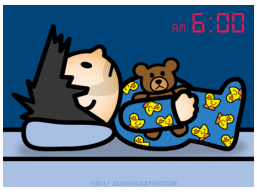
St. Mary's CofE Primary 'Learning for Life'

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newsletter

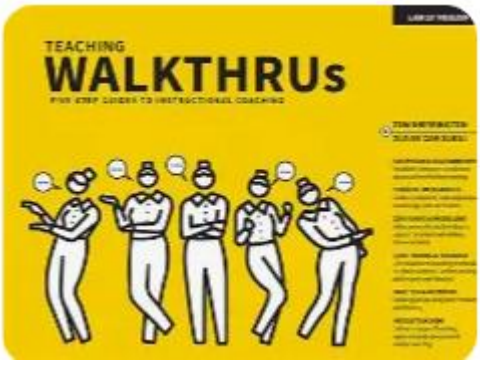
Week ending
15th October 2026

Dear St Mary's Families,



It was our Year 4 activity day and sleepover in the school hall yesterday -it was a new experience in place of the usual Year 4 residential as there was not enough parental interest in running it this year. It was myself, Mrs Barnes and Aria's mummy who stayed over night with the children and it really was great fun! Spending time with the children in the relaxed, fun context of a 'residential' is always a pleasure. We are all a little sleepy today but I hope the children will go home and share how much fun it was experiencing the school at night time for one giant sleepover! A great way to start the half term .

As part of our ongoing school improvement ,today in staff INSET, we focused on teaching and leanring in the morning and trauma informed training this afternoon with Anna, an Educational Phychologist from Surrey.



Our teaching and leanring focus this morning was leanring more about the WalkThru techniques. WalkThru techniques are structured, five-step instructional methods designed to make complex teaching strategies clear, actionable, and evidence-based. The strategies we have chosen to focus on develop futher mechanisms to engage learners and enscourgae collaboaration in lessons.

On Thursday, myself and Mrs Amision interviwed all of the eyar 6 children who applied to become a Junior Leader and I am looking forward to revealing who they will be after half term! The children showed great courage in applying and taking part in the interview process and I am very proud of them for doing this.

On behalf of us all we hope you have a great two week half term !
From Mrs Chambers

Home School Link Worker

In this week's HSLW weekly bulletin, you will find information on the following:

- Kids eat for free (or for £1) during October half term
- 'The Parenting Smart' – How to help your child feel more confident.
- Visit Surrey – What's on during October half term
- Kooth

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

Photograph Orders

Reminder: closing date for photograph orders with Yellow Photography, is Tuesday 20th October. Please note, orders they receive after this date may be subject to a late fee.

Just like last year we will be supporting the Samaritan's Purse with their Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. For more information, please follow the links below.

Operation Christmas Child: https://video.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child-2025-overview/

How to pack a shoe box and more information: https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child

If you would like to take part, we would love for your shoe boxes to be brought in to your child's classroom on the **Monday 9th November 2026**. The school will be taking these to the local drop off point on the **16th November 2026.**

Thank you for your generosity,

Year 4 team

Parents' Survey About Playtime at School:

We are reviewing our playtimes and considering how to improve them by introducing the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) Primary Programme.

Can you help? We'd really like to know what you think about playtimes now. Please follow the link to complete a survey on Google to tell us what you think currently about playtimes at St Mary's from your perspective. The children will be completing their own class surveys when they return after half term.

https://forms.gle/U4BsgfMFwsEx8gxy9

Many thanks,

Mrs Masters OPAL Play Lead

Children in Need 2026 – Friday 13th November

(Nursery – Wednesday 11th November)



For Children in Need this year, we will be joining people across the UK to take on a challenge inspired by the number 26. We will raise money to help ensure every child has someone there for them. St Mary's children will take part in the "Strictly 26 Step" dance challenge during the week where we will learn a 26 step dance routine and perform it to our class.

The children can also take part in a colouring competition – teachers are handing these out to those who wish to take part. Competition entries need to be handed in by **Wednesday 11th November** as we will be giving out prizes in assembly on Friday 13th November. This is a competition to be done at home. Please name all entries.

Scopay will be open for you to donate to Children in Need over next week to encourage your children to support this great charity.
Please donate £1 or whatever you can.

It is **not** a mufti day this year as we already have a couple this half term, but children are able to wear the fundraising headgear or special T-shirts if they have them and wish to.

Thank you, EYFS team

PTA Fireworks Display

Our annual fireworks display is taking place on 4th November.
Tickets are available on the link below so please make sure you get yours in advance.

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofstmarys/

It promises to be a fantastic evening for the whole family, with food, drinks and fairground stalls available on the night.





Star of the Week



Moles:	Ariya “for always being a fantastic St Marys learner.”
Hedghehogs:	Oscar “for being a fantastic St Mary’s learner all week!”
Rabbits:	Ashley “for amazing contributions on the carpet – Well done Ashley!”
Cheetahs:	Oscar “for your fantastic attitude to learning!”
Panthers:	Hattie “for always doing writing activities in Discovery Time!”
Lions:	Thea B “For being a super First Aid monitor, and, for always being Ready, Respectful and Safe”
Tigers:	Scarlett “for being ready for learning and trying your best in every lesson.”
Polar Bears:	Florence “for Showing great courage in the Harvest Festival Assembly.”
Pandas:	Rory “for great focus and clear delivery at the Harvest Assembly.”
Elephants:	Lottie “for her wonderful handwriting.”
Hippos:	Madison “for always being a great class member and helping others”.
Kangaroos:	Blake “for improved concentration and focus during teaching inputs – keep up the great work!”
Giraffes:	Jesse “for his improved focus and ability to ignore distractions, leading to some fantastic, imaginative ideas in his English TV report.”
Chimps:	Abrish “for showing enthusiasm and determination towards her learning by completing extra maths work!”
Lemurs:	Zara “for always trying her best at everything she does!”

Times Table Rock Stars

Year 3 / 4:	Blake - Hippos
	Sabina – Hippos
	Rosie – Elephants
Year 5 / 5:	Aston – Chimps
	Amelia – Kangaroos
	Erin – Lemurs

Dates for your Diary

16.10.2026	INSET day
19 – 30.10.2026	Half Term (2 weeks)
20.10.2026	Photograph orders close
02.11.2026	Y6 Shakespeare Workshop
03.11.2026	Parent Voice Meeting
03.11.2026	Whole School - Robin Hood Pantomime
04.11.2026	Fireworks Night – PTA
06.11.2026	Mufti Day for PTA – Colour Hamper Donations
09.11.2026	Shoebox Appeal donations in by
09.11.2026	Parents Evening ONLINE
10.11.2026	YR Freshwater Theatre
11.11.2026	**NURSERY ONLY Children in Need * date change**
11.11.2026	Y6 Remembrance Service in the hall
11.11.2026	Y1 Local Area Walk
11.11.2026	Parents Evening INPERSON
12.11.2026	Kangaroos Class Assembly
12.11.2026	Y4 Watts Gallery Trip
13.11.2026	**Children in Need * date change**
17.11.2026	Y1 Fairy Tale Workshop
18.11.2026	YR Maths Workshop 9am
19.11.2026	Elephants Class Assembly
19.11.2026	Byfleet Christmas Lights Switch On – Choir
23 – 26.11.2026	Lifebus
26.11.2026	Lemurs Class Assembly
26.11.2026	Open Classrooms – 3.10pm
02.12.2026	Nursery Nativity - **9.30am**
03.12.2026	Parent Voice Meeting 8.45am
04.12.2026	Mufti Day for PTA Tombola
04.12.2026	YR-6 Life Skills
05.12.2026	Christmas Market – PTA
07.12.2026	Choir singing at Barnes Wallis
08.12.2026	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
08.12.2026	KS2 Carol Service – Choir
09.12.2026	Reception Nativity – 9.15am
10.12.2026	KS2 Nativity – 2pm
11.12.2026	KS2 Nativity – 9.30am
16.12.2026	Y5 Christmas Service
18.12.2026	End of Autumn Term 1.05pm
04.01.2027	Start of Spring Term
06.01.2027	Parent Voice 8.45am
12.01.2027	Nursery and Reception - Little City
13.01.2027	Y2 Great Fire of London Workshop
14.01.2027	Nursery and Reception - Little City
18.01.2027	Choir – Young Voices O2 Trip
21.01.2027	Pandas Class Assembly
22.01.2027	PTA Break the Rules Day
26.01.2027	Open Classrooms – 3.10pm
28.01.2027	Hippos Class Assembly
29.01.2027	Y3 Chertsey Museum Roman Workshop
03.02.2027	Parent Voice Meeting
04.02.2027	Panthers Class Assembly
04.02.2027	PTA KS1 Friendship Disco – 5-6pm
09.02.2027	Safer Internet Day
10.02.2027	Ancient Egyptian Day
11.02.2027	Y6 Buddhist Temple Trip
11.02.2027	Cheetahs Class Assembly
11.02.2027	PTA KS2 Friendship Disco – 5-6pm
12.02.2027	YR – 6 Life Skills
15 – 19.02.2027	Half Term
23.02.2027	Y4 Painshill Trip
26.02.2027	Open Classrooms – 3.10pm
03.03.2027	Parent Voice Meeting

03 – 05.03.2027	PTA Wonderful Women
03.03.2027	World Book Day (NURSERY ONLY)
03.03.2027	YR – 6 West End In Schools Workshops
04.03.2027	World Book Day
05.03.2027	YR – 6 West End In Schools Workshops
11.03.2027	Chimps Class Assembly
15-16.03.2027	Y3 Feet First Walking Training
16.03.2027	Eco Great Big School Clean
16.03.2027	Yr 1 British Wildlife Centre Trip (date changed)
17.03.2027	Red Nose Day (NURSERY ONLY)
18.03.2027	Polar Bears Class Assembly
19.03.2027	Red Nose Day
23.03.2027	Y4 Easter Service
23.03.2027	Easter Bonnet Parade & PTA Easter Event
24.03.2027	End of Spring Term 1.05pm
25.03.2027	INSET Day
12.04.2027	Start of Summer Term
12.04.2027	Y4 Humanist Workshop
13.04.2027	YR – 6 Life Skills
14.04.2027	Class Photographs
16.04.2027	Y2 Wisley Trip
16.04.2027	Hippos Library Trip
22.04.2027	Tigers Class Assembly
22.04.2027	Eco - Earth Day
23.04.2027	Y3 Brooklands Museum Trip
23.04.2027	Elephants Library Trip AM
23.04.2027	Panthers Library Trip PM
26.04.2027	Open Classrooms – 3.10pm
28.04.2027	Nursery – Our World Day
28.04.2027	Lions Class Assembly
29.04.2027	Our World Day
30.04.2027	Reception Bocketts Farm Trip
30.04.2027	Cheetahs Library Trip
03.05.2027	Parent Voice Meeting
05 – 07.05.2027	Y4 Bikeability
06.05.2026	Rabbits Class Assembly
07.05.2027	Rabbits Library Trip AM
07.05.2027	Hedgehogs Library Trip PM
10 – 13.05.2027	Y6 SATS Week
14.05.2027	Y6 Park Trip
17.05.2027	Y5 Vikings Workshop
19.05.2027	Nursery Sports Day
20.05.2027	Nursery Sports Day
20.05.2027	PTA KS1 Summer Disco 5 – 6pm
21.05.2027	YR – 6 Sports Day
26.05.2027	Y1 Mosque Trip
26.05.2027	Open Classrooms – 3.10pm
26.05.2027	Nursery Sports Day – RESERVE DATE
27.05.2027	Hedgehogs Class Assembly
27.05.2027	Nursery Sports Day – RESERVE DATE
27.05.2027	PTA KS2 Summer Disco 5 – 6pm
28.05.2027	YR – 6 Sports Day – RESERVE DATE
31.05 – 04.06.2027	Half Term
07 - 11.06.2027	Y6 Bikeability
08.06.2027	Parent Voice Meeting 8.45am
09.06.2027	Nursery - Royal Day
11.06.2027	YR – 6 Royal Day
14 – 18.06.2027	Y1 Phonics Screening
15.06.2027	Yr 6 Guildford Cathedral Leavers Service
16 – 18.06.2027	PTA Marvellous Men
18.06.2027	Kangaroos Library Trip AM
18.06.2027	Lions Library Trip PM
21 - 25.06.2027	Y6 PGL
24.06.2027	Giraffes Class Assembly

25.06.2027	Open Classrooms – 3.10pm
28.06.2027	INSET Day
30.06.2027	YR – 6 Life Skills
02.07.2027	Giraffes Library Trip AM
02.07.2027	Tigers Library Trip PM
02.07.2027	Parent Voice Meeting 8.45am
09.07.2027	Pandas Library Trip AM
09.07.2027	Polar Bears Library Trip PM
14 & 15.07.2027	Y6 Production
19.07.2027	YR – 6 Life Skills
20.07.2027	Y6 Leavers' Day
22.07.2027	Y6 Leavers' Service
23.07.2027	End of Summer Term 1.05pm