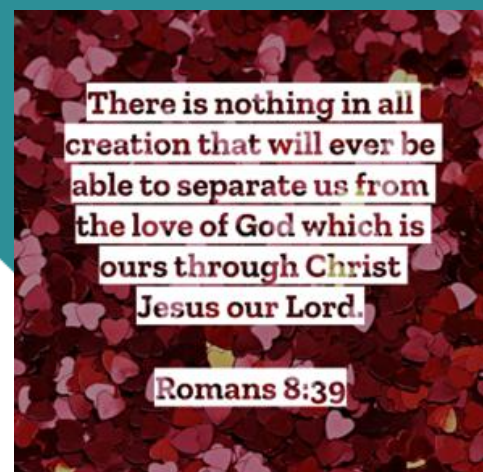
Headteacher



Flourish for the future

Our value this half term is:

Love



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:

202

175

221

244



Well done Squirrels!

1585

1395

1336

1373

STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Reception - Adele

Year 1 - Annalise

Year 2 - Casey

Year 3 - Peter

Year 4 - Teddy

Year 5 - James

Year 6 - Timur

Congratulations to all these children.

ATTENDANCE STARS

Curie

99.4%



Mandela

98.8%



Hawking

94.3%



Elizabeth

93.2%



SCHOOL DIARY



| Date | Event |
|-------------------------|--|
| Friday 14th November | Children in Need |
| Friday 28th November | Flu Vaccinations |
| Friday 5th December | PTA Christmas Sale—In School |
| 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 |
| Friday 12th December | PTA Christmas Fayre 3:30pm till 5pm |
| Monday 15th December | Flu Vaccinations—2nd Visit |
| Monday 15th December | Reception Nativity—2pm |
| Wednesday 17th December | Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch |
| Thursday 18th December | End of Term Church Service—St Mary's Church 10am |
| 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 |

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 |

“

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 Corrie Ten Boom Award for

Love



*"Overflowing with thankfulness,
inspiration and joy"*

My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you. (John 15:12)

Prayer of the Week

God our Father, Creator of the world, please help us to love one another.

Make nations friendly with other nations; make all of us love one another like brothers and sisters.

Help us to do our part to bring peace in the world and happiness to all people.

Amen

Reception - Watson

This week in Watson class, in Maths we have been subitising numbers from one to five without using our fingers to count. We have also been having a deeper understanding of numbers, four and five and we have been finding four or five objects around the room with our partners. In phonics, we have been learning level three sounds. The children have been practising writing a word, that begins with the sound we had learnt that day by using Robot Rick talk. In English, we have started a new book called 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children have drawn amazing trolls in their books, using their imaginations. In understanding the world, we have been exploring online safety. We have talked about how we must ask a grown up when using any electronic device. Also, we talked about why iPads and other electronics have passwords on them. In expressive arts and design, the children made hand print poppies for Remembrance Day. Keep up the great work Watson class!



Year 1 - Donaldson

This week in Donaldson Class we have been focussing on subtraction in Maths. The children have worked hard to solve number problems using counters and the 'crossing out' method to help us see how many is left. In English, we have been learning that verbs are 'doing words' and have great fun acting them out. We explored how adding the suffix -ed to some regular verbs such as 'jump(ed)' will show that it is in the past tense. In Geography, we have been exploring our classroom and had lots of fun making 'messy maps' using objects from around our classroom. We have also begun learning our songs for the Nativity. Well done Year 1 on a fantastic week!



Year 2 - Elizabeth

Elizabeth Class have had a wonderful week. In English, the children have been captivated by a mystery creature—later revealed to be the dodo—linked to our new story *The Journey Home* by Fran Preston-Gannon. They have been busy crafting expanded noun phrases, writing thoughtful questions to send to the Natural History Museum, and creating their own fact files to deepen their understanding. We even created wanted posters for the creature using different sentence types after it had escaped our classroom!

In Maths, the focus has been on strengthening addition and subtraction skills. The children have explored different methods, including using the nearest multiple of 10 to make calculations more efficient. For example, when solving $16 - 8$, they first subtract 6 to reach 10, then use their number bonds to 10 knowledge to subtract the remaining 2.

In Science, we have started a new topic on Minibeasts and their habitats. The children learnt what it means to classify minibeasts into groups using specific classification (i.e. 8 or more legs and less than 8 legs). The children have worked really hard in groups to categorise them. We have also begun working on learning our Nativity songs in our music lesson, we have had so much fun and the children already know some of them!



Year 3 - Curie

This week in Year 3, we have been continuing our exciting work on forces. The children have been applying their learning to real-life situations by investigating how different surfaces affect friction. Using toy cars, we tested how fast or slow they travelled across materials such as carpet, sandpaper, and smooth tables. The class loved making predictions, carrying out experiments, and comparing their results — fantastic scientific thinking all round!

In English, there has been a lot of excitement! On Thursday, Year 3 arrived to discover that a jar of tears had been stolen. After listening carefully to eyewitness statements from Mr Lewis, Mrs Egerton, and Mr Kilpatrick, we pieced together the clues and came to the conclusion that the Tear Thief must have stolen her tears back! The children were completely absorbed in the mystery and worked brilliantly as detectives. Next week, we will be writing and distributing our very own newspaper reports to explain more about the day's events.



Year 4 - Hawking

This week in Year 4, we have been planning an exciting sequel to the book *Farther* in English, exploring characters, themes and new ideas for the story. In Maths, the children have been focusing on the 3, 6, 7, 9 and 11 times tables through games, recall practice and problem-solving activities. In geography, we have been learning about the layers of the rainforest—the forest floor, understory, canopy and emergent layer—and discovering the plants, animals and features of each.



Year 5 - Mandela

In English we have continued our learning around the text *Percy Jackson*. We have drawn maps of Camp Half-Blood to practice prepositional phrases, used hyphens for character description, practised forming multi-clause sentences and plotted character's feelings both stated and implied. In Maths, we have continued learning about multiplication and division. We have looked at prime and cubed number and developed our understanding of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.

In Science, we have explored satellites and space junk and illustrated our very own robot to keep Space clean. We have continued reading *Cosmic Learning* all about Liam's adventures as a child who gets mistaken for an adult due to his size. He nearly took a Porsche for a test drive until his dad interjected. We also completed a comprehension about Eid Al-Fitr to complement our R.E learning. We learnt about the five pillars of Islam, chose one to explain in greater detail and reflect on how it would be difficult for Muslims in Britain to practice. Our rainforest topic continued with us identifying and labelling the countries that border Brazil.

By Rishika and Maisie



Year 6 - Attenborough

What a busy and exciting week it has been in Year 6! In Maths, we've been comparing and ordering fractions with different denominators. We learnt an important rule — whatever you do to the denominator, you must do to the numerator! We also practised converting mixed numbers into improper fractions and enjoyed a fun '4 in a Row' game to test our skills.

In English, we continued reading *Leila and the Blue Fox* and wrote persuasive letters to gain funding for our fox mission — there were some very convincing arguments!

In PSHE, we explored the question "What is normal?" and discovered that our diverse class makes our version of "normal" something really special. We shared how people from different cultures greet each other with respect: those of us from Nigeria or Zimbabwe, bow to our elders; in Pakistan, Diksha is bowed to and is treated like the 'princess' of her household; in Turkey, Delil shared that elders' hands are kissed, and in Sri Lanka, Sheyni and Kiniru told us that hands are placed together with a gentle bow. We realised that our differences make us unique — and we love and celebrate each other for it! We are so lucky to have such an amazing class, who appreciate each other for their differences!



Did you know we are a referral agency for the Hatfield Foodbank? Speak to Mrs Jones in the office if you have any questions or need a voucher to be issued.



**SCHOOL FAMILY WORKER
DROP-IN SESSION**
at St Mary's Primary School, Welham Green
from 9-11:30am

Mon 1st December 2025

- Come & chat to your School Family Worker

* 15 minute slots available

No problem is too big or too small:

- Parenting strategies
- School attendance
- Financial concerns
- Additional needs
- Anything else



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ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE
ARCHDIOCESE OF THYATIRA AND GREAT BRITAIN
THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY
THE TWELVE APOSTLES
HERTFORDSHIRE



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Priest in Charge: Protopresbyter Joseph Paliouras

6th November 2025

Dear Mr Petty,

I would like to warmly thank you, the staff, children and parents for the love you have shown towards our Church, and for the food donation we received in support of our Foodbank.

This food will go a long way to helping many families, schools and people living alone, in poverty.

The Foodbank is growing weekly and our volunteers work very hard every week to provide essential weekly food parcels and deliveries for a growing number of people and school families, throughout the Hertfordshire borough.

I pray the Holy Apostles will be a help and support to you and your school, and may the Triune God continue to bless you with good health and strength.

With thanks and blessings.

Priest in Charge

Protopresbyter Joseph Paliouras

We raised £58.84 for
Children in Need today!
Thank you to all those
that took part.



Headlice

Headlice can make your head feel itchy or like something is moving in your hair. Treat headlice as soon as you spot them. You can treat headlice without seeing a GP.

To remove headlice, comb the hair with a special fine-toothed comb. You can buy these online or at pharmacies. There's no need to keep your child off school.

Lice can be removed by wet combing:

Wash hair with ordinary shampoo, apply lots of conditioner.

Comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends.

Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that hair is free of lice after 17 days. See [Head lice and nits - NHS](#) for more information.



Dates for your diary

November 2025

Saturday 1st Book Swap

Tuesday 11th Warm Space

Tuesday 25th Warm Space

Tuesday 4th Friendship Group

Saturday 15th Book Swap

December 2025

Tuesday 2nd Friendship Group

Tuesday 9th Warm Space

Saturday 6th Book Swap Xmas Special

Saturday 20th Book Swap

January 2026

Saturday 3rd Book Swap

Tuesday 13th Warm Space

Tuesday 27th Warm Space

Tuesday 6th Friendship Group

Saturday 17th Book Swap

February 2026

Tuesday 3rd Friendship Group

Tuesday 10th Warm Space

Tuesday 24th Warm Space

Saturday 7th Book Swap

Saturday 21st Book Swap

Friendship Group, The Sibthorpe Arms (conservatory), Station Road, Welham Green 11am-12midday, doors open at 10:30am for tea/coffee beforehand. Activities vary each month from quizzes and bingo to Guest speakers. All ages welcome.

Warm Space, The Burns Pavilion (bowls club), Bushwood Close, Welham Green. 10am-12midday. Come along for a hot drink and biscuit for 50p, a space to sit and chat but also play cards, board games etc. Ran by north Mymms Parish Council. All ages welcome.

North Mymms Book Swap, North Mymms Memorial Hall, 10am-12 Midday. Come along to swap a book or puzzle. Refreshments including homemade cake available in the main hall. All ages welcome.



North Mymms Parish Council. 1a Bushwood Close, Welham Green, North Mymms, AL9 7YZ E-mail: clerk@northmymms-pc.gov.uk