



newsletter

Week ending
14th March 2025

Our Vision Statement **'Learning for Life'**

'Learning for life' with Jesus' promise of 'life in all its fullness' is at the heart of St Mary's. At our school children are seen as unique and will feel loved, safe and empowered to flourish so they reach their full potential both academically and personally.

Dear St Marys Families,

It has been a fantastic week of Science enrichment! Thank you to Mrs Masters and Mrs Severn who organised everything for the children this week.

Are your children able to use a knife and fork correctly? Do you sit and enjoy a meal with your children at a table?

Some cultures may choose not to use cutlery, but if you do wish to use cutlery, around 2 years old may be a good time to introduce cutlery. We recommend introducing a spoon and fork first. It often takes until around the age of 7 years old for a child to be able to independently use a knife and fork together. (NHS guidance)

At St Mary's, we want the children to be the best they can be academically, socially and personally and we feel very passionately that what we do in school, should develop the whole child. Part of our curriculum in school, is to teach the children 'Life Skills' that will be important in life and for their future development. We need your help with the life skill of using a knife and fork and developing your children's bilateral co-ordination, which can help them in several areas of their development and to meet developmental milestones.

Bilateral coordination activities are essential for coordinated and fluid movements that require both sides of the body.

[Bilateral Coordination Activities](#)

In the school hall, we are seeing an ever-increasing number of children who are unable to use a knife and fork correctly. Children up to and including Y6, are seen trying to use their cutlery but the vast majority are unable to use a knife and fork well and scoop or stab at their food instead. They are lacking the co-ordination and skills needed.

We need your help to teach the children these skills at home, as you are able to do this in a much smaller family environment. Here is a link to further information and a video you could share with the children.

[Developing your child's cutlery skills](#)

[NHS – How to Use a Knife and Fork](#)

If your child has any additional needs and barriers to developing these skills, hopefully you will find the links helpful.



I hope you all have a great weekend.

From Mrs Chambers

HSLW

In this week's [HSLW weekly bulletin](#), you will find information on the following:

- 'Easter Eggstravaganza' – Byfleet library
- The Parent Handbook
- Community Fridge – West Byfleet
- Video resources from Mindworks, Surrey
- Support for Young Carers

There is also a fun family activity to try at home and a recipe idea.

Wildlife Garden

In the autumn term, year 6 created a small wildlife garden and planted lots of bulbs - with the recent warmer weather and sunshine, they've started to come up. We planted a special wildlife friendly mix, which come out at different times, so we will have a variety of flowers for bees, butterflies and other insects over the coming months.

Mrs Hurst



Year 5 Football

We are very excited, and proud, to announce that our Year 5 boys football team have made it to the WASPs League final! At the end of January, 10 Year 5 boys played three matches against local schools. They won 2 and drew 1 meaning they will progress to the finals against the other schools who win their leagues. We cannot wait to see them play again in May!

Miss O'Brien and Miss Sher



Star of the Week



Moles	Ronnie “For showing a good understanding of the Nursery routines.”
Hedgehogs	Autumn “For always working hard and showing us how much you have learnt.”
Rabbits	Thea A “for always being kind in Rabbit Class.”
Cheetahs	Cooper “for writing a fantastic retell of George and the Dragon.”
Panthers	Aidan “for always being a fantastic St Marys Learner!”
Lions	Noah H “for fantastic work in computing this week!”
Tigers	Robin “For being kind and helpful – 100% time. What a role model!”
Polar Bears	Leonie “superb effort during our computing unit using the Stop Motion Animation program.”
Pandas	Peyton “for her enthusiasm and effort in Spanish! Keep up the great work!”
Hippos	Matilda “for fabulous creativity when writing to build suspense and tension!”
Elephants	Hailey “for really considering her language in her hot task plan.”
Kangaroos	Ralph “for greatly improved confidence with his reading.”
Giraffes	Dexter “for showing consideration with his word choice in English.”
Lemurs	Ayaan “for listening intently to feedback given, and having a growth mindset towards all learning”
Chimps	Jack C “for putting so much effort into editing and improving his writing!”

Times Table Rock Stars

Year 3 & 4:	Lexi - Elephants Ida - Elephants Teddy - Hippos
Year 5 & 6:	Dexter - Giraffes Safa - Giraffes Chloe - Lemurs

Dates for your Diary

(New dates/events/changes shown in bold)

w/c 17.03.2025	Yr 6 Mock SATS Week
18.03.2025	Painshill Trip – Yr 4
20.03.2025	Hobbledown Trip – Yr 1
21.03.2025	Comic Relief / Red Nose Day (date change from 14.03.25)
24.03.2025	Feet First Training – Yr 3
25.03.2025	Feet First Training – Yr 3 (Extra date)
25.03.2025	Year 4 Parents Residential Meeting – 8.45am (in hall)
26.03.2025	Tigers Class Assembly – 9am
26.03.2025	Open Classrooms 3.10 – 3.40pm
27 & 28.03.2025	Wonderful Women Crafternoon - PTA
01.04.2025	Yr 4 Easter Service - St Marys Church - 9.15am Yr 4 Parents Invited
01.04.2025	Easter Trail - PTA
02.04.2025	Class Photographs
03.04.2025	Wisley Gardens – Yr 2
04.04.2025	End of Term - 1.05pm
22.04.2025	Start of Summer Term
29.04.2025	Open Classrooms 3.10 – 3.40pm
30.04-02.05.25	Kingswood Residential – Yr 4
30.04.2025	Pizza Express Trip – Cheetahs
01.05.2025	Bocketts Farm – Yr R
02.05.2025	Brooklands Museum Trip – Yr 3 (date changed from 29/04)
07.05.2025	Kangaroos Class Assembly – 9am
07.05.2025	Pizza Express Trip – Panthers
09.05.2025	Full Governing Body Meeting - 5pm
10.05.2025	Circus – PTA Event
W/c 12.05.2025	KS2 SATS Week / SATS Breakfast
14-16.05.2025	Bikeability – Yr 4
16.05.2025	Park Trip – Yr 6
21.05.2025	Nursery ONLY Egyptian Day
23.05.2025	Ancient Egyptian Day
w/c 26.05.2025	Half Term
04.06.2025	Lemurs Class Assembly – 9am
10.06.2025	Fullbrook Away Day – Yr 5 (changed from 19/5)
17.06.2025	Shah Jahan Mosque Trip – Yr 1
17.06.2025	Leavers Service at Guildford Cathedral – Yr 6
18.06.2025	Lions Class Assembly – 9am
20.06.2025	Quiz Night – PTA
25.06.2025	Nursery Sports Day
26.06.2025	Open Classrooms 3.10 – 3.40pm
27.06.2025	Sports Day
02.07.2025	RESERVE Nursery Sports Day
03.07.2025	Full Governing Body Meeting - 5pm
04.07.2025	RESERVE Sports Day
09.07.2025	Hedgehogs Class Assembly – 9am
09 & 10.07.2025	Year 6 Productions to Parents – 6pm
16.07.2025	Year 6 Leavers Day/BBQ (not 17 th)
18.07.2025	Year 6 Leavers Service
18.07.2025	End of term – 1.05pm