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

Curriculum Showcase opening event

It was lovely to see so many families attend our open evening on Monday 8th July from both our school and St Mary's Infant School.

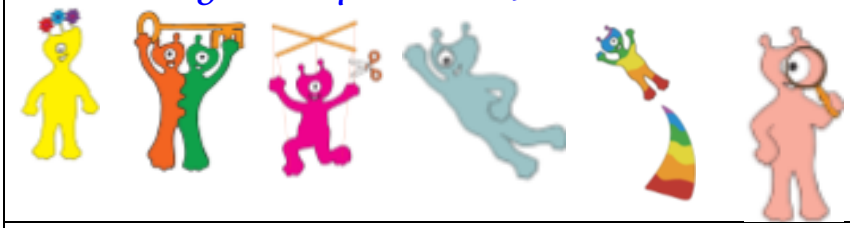
Children had the opportunity to visit their new classrooms for September and share their learning from this year with their parents and carers. In the main hall, our school curriculum offer was showcased with examples of children's work on display. In addition to this, we were joined by a representative from the School Library Service who was available to support any families wanting to sign up to the Summer Reading Challenge. Free food samples were kindly provided by Herts Catering also for anyone wanting to try a taste of our school lunch menu.

We hope everyone who visited enjoyed their time in school.

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended and to those who kindly made a school donation in exchange for some freshly grown vegetables courtesy of Gardening Club !

The curriculum content taught at St Marys Junior School is sequential and builds on prior learning. We incorporate opportunities for both skills and knowledge based learning to happen, which allows our children to gradually develop a deeper understanding of the skills and processes with all subjects.

'All things are possible for one who believes'



The GREAT ST MARY'S CAKE OFF! Wednesday 10th July

Thank you so much for the huge amount of effort that went into our entries for The Great St Mary's Cake Off.

We were so impressed by the creativity and effort that went into each entry - it was super difficult for our judging panel to choose!

However, the following entries were chosen to be the prize winners:

Best children's large cake -Florence (Sycamore)

Best children's cup cakes -Arthur (Oak)

Best adult's large cake - Mrs Coggins-Eversden

Best adult's cup cakes -Mrs Reeve

Well done to all of you! Pupil Parliament raised £287, half of which will go to the Great Ormond Street charity and half for their school Playground Equipment Project 💰

Florence

Arthur

Mrs Coggins-Eversden

Mrs Reeve

St Mary's Infant & Junior Schools' Family Summer Picnic Fundraising Event

Thank you to all who attended our Joint Schools Summer Picnic event on Friday 12th July. It was so wonderful to see all our families from both schools enjoying themselves so much.

Special thanks go out to the staff and parent volunteers at both schools for making this event possible.

In total, we were able to raise almost £900 for the Juniors towards our Playground Equipment Project! Thank you so much.

Thank you!

End of Year Values Awards Assembly

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our end of year Values assembly. Congratulations to all children who received an award.

Elm	Oak	Willow	Mulberry	Poplar	Beech	Sycamore	Maple
Elliot- Ambition Esme-Ray- Curious Nellie - Inclusive	Kye - Growth Isla- Independence Lola- Co-operation Ronnie -PE	Frankie- Growth William- Curiosity Oli- Ambition Logan -PE	Debbie - Ambition Felicity- Inclusive Elijah- Independence	Paige- Cooperation Benny- Inclusivity Freddie F- Curiosity Hughie-PE	Parker - Ambition Jessie– Independence Freddie F- Curiosity	Logan - Inclusive Taylah- Ambition Mikey- Independence Georgina -PE	Lillian - Growth Max - Curiosity Ray - Co-operation Roy -PE

Dear Year 6,

It has been an absolute pleasure to be your Headteacher. Each of you has brought your own unique flavour to St Mary's and I look forward to seeing you flourish as you take the next step in your lives.

Some of you are great at mathematics, others English, netball, tennis, violin, trumpet, sewing, cooking, drawing, drama, telling jokes, computing, sport and so many other things that I can't list them all here! Take these skills and build on them. Don't forget to work on your weaknesses as well - we all have them, and it's a strength to admit this.

Be brave about meeting people and trying something you haven't done before. Have big dreams and ambitions. Don't worry if they don't happen, try something else. It's easy to feel defeated at times but view these moments as a challenge. Learn from your mistakes and pick yourself up to try again.

As you get older, you'll get to know yourself better. Always be true to yourself. Never try to be what you are not. Most importantly - have fun and enjoy life! Smile and make others smile around you. Don't ever put anything nasty in print or on screen, however horrible someone else might have been.

Be kind.

*You are all special and wonderful in your own unique way and we are **SUPER PROUD** of you all. Good luck to you all - go forth and make the world great!*

Mrs BrittonX

I'd like to thank all our wonderful teachers and support staff for all their hard work this year. I am so grateful for their dedication and passion every day at St Mary's.

'Thank you for shaping the minds of our children and for the care and energy that goes into educating them.'

Without our parent volunteers to help with reading, coming along to school trips and helping out at school events, St Mary's wouldn't have the wonderful community feel that it does – thank you so much.

Ms Jordan

At the end of this term, we will be saying goodbye to Ms Jordan. We wish her well for the future.

Rosemary Charsley, Chair Of Governors

We will also be saying a fond farewell to our wonderful Chair Of Governors, Rosemary Charsley. Rosemary started volunteering at St Mary's in 2009 and has been Chair since 2016. She will be retiring from her role and enjoying a well-earned rest!

We will be holding a farewell assembly for her on the 19th July to thank her for all she has done for St Mary's; for her continued support, kindness and her endless wisdom. Rosemary will be greatly missed as Chair Of Governors, but will still be volunteering in school from time to time to hear readers.

Team St Mary's would like to thank you all for the support you've given us this year.

Have a fabulous summer!

Annual Reports.

The parent comment slip attached must be signed and returned to school. This is because we have a statutory duty to prove that parents have seen their child's report and have the opportunity to comment, if they wish. Whilst writing a comment is not obligatory, it is very helpful and we are very interested to read those you wish to make. Please endeavour to return slips by the end of term on **Friday 19th July,** either to your child's class teacher, or via the school office.

Free Relationship Support Courses for Hertfordshire Parents and Carers

Disagreements are a normal part of life. How you approach them can make all the difference to you, your partner, and your children. Learn skills to navigate changes in your relationships, develop positive communication skills and learn practical steps that you can bring into your child's life to help them cope during and/or after a separation or divorce.

Parenting When Separated: A 6-week group-based course for separated parents that focuses on the emotional impact of separation and supporting communication between co-parents. We have 2-day time courses confirmed and a further evening course being planned:
Online course starting on Tuesday 3rd September until 8th October 10-12:30
Face to Face course to be held in Stevenage (venue tbc) starting on Thursday 17th October until the 28th November (excluding 31st October for half term) 10-12:30.
Parenting When Separated Referral Form (hertfordshire.gov.uk)
https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/5SHI7N/

OnePlusOne's digital interventions:

3 online courses aimed at new parents, intact parents and parents that are separated.

Arguing Better

For all parenting journeys

Disagreements are a normal part of life. How you approach them can make all the difference to you, your partner, and your children.

Me, You and Baby Too

For new parenting journeys

Learn how to navigate the changes that happen in a relationship when a baby arrives.

Getting It Right For Children

For all co-parenting journeys

Learn how to develop positive communication skills that enable you to parent co-operatively and work out solutions together. The course can be completed at your own pace independently or with support from staff at your local Family Centre or Local School Partnership. You can get started with this digital course as soon as you register for a free OnePlusOne account. All courses and further support can be found on the Relationship support for parents | Hertfordshire County Council.

Diary dates

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2 September 2024 to Friday 20th December 2024

Autumn Half Term: 28th October 2024 to 1st November 2024

Christmas Break: Mon 23rd December 2024 to Mon 6th January 2025

INSET DAY: Monday 2nd September 202

INSET DAY: Friday 25th October 2024

OCCASIONAL DAY: Friday 29th November 2024

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January 2025 to Friday 4th April 2025

Spring Half Term: 17th February 2025 to 21st February 2025

INSET DAY: Monday 6th January 2025

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 to Wednesday 23rd July 2025

Summer Half Term: 26th May 2025 to 30th May 2025

Bank Holiday: Monday 21st April 2025

INSET DAY: Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Bank Holiday: Monday 5th May 2025

INSET DAY: Monday 2nd June 2025

SATs Week: 12th May 2025 to 16th May 2025

Transition Day: Thursday 10th July 2025