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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Issue: 66 11th March 2025

Curriculum & Enrichment

World Book Day 6th March 2025

Thank you everyone for your tremendous effort in making our World Book Day such a great success.

All the children looked fantastic! We had a plethora of Hogwarts pupils, Dogman made a few appearances, Little Red Riding Hood was there, the characters from Wonderland and the whole cast from The Land of Roar. Even the staff joined in!

There were loads of fun activities going on in all the classrooms. There was a great BBC live lesson about our favourite places to read, several classes watched interviews with authors about their inspiration for writing and what types of books they enjoy reading and lots of exciting bookmarks were made.

We all had a great day and feel very inspired about reading. Thank you all again for all your support.

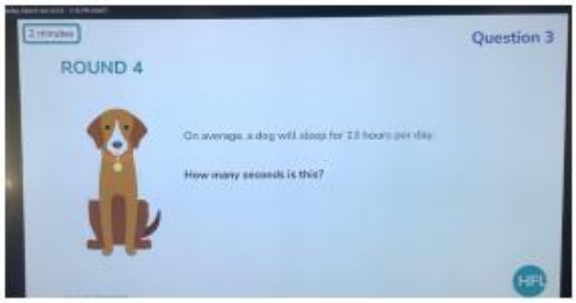
I hope you enjoy spending your book voucher. (They are valid until 23rd March!) *Mrs Atkinson*

Year 4 Geography

Year 4 children have been learning about Earthquakes and volcanoes. As part of their learning, the children completed some fabulous homework projects. Teachers were so impressed with their efforts and had a wonderful afternoon sharing them. Parents/carers, thank you so much for your support with these. It has been so lovely to see the children so excited by their learning!

Year 5 Maths Challenge

It was our live heat of the Year 5 Maths Challenge on 3rd March. Both teams competed really well. Now is the long wait for our scores to be collated and find out how we did. Well done Mathletes, you were all amazing and worked so well together on each of the challenges!

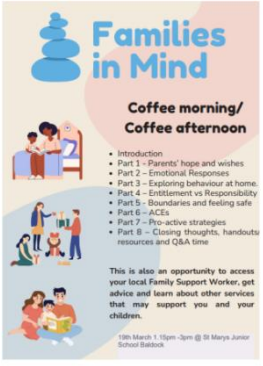


Year 6 History -WW2

Year 6 children have been learning about World War 2 within history and have also been busy with home learning. The children were asked to complete an independent study and could show what they had learnt in a variety of different ways. Some children made models; others produced a Power Point presentation – some even wrote an evacuee diary. Year 6 teachers are so proud of the outcomes- well done, Year 6!

Families In Mind Coffee afternoon

St Mary's Junior will be hosting a coffee afternoon for parents and carers on Wednesday 19th March 1.15-3pm. This is an oppportunity for parents to access your local Family Support Worker, get advice and learn about other services that may support you and your children. We hope to see you there!



- Parents' hope and wishes
- Emotional Responses
- Exploring behaviour at home.
- Entitlement vs Responsibility
- Boundaries and feeling safe
- ACEs
- Pro-active strategies
- Closing thoughts, handouts/ resources and Q&A time

Parent Consultations

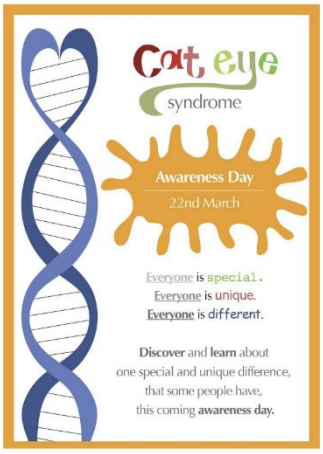
Parent consultation evenings will become available to book via Arbor, with your child's class teachers from 12 noon TODAY. They can be found under 'Guardian Consultations'.

You will have the choice of the following two dates:
Wednesday 2nd April - 16.30 - 19.30
Thursday 3rd April - 15.30 - 18.00

Please do not book one of these meetings if your child requires an SEN parents meeting. These will be held after the Easter Holidays, details for which will follow shortly.

If you need any help booking an appointment, or have any questions, please contact me in the school office.

Kind regards, Miss Dear



Cat Eye Syndrome Awareness Day 21st March

In support of Cat Eye Syndrome Awareness Day this year, on 21st March we invite all children to wear an item of orange clothing to school.

Cat Eye Syndrome is a rare genetic condition that can affect various aspects of a child's development, including their vision, hearing, and overall health. One of the families within our St Mary's Junior School community has been directly impacted by this condition, and they have graciously shared their story with us. Their child has shown remarkable strength and resilience while navigating the challenges associated with Cat Eye Syndrome, and they have become advocates for awareness and understanding this condition.

By wearing orange on this day, we can show our solidarity and support for families affected by Cat Eye Syndrome, as well as promote awareness within our school community. It's a wonderful opportunity for us to come together, demonstrate our values of Care, Believe, and Succeed, and help foster a greater understanding of this condition.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing a sea of orange on **Friday 21st March** (even if it's just a pair of orange socks in addition to their uniform!) No hair dye or make up or football tops, please.

Attention Year 6 Parents -SATS Parent meetings

Thank you for completing the survey about a SATs talk/meeting.

Due to many parents being interested in a meeting, we are offering two options:

Wednesday 12th March at 2.30pm
Wednesday 12th March at 5pm

For any parents who are unable to attend one of the meetings, we will send all information out via dojo.

Thank you,
Mrs Simmons ☺

Attachments with this newsletter:

- Growing Voices flyer
- Families in Mind Coffee Afternoon
- Cat Eye Syndrome Awareness leaflet

Spring Term 2025

Easter Term Ends: Friday 4th April 2025 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***
Easter Holidays: 7th April to 21st April 2025

Summer Term 2025

INSET DAY: 22nd April 2025
Summer Term: 22nd April to 23rd July 2025
MAY BANK HOLIDAY: 5th May 2025
Spring Half Term: 26th May to 31st May 2025
INSET DAY: Monday 2nd June 2025
Summer Term Ends: 23rd July 2025 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***
Summer Holidays: 24th July to 2nd September 2025

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: 13tg April to 23rd July 2025
MAY BANK HOLIDAY: 4th May 2026
Spring Half Term: 25th May to 29th May 2026
INSET DAY: Monday 1st June 2026
Summer Term Ends: 23rd July 2026 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***
INSET DAY: Thursday 23rd July 2026
Summer Holidays: 24th July to 3rd September 2026