# 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: 67 28th March 2025**

## Curriculum & Enrichment

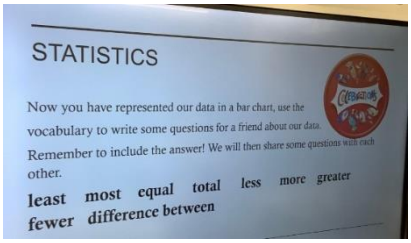
## World Maths Day 26th March 2025

**Y3**

Year 3 children started their new maths topic of statistics. They used the theme for a fun introduction using Skittles which the children clearly enjoyed! They used bar graphs and compared these with pictograms.

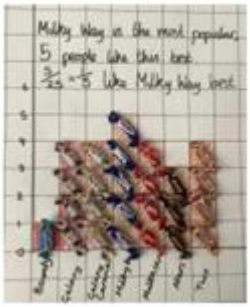
**Y4**

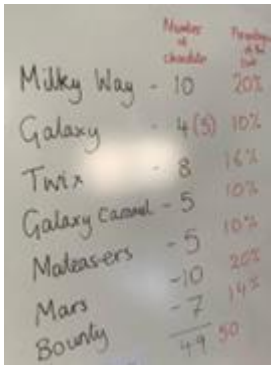
Year 4 children used lots of the maths skills they have been learning recently and applied them to a box of Celebrations ☺
Children sorted them, made tally charts and bar graphs of the different chocolates. They then used the data to calculate fractions and, finally they wrote the totals in Roman Numerals I V X L C D M




**Y5**

Year 5 chose to celebrate this by using chocolate and sweets and seeing what maths they could find. Children made bar charts and tally charts, weighed the chocolates and measured how far they would reach if they laid them all out in a line. Children also thought about fractions and percentages and which were the class's favourites….it turns out, there is quite a lot of maths that can be found in a box of Celebrations or a bag of Skittles….and of course they got to eat them too. It was a really good day!

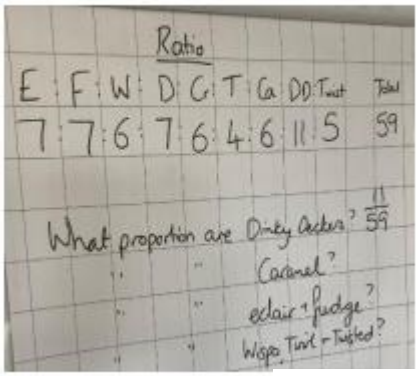




## Y6

Year 6 started by looking at equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages. We then completed some ratio work and finished by creating a bar chart.

A very busy maths lesson. The children particularly liked eating the chocolates at the end 😁




## A-LIFE

A-Life visited us this week and provided health and well-being workshops for all children.

**Year 3** children were learning about fitness and how this is good for a healthy body and mind. They took part is circuit fitness and had great fun!

Year 4 were learning about the human body and about healthy foods and how this can help us stay fit and healthy.

**Year 5** children explored the subject of drugs and alcohol. The aim of this was to help our children to understand and consider the issues around the potential dangers and health problems associated with drugs, alcohol and smoking.

**Year 6** focused on the evidence-based '5 Ways to Wellbeing' and using a hands-on style of teaching. This workshop enabled children to delve into their learning, understanding how physical & mental health are intricately linked, and the importance of looking after (and improving) their mental health & wellbeing.

## Staffing updates

Our Deputy headteacher, **Mrs McQuade**, will not be returning to St Mary's after the Easter break. We wish her good luck with her furture ventures.

As a result of Mrs McQuade leaving us, I'm delighted to tell you that **Miss Scammell** will be stepping up as Acting Deputy headteacher after Easter. We have a new teacher, Miss Williams, who will be teaching in Mulberry Class for three days per week to release Miss Scammell so that she can focus on strategic leadership alongside Mrs Britton. I'm sure that the children will enjoy getting to know Miss Williams when she's in school next week and after the Easter break.

After the Easter break, **Mrs Reeve** will no longer be teaching Willow Class on Tuesday afternoons. **Mrs Di Noia** will resume teaching full time in Willow Class from the start of summer term.

**Mrs Lincoln** will be having an operation during the Easter holidays, meaning that she will be absent for some time at the start of summer term. Mrs Simmons will be teaching Sycamore Class on Thursday and Friday mornings until SATS week and Miss Williams will be teaching Sycamore on Thursday and Friday afternoons.

We also have a new Higher Level Teaching Assistant joining our team in summer term. **Mrs Callington** has a wealth of experience within education settings and we are delighted that she will be working with children in all year groups, both in a teaching capacity and with intervention groups.

# School Vision and Values Questionnaire

We value your feedback as we continually strive to improve our school and ensure that it reflects our Christian values and curriculum effectively. We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to fill out our questionnaire using the link below. Your honest responses will help us better serve your children and the school community.

Our school vision statement:

***Care. Believe. Succeed.***

'*All things are possible for one who believes*' – Mark 9:23

St Mary's Junior School works to foster a culture of respect and compassion, where children are confident to take risks, persevere and embrace challenges. We strive to provide dynamic learning without limits, to give children the wisdom, skills and knowledge they need to aim high and achieve their full potential as unique individuals within an inclusive environment.

**Our Learning Values**

Ambition, Curiosity, Co-operation, Inclusivity, Growth, Independence.

**Our Christian Values:**

Hope, Awe and Wonder, Peace, Love, Joy, Courage.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScY8dyW-QqGk_puJfYD9lGb_JMEgbbkwTodPNrhn4fcUB0m9Q/viewform?usp=dialog

Parenting workshops

Please use the link below if you are interested in any of the following parenting workshops:

https://tinyurl.com/dspl1news

- Springboard Letchworth Open Day 1 April
- School Avoidance Workshop
- Sleep Workshop
- Developing Child's Literacy
- PDA Online Support Group
- Identifying ADHD/Autism

Attachments with this newsletter

- Flute lessons sign-up sheet

## 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: 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: 23rd July 2026 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***
**INSET DAY: Thursday 23rd July 2026**
Summer Holidays: 24th July to 3rd September 2026