



St Mary's Newsletter

Issue 3

13th October 2023

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4EU

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>

School Rules:

Be ready, Be respectful, Be safe

Tweet of the Week

"To feel sorry for means to suffer with victims of the world's inhumanity, & to feel sorry for those who commit errors & injustices, not justifying, but humanising, through forgiveness always open to another chance, to open up paths of hope & allow for change. General Audience."

Pope Francis (@Pontifex)

Week Commencing 16th October 2023

Tues 17th Oct: Year 5 Swimming

Thurs 19th Oct: Orchestra 3.30-4.15pm

Thurs 19th Oct: Year 4 Parish Mass in Church at 9.15am

Fri 20th Oct: Celebration Assemblies –

Years 1, 2 & 3 8.45am

Years 4, 5 & 6 3pm

Parents/carers/grandparents welcome to attend.

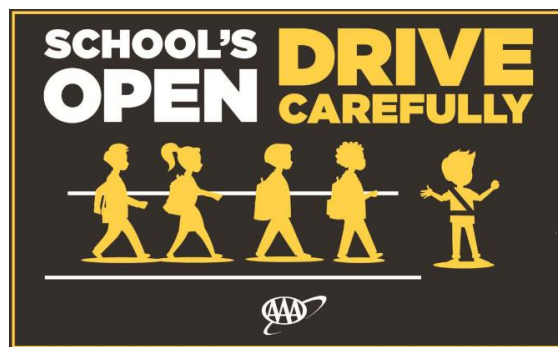
Fri 20th Oct: Break up for Half Term

Children return to school on Tuesday 31st October.

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is a polite reminder to ensure your children are stood with you before school. We ask children not to run around on the playground at this time because it is very busy and we do not want anyone to get knocked over.

Safeguarding our pupils is our top priority. Please help us to keep your children safe by driving and parking responsibly. This continues to be an issue and we have been reassured that traffic wardens will be carrying out spot checks.



Warm Regards

Mrs Berry and Mrs Measham

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Mondays

Football Club (years 1, 2, 3) starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.30pm. No Football Club on Mon 30th Oct (PD Day). This Club Is Full

Wednesdays

Netball Club (Girls years 5, 6) starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.15pm.

Football Club (Boys years 4, 5, 6) starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.30pm.

Thursdays

Football Club (Girls years 4, 5, 6) starts 8am.

Orchestra (years 4, 5, 6) starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.15pm.

Fridays

Handball & Dodgeball (KS2), starts at 12.10pm. This Club Is Full

Multisports Club (years 4, 5, 6), starts 3.30pm. Children collected at 4.30pm.

MUSIC LESSONS

Reminder of days when pre-booked and pre-paid lessons take place.

Mondays – Violin

Tuesdays – Brass

Thursdays – Woodwind

Please encourage your children to remember their instrument!

CHRISTMAS ENSEMBLE PRACTICE

Christmas Ensemble starts at 8.10am on Wednesday 1st Nov for Years 4 5 and 6. Performance on Wednesday 20th December in the church, time to be confirmed.

RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2024 APPLICATIONS

We will be holding two open day sessions on Wednesday 15th November, one at 9.30am and another at 1.30pm. If you are thinking of applying to St Mary's for a Reception place in September 2024, please email the school to book a slot.

Our email address is: admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

Applications for a Reception September 2024 place should be made by the deadline date of 15th January 2024. The application should be made online via the Suffolk County Council Admissions website.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2024-2025>



IMPORTANT: St Mary's require a completed Supplementary Information Form (SIF) which should be sent to the school before 15th January deadline please. The Supplementary Information Form (SIF) can be found on our website under *Key Information – Admissions*

HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

Year 6, high school applications are now open and will close on 31st October 2023.

You need to apply directly to Suffolk County Council and remember to check if your new school requires a Supplementary Information Form (SIF); if needed, these should be sent direct to your chosen new school.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2024-2025>



JOB VACANCIES

Effective as soon as possible, we have vacancies in school for midday supervisors to help with our busy lunchtimes during term time.

The hours are 11.40am – 12.50pm (70mins per day); five days per week.

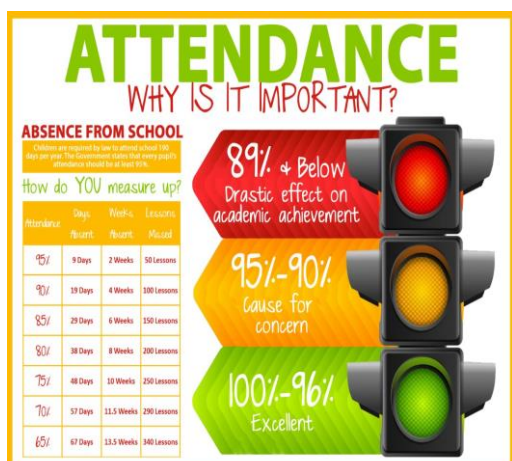
The current hourly rate is £10.98 (subject to pay rise in negotiation) for 38 weeks per year (plus 5 weeks paid holiday).

This is an excellent opportunity to get paid experience of working in a school.

If you would like to know more or know of someone who would like this role, please email:

admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

ATTENDANCE



Please take time to read and familiarise yourself with our Trust Attendance Policy. Please be aware that the school is unable to authorise holiday requests for absence during term time.

If you arrive after 8.50am, please come to the Office to sign the late book.

It is really important that you ensure your child arrives at school between 8:40 and 8:50am.

A late arrival after 8.50am means the class has already started and this is disruptive for your child and others in the class.

If your child is ill, please leave a message on the School Absence Line

(01473 728372) before 8am, or send an email to: admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

https://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com/_site/data/files/policies/D046258157B2B78BA94749F6FB9079DE.pdf

QUESTIONNAIRE ABOUT TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

Our school is on a journey to become more sustainable. One way that we hope to do this is by encouraging active travel (walking, cycling, scooter etc). To help us better understand the current situation in our school, please click the link below to complete a questionnaire, which will tell us which methods of transportation the children of St Mary's use to get to school. We'd also like to hear your ideas about how we can reduce the number of car journeys made to our school.

Many thanks in advance for your support with this new project.

Mr Cook

[Travel to School Questionnaire](#)

YEAR6 HOUSE CAPTAINS:

Meet our Year 6 House Captains.

After a very close application process and vote, we are pleased to announce our school house captains for this academic year.



SPORTING SUCCESSES

On Monday 2nd October, some Year 4s went to St Joseph's College for a 4--side festival of football. They played hard and scored some very delicate goals as they had to adapt their skills to the small pitches and goals. It was a fun afternoon with some great teamwork on display. Well done boys! Mrs Dyer



On Tuesday 3rd October we went to Whitton to play in a football festival. We had great fun and I was so proud to be with you because you played well, won most games and showed how caring and wonderful you can be. Good job boy's! Mrs Dyer



MEET OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL:

Our School Council is a student body that works to make improvements to different areas of the school, including a focus on environmental sustainability.

Our School Councillors are democratically elected at the start of each academic year and then work on the School Council for all of that year. Any children can put themselves forward to be part of the School Council.

During the first School Council meeting the children devise a School Council Charter stating all of the responsibilities they will undertake to fulfil their roles effectively.

The School Council then meets every 3 weeks to discuss issues within the school and to work on future projects.

The School Councillors meet with their classes between meetings to discuss ideas, projects and issues and they then feedback to the rest of the School Council members during our meetings. Each term the School Council will complete an action plan of things they aim to work on and achieve by the end of that term.



Student Council 2023-2024



YEAR 5 & 6 NETBALL

The netball club which amazingly consists of thirty girls from Years 5 and 6, had a wonderful time playing at St John's on Wednesday. We saw some great skills and tactic as well as real determination to succeed. It was so wonderful to see everyone turn up and play for the love of the game!



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thank you all for your kind donations for our Harvest festival. The Mini Vinnie's worked hard putting all the donation's together for FIND. Thank you to our parent and grandparent who helped to transport this to FIND in Ipswich on our behalf



MACMILLIAN COFFEE MORNING

Our staff team had a wonderful coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. We had some truly wonderful cake!

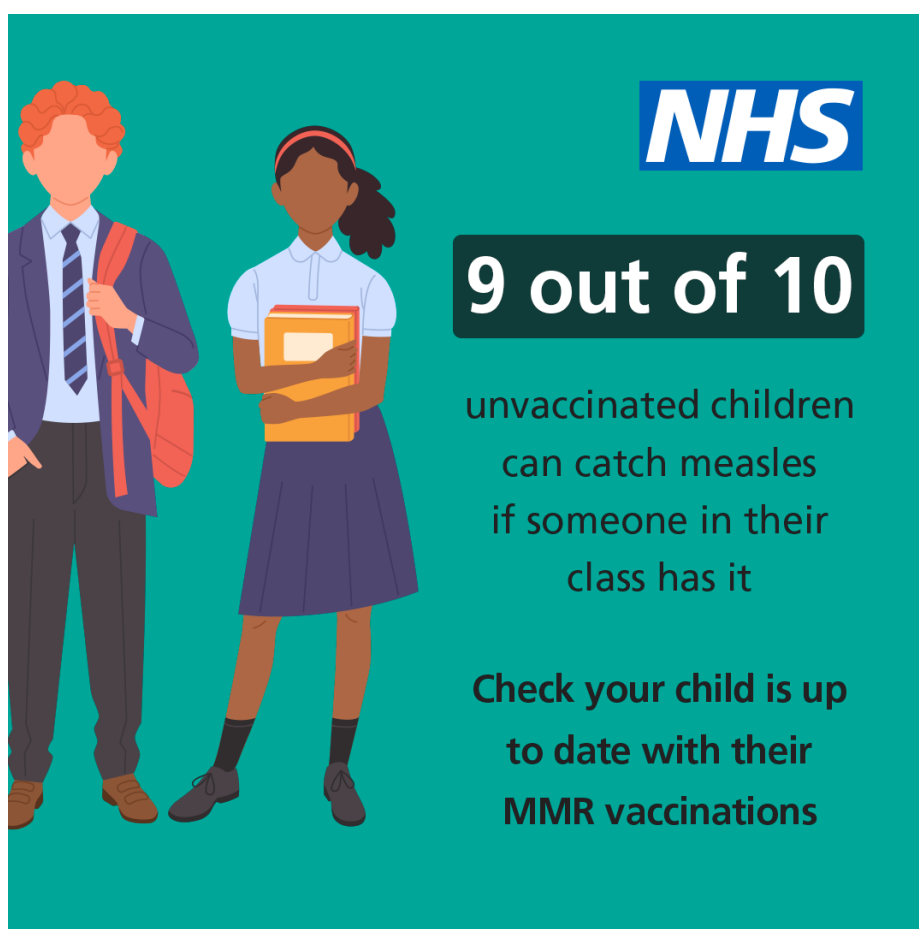


FREE 'Come and Play Days' for county level music groups

This is for young musicians of Grade 4 standard and above, aged under 21 years of age. Suffolk County Music Service have 2 FREE 'Come and Play Days' on Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd October for our County Music Groups (Suffolk Youth Orchestra, Suffolk Young Strings, Suffolk Youth Wind Band, Suffolk Youth Jazz Orchestra & Suffolk Youth Brass Band). Come and see what it is all about and experience playing in these high level ensembles.

For more information, click this link [Come and Play Days Information](#)

Alternatively, contact by email county.musicservice@suffolk.gov.uk or telephone 01473 263400.



The poster features a teal background. On the left, there is an illustration of a young boy with red hair in a school uniform and a young girl with dark hair in a school uniform, both holding books. On the right, the NHS logo is at the top. Below it, a black box contains the text '9 out of 10'. Further down, the text reads 'unvaccinated children can catch measles if someone in their class has it'. At the bottom, it says 'Check your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations'.

NHS

9 out of 10

unvaccinated children
can catch measles
if someone in their
class has it

**Check your child is up
to date with their
MMR vaccinations**

READING WITH CHILDREN

BookTrust is the UK's largest reading charity, reaching millions of children every year with books, resources and support to get every child reading, regularly and by choice. BookTrust has put together a helpful video to help parents and carers to support children with their reading. [Reading With Your Child](#)



The poster has a green background. At the top, it says 'Sharing stories with your children helps them...'. Below this, there is an illustration of a man and a young girl sitting together, reading a book. Surrounding them are several circular callouts with text: 'do better in all lessons', 'be happier', 'have close family bonds', 'with brain growth', 'concentrate better', 'understand the world and others', and 'sleep better'. At the bottom right, the BookTrust logo is visible with the tagline 'getting children reading'. At the bottom left, there is a small credit: 'Pic: Anjan Sarkar'.

**Sharing stories with your
children helps them...**

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BookTrust
getting children reading

Pic: Anjan Sarkar



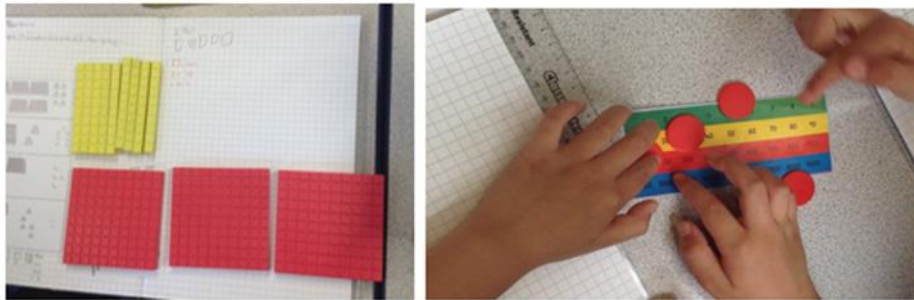
SPOTLIGHT ON

YEAR 4

The children in Year 4 have settled well into their new year group and are already showing that they can follow class routines and display good behaviour for our learning.

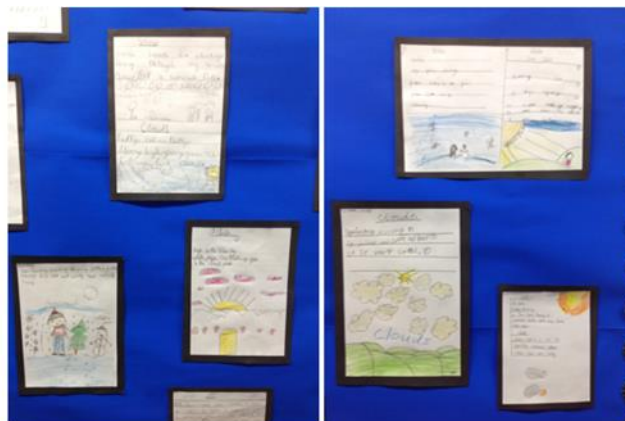
Maths

In maths we have been exploring place value and number. We have worked hard to set out our work correctly so that we can see the steps we have taken to solve mathematical problems. We have enjoyed experimenting using base 10 and Gattegno charts.



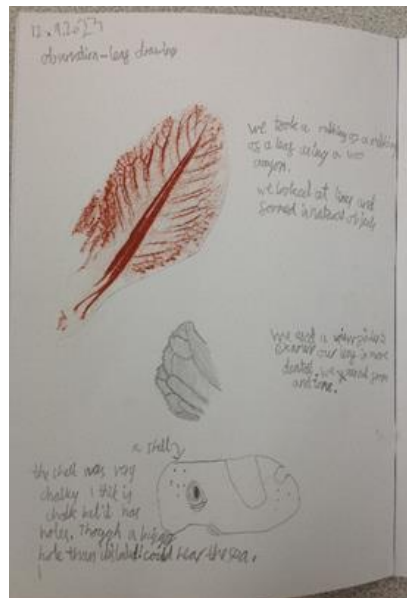
English

We have started to explore our new English curriculum and started the term with re-visiting what strong sentences look like. We have explored Haiku and Cinquain poetry, as well as working hard to learn the grammatical structure and features required to write a persuasive advert, reminding people of the dangers of meeting up with somebody we meet online. We have also been concentrating really hard on the presentation of our written work as we all needed to improve (including, Mr. Bentley!).



RE

Our learning in RE has been learning about The Bible and how this sacred text encourages us to follow the teachings of Jesus. We have learnt how to find stories in the Bible and have looked at the Story of Abraham and Moses. We enjoyed making our own Bible Covers for children.

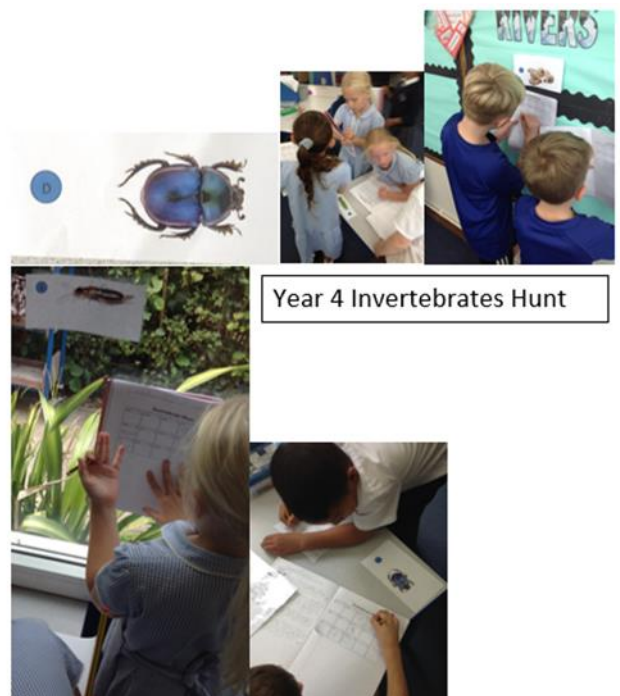


Art

In art we have been exploring with different mark making and understanding the terms 'contour' and 'pattern'. We have learnt to create effects to make 2D drawings appear 3D.

Science

In Science we have been learning about living things and their habitats. We have explored vertebrates and invertebrates, plants and classification. We really enjoyed spending time out in the Willow Garden looking for different habitats, and we completed a bug hunt in our classroom!





Improving SEND Services in Suffolk: Our SEND strategy

Our current Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 2021-23 Strategy has been the basis of our work to improve SEND Services over the last three years, and as it comes to an end we want to ask as many people as possible their opinion about what we should concentrate on next.

We believe our work so far has begun and will continue to make outcomes better for children and young people, but we also know that the lived experience of many families has yet to improve. We must make sure that our new strategy continues to address this. We want to keep on doing the things that are working, identify where there are gaps, and understand what else we need to be doing to address these.

[To read more and take part please click here.](#)

Medication Shortage

Information regarding national supply disruptions to ADHD medications:

You may have heard about a national shortage of some of the medicines used to treat ADHD. These supply problems are expected to resolve at various dates between October and December 2023.

How does this affect me/my child?

Although not all ADHD medicines are affected by this shortage, our records indicate that you/your child is currently being prescribed one or more of the medicines that are likely to be in short supply, or possibly unavailable.

What do I need to do?

The NHS is working hard to manage this shortage, but there are a few things that you can do to help us minimise the effect on you/your child:

1. Please only order your prescription when you have 10-14 days of your medicine left. It is important not to stockpile medicines, and your doctor will not be able to issue your prescription any earlier.
2. If your usual pharmacy is not able to supply your medication, please try calling or visiting other local pharmacies to locate stock. Pharmacy contact details can be found via [Find a pharmacy - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk).

Patients currently taking Medikinet, Ritalin, Concerta XL, Xaggitin XL, Delmosart XL, Affenid XL, Xenidate XL, Matoride XL, Amfexa, Strattera:

1. Be prepared that your medicine may look a little different to normal:
 - You may be asked to take different strengths of your medicine to make up the full dose.

- If your usual medicine is not available, your GP should be able to give you a prescription for a different medicine that works in the same way and is still available.
- Any change to your medicine will be short-term, and only until the supply problems are resolved.

Patients currently taking Medikinet XL, Ritalin XL, Metyrol XL, Equasym XL, Addepta XL, Elvanse, Elvanse Adult, Intuniv:

1. Your GP cannot prescribe you an alternative medicine, if you are unable to find a pharmacy which can dispense your prescription, please contact us so that we can refer to the specialist ADHD team to manage your treatment.
2. While we wait for supplies of your medicine to become available again, you may need to change to a different treatment or management plan. Your specialist will discuss the options available to you and agree on the best way to manage your ADHD until your usual medicine is available again.

Where can I go for further information?

If you've received a medicine which looks different to what you normally receive, your community pharmacist is best placed to provide information on it. Rest assured that any changes should only be visual, and act the same as your old medication unless directed by the ADHD specialist team.



**ST ALBANS
FIREWORK
DISPLAY**

FRIDAY 3RD, NOVEMBER 2023
6PM -8PM

Gates open at 6pm
Hot and cold refreshments available

TICKETS
Pre-sale: Adults £5
Child £3
Family (2adults, upto 3children) £15
On the gate: Adults £6
Child £4
Under 5s go free

Tickets can be purchased via Parentmail or
by emailing: sarahmetcalfe@gmail.com
U14 must be accompanied by an adult.
St Albans Catholic High School, Digby Road, IP43NJ
Personal fireworks, sparklers & alcohol are PROHIBITED

Term dates for 2023 – 2024

Autumn Term 2023

Half term: 23rd – 27th October

Staff training day: 30th October

End of Term: 20th December

Spring Term 2024

Thursday 4th January – Thursday 28th March

Half term: 19th – 23rd February

Staff Training day: 3rd January & 26th February

Summer Term 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 19th July

Bank holiday: 6th May

Half term: 27th May – 31st May

Staff Training days: 12th April