St Mary's C of E Junior School Newsletter

Care. Believe. Succeed.

'All things are possible for one who believes.'

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND DIOCESE OF ST ALBANS

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Curriculum & Enrichment

French Café

Another successful year at Le Cafe Francais! The children were buzzing with anticipation and excitement as they entered the dining hall to French cafe music and an explosion of blue, white and red. The Year 5 servers were exemplary at welcoming their 'customers' and engaging in conversations with them completely (well almost) in French. The croissants and pains au chocolat were flying and the chocolat chaud was a great success. Even les pommes, les bananes et les oranges were popular choices. It was an added bonus that this year it fell on Bastille day and the children were able to learn all about this historic French event. A wonderful morning celebrating the very best that St Mary's has to offer in immersive language learning. A l'annee prochain mes amis.

Madame Di Noia

Thank you to Madame Di Noia and Mrs Davis for organising this wonderful event.

For those of you who would like to continue practicing your French over the summer, please see the attached Glurbs flyer for your child to be able to access French learning songs and games from home. I hope you take advantage of this fantastic opportunity.

Bonnes vacances!

St Mary's Junior and Infant PTA Summer Picnic

Thank you to all our families who attended the FOSS Summer Picnic event. It was a wonderful opportunity for all to enjoy themselves, whilst raising funds for both schools. The grand total raised for our schools was **£1301.20.** Well done to our FOSS Committee and staff and parents who helped to make this possible.

St Mary's Junior Greenway Sponsored Walk 8th July 2025

What a huge success this event was! All staff, children and lots of parents took part and everyone had fun whilst raising money for new computers for children at St Mary's.

Thank you to Mr Matthew Knight and his girls, plus Mrs Castle for helping us to plan this event – it was SO worth all your efforts!

We are simply blown away- together, we raised over **£6260.50!!!!**

Thank you to all our families for embracing this and for working so hard to collect sponsors.

Our Sports Day this year was a great success, despite the changeable weather!

Well done to **Red House** for achieving the most points overall again this year!

Termly House Points winners

Green House were victorious this term -Well done! They celebrated with an afternoon of activities that were enjoyed by all.

Classroom changes for September 2025

Due to accessibility arraangements, there has needed to be a change in the location of Year 5 and Year 6 classrooms for September.

In September, Year 5 and 6 classrooms will be swapping around, meaning that:

Year 6 Sycamore Class will now be in the classroom that was previously Y5 Beech

Year 6 Maple Class will now be in the classroom that was previously Y5 Poplar

Year 5 Beech Class will now be in the classroom that was previously Y6 Sycamore

Year 5 Poplar Class will now be in the classroom that was previously Y6 Maple.

Staffing updates

This term, we are saying a fond farewell to Mrs Carter, who will be retiring after 10 years at St Mary's. We are sad to see her leave, but we know she'll now be able to spend valuable time with her grandchildren. Watch this space though, as we are still hoping she will be in school occasionally on supply! We will also be saying farewell to Mrs Davis and Mrs Callington and wish them luck in their new roles.

New staff

In september, we will be welcoming two new teachers. Miss Ludbrook will be teaching in Year 5 and Mrs Dunbar will be joining the Year 4 teaching team.
Miss Kelly and Miss Nelson will also be joining our Support Staff team.

Year 6 Production

We could not be more proud of our Year 6 children. They performed two shows on Thursday 17th July to parents and did so with great confidence and stage presence!
Well done to all the children who took part and thank you so much to Year 6 teachers and support staff who spent time organising this.

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

From September 2025, St Mary's Junior will be a Smartphone free school. Please see the attached letter for more details regarding this.

Thank you to our wonderful staff team for all their hard work this year and for making a huge difference to enriching the lives of our children.

Thank you also to all our parents and St Mary's for your continued support.

Attachments with this newsletter

- Glurbs flyer
- Smartphone Free letter to parents

Autumn Term 2025
INSET DAY: 3rd September 2025
Autumn Term: 3rd September 2025 to 19th December 2025
Autumn Half Term: 27th October to 31st October 2025
Occasional Day: 28th November 2025
Autumn Term Ends: 19th December 2025 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***

Spring Term 2026
INSET DAY: 5th January 2026
Spring Term: 5th January 2026 to 27th March 2026
Spring Half Term: 16th February to 20th February 2026
Easter Term Ends: 27th March 2026 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***
Easter Holidays: 30th March to 10th April 2026

Summer Term 2026
INSET DAY: 13th April 2026
Summer Term: 13th April to 23rd July 2026
MAY BANK HOLIDAY: 4th May 2026
Spring Half Term: 25th May to 29th May 2026
INSET DAY: Monday 1st June 2026
Summer Term Ends: 22nd July 2026 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***
INSET DAY: Thursday 23rd July 2026
Summer Holidays: 23rd July to 3rd September 2026