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

We've had a wonderful first week back in school and it has been so lovely to see the children's happy, smiling faces!

Our new Year 3 children have settled in really well and it is a delight to see their positive energy, enthusiasm and curiosity. Joining a new school can be challenging, but they are already showing us how fabulous they are at following new routines and our school values. They have been especially fabulous at coming into Collective Worship each day. We expect great things from them!

We are set to have a busy term ahead of us, with lots of exciting events and learning opportunities for the children. Curriculum maps for each year group are attached for your reference.

Year 3 maths

Our new Y3 children have been using base 10 to build 3 digit numbers. There were quite a few 'light bulb' moments too!

Pupil Parliament

Congratulations to all our new Pupil Parliament members. They worked so hard to convince their peers that they would be the perfect choice!

Oak: Isabelle J and Cleo
Elm: Teni and Teddy
Willow: Maisy and Cody
Mulberry: Theo and Vinnie
Poplar: Elliot and Bea
Beech: Izzy and Lola
Sycamore: Oli, Bridget, Khayern and Ruby
Maple: Debbie, Talitha, Matthew and Emily.

On Friday 26th September, St Mary's Junior & Infant schools will be hosting a Macmillan coffee morning from **10-11.30am in the Junior School Hall** and we warmly invite all members of our school and local community.

However, in order for this event to be a success, we are asking for donations of cakes, cupcakes etc (no nuts please as we are nut-free schools), which can be either homemade or shop bought. Cakes can be taken into the school office at the Junior school and into classes at the Infants from Wednesday 24th September onwards and all donations will be very gratefully received! If cakes are homemade, please include a list of ingredients inside the tin.

Our Year 6 children are excited to be running the stalls. Please bring donations of cash only to pop into their donation boxes.

Bring your friends and family! All are welcome.
No need to RSVP, just turn up!

SEND and Parent Consultation meetings

YEAR 6 SEN Meetings will take place on Monday 29th September 2025

Maple Class- AM (9am- 12pm)

Sycamore Class- PM (1pm- 3:30pm)

If your child is on the SEN register and wish to book an appointment for this time, please indicate the time bracket, e.g. 9-10am, 10-11am and 11am-12 for Maple and 1-2pm, 2-3pm, 3-3:30pm for Sycamore.

I appreciate that these times may not be suitable, but we can offer face-to-face, telephone call or TEAM's meeting (virtual). Due to time constraints I can not offer alternative times, but a meeting can be made for Parent Consultations towards at the end of October half term.

Once timings are allocated I shall make individual contact with families.

Mrs Reeve

Parent Consultation dates: Weds 22nd and Thurs 23rd October.

If your child is on the SEND register, you will be invited to attend an SEND parent review meeting with the SENCO and class teacher before the 22nd October. You will not need to make an appointment for Parent consultations if you attend the SEND meeting.
Parents will be notified in due course about how and when they can book an appointment through Arbor for all parent meetings.

SEND Parent Information

👀Take a look at the FREE upcoming workshops available to Hertfordshire parents/carers 👀

Don't worry if you can't join a workshop 'live', the session will be recorded and emailed to all REGISTERED participants after the event to view for 7 days.

Your child doesn't need a formal diagnosis for you to attend. For full details and to book your FREE ticket go to Eventbrite - click this link https://bit.ly/3SYdUBG or scan the QR codes in the images.

All workshops are funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are for Hertfordshire residents only, anyone registered for a workshop who is not from Hertfordshire will be unable to access the workshop

POLITE REMINDERS

We have some children in school who have severe allergies to nuts. Please do not send your child into school with any food items that contain nuts – this includes hazelnut spread (Nutella) or any cereal bars that contain nuts.

In addition, we would like to remind parents that break time snacks should only be healthy snacks; no chocolate/chocolate biscuits or crisps please. Lunch boxes should also not contain chocolate bars or sweets. Lunchtime staff will remove these and hand them back to children to take home at the end of the day.

Extract from our school prospectus

Packed Lunches For children who bring a packed lunch, we ask that they are provided with a healthy, balanced choice of sandwiches, salads and fresh fruit. Some of the healthy lunches children bring are quite inventive including pasta salad, wraps, different types of whole grain rolls and sandwiches. Vegetable sticks and grapes are popular as are home made cakes and cookies. Please keep the amount of processed and packaged food to a minimum and no sweets or chocolate bars please! Please do not send in nut based products as we have some children in school who have nut allergies.

Mid-morning snack Children are encouraged to bring in a piece of fresh fruit, a cereal bar or plain biscuit for morning break. **Sweets, chocolate snacks and crisps are not allowed.**

Thank you for your help with this ☺

Uniform reminders

The children are looking very smart in their new uniforms. There are still a few children who are wearing trainers to school on uniform days. Quite a few children are wearing trainers on PE days that are not blue, black, white or grey.

- *Please ensure that your child is wearing black school shoes. Trainers should only be worn on PE days.*
- *Children are not allowed to wear jewellery of any kind to school. Children wearing earrings may* ***wear simple unobtrusive studs.*** *These must be removed or covered during PE lessons and swimming.*

P. E. Kit

- All pupils in the school take part in physical education activities and should have the following kit:

  Indoors – black shorts, light blue or white T-Shirt.

  Outdoors – black shorts (black or navy tracksuit bottoms for colder weather), light blue or white T-shirt, (black or navy sweatshirt for colder weather) and trainers. **No hoodies or clothing with coloured/large branded logos please**. Trainers should only be worn for outdoor PE and should be in line with school colours **(either black, blue, white or grey).**
- Long hair should be tied back for all PE lessons.
- Children taking part in team sports will be given a school kit for inter-school competitions.

Children should come into school in their PE kit on PE lesson days.

PLEASE NAME ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM AND DO NOT SEND CHILDREN IN WITH LARGE SPORTSBAGS AS WE DO NOT HAVE THE SPACE IN THE CLOAKROOMS.

Attachments with this newsletter

- In Year Variation parent letter
- Y3-6 Curriculum Overviews Autumn 2025
- Best Start in Life message
- Macmillan Coffee morning flyer
- Public Health Letter

Autumn Term 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