



St Mary's Newsletter

Issue 11

1st March 2024

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

"In this time of #Lent, let us strive not to put ourselves at the centre; rather, let us try to step aside to make room for others, to promote them, and to rejoice in their qualities and successes.

#GeneralAudience"

Pope Francis (@Pontifex)

Week Commencing 4th March 2024

Mon 4th Mar: Year 4 Swimming

Mon 4th-8th Mar: Book Week

Thurs 7th Mar: World Book Day

Thurs 14th Mar: Year 5 Parish Mass in Church

Parents/carers welcome

Mon 11th Mar: Book Look (Years 1-6)

Mon 11th-15th Mar: Science Week

Tues 19th Mar: Parents' Evening (Virtual through School Cloud)

Thurs 21st Mar: Parents' Evening (Virtual through School Cloud)

Fri 22nd Mar: Dress to Express Day

Dear Parents and Carers,

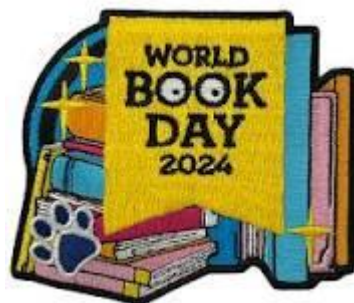
Welcome back to school, we hope you all had a restful break and managed to recharge your batteries. We are all looking forward to World Book Day on **Thursday 7th March**. In assembly on Friday, we thought about reading for pleasure and how books can transport us to faraway places, help us to relax and enable us to learn about other people and different cultures. Next week we will be sending each child home with a World Book Day £1 voucher which can be used to purchase a book – see the link below for participating retailers.

www.worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/books/

On Thursday 7th March, all children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from a book. This could be a mask, headband or just wearing a colour like the colour monster.

Warm Regards

Mrs Berry and Mrs Measham



BOOK LOOK & PARENTS EVENINGS

Parents/carers of children from years 1-6 are invited to come into school between 3.30-4pm on **Monday 11th March** to look at their children's books.



Parents Evenings will be held virtually via School Cloud on **Tuesday 19th March** (from 3.45pm) and **Thursday 21st March** (from 4pm). Booking information has been sent out to parents/carers via Parentmail.

SPORTS CLUBS SPRING TERM 2024

Mondays

Football Club (years 1, 2 & 3) 3.30-4.30pm. This club is full.

Wednesdays

Netball Club (years 5 & 6 girls) 3.30-4.15pm.

Football Club (years 4, 5 & 6 boys) 3.30-4.30pm.

Thursdays

Football Club (years 4, 5 & 6 girls) starts at 8am.

Fridays

Multisports Club (years 1, 2 & 3) starts at 8am. This club is full.

Handball & Dodgeball (KS2) starts at 12.10pm. This club is full.

Multisports Club (years 4, 5 & 6) 3.30-4.30pm. This club is full.

Please contact the School Office for further information.

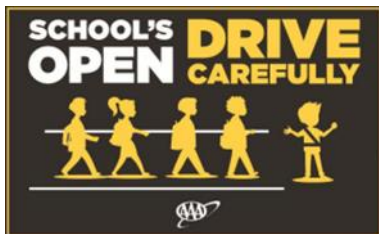


NO NUTS PLEASE

Can we please remind everyone that we are a **nut-free school**. Please do not send any types of nuts to school, including food containing them (ie nut butters, Nutella and cereal-bars). We do have children with allergies. Many thanks for helping to keep everyone safe.

JEWELLERY IN SCHOOL:

Just a reminder that the wearing of jewellery is not permitted (apart from ear studs). If ear studs are worn, these will need to be removed before coming into school on PE days or covered using micropore tape please. Thank you for your ongoing co-operation.



CAR PARK ETIQUETTE

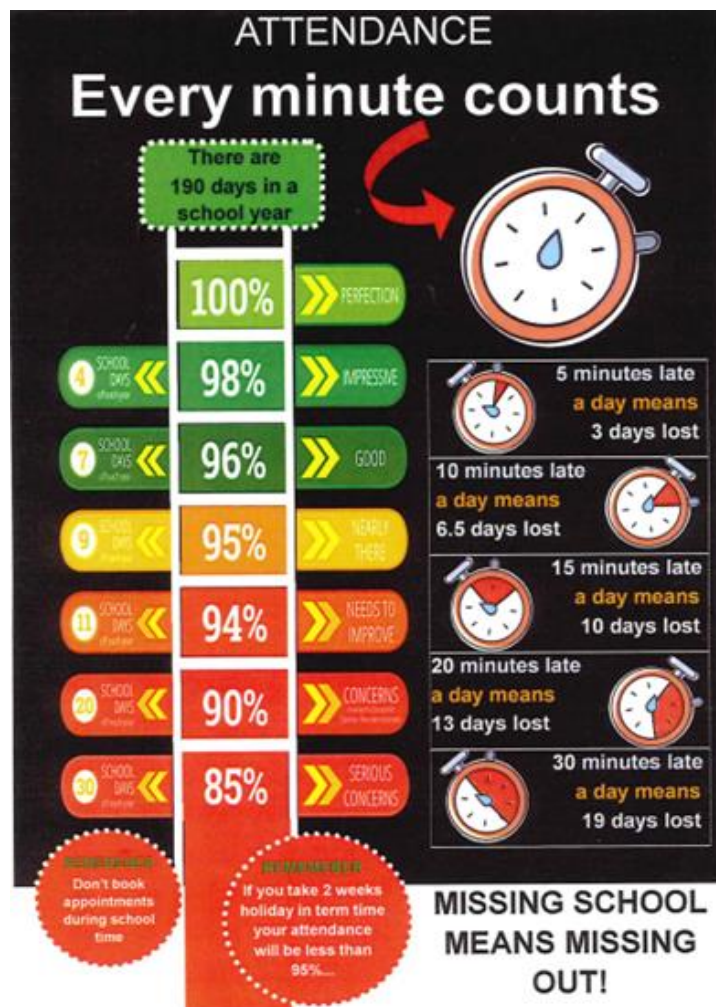
We are fortunate in that we have use of a school and church car park. Can we please politely remind parents/carers to drive carefully and park considerately to keep our children safe.

READY TO LEARN

William Shakespeare wrote "Better three hours too soon than a minute too late." While we don't expect our children to arrive in the early hours of the morning, please ensure that they are in the playground at 8.40am for when the bell rings. The roads are busy in Ipswich but perhaps leave a few minutes early to account for this. A late arrival after 8.50am means the class has already started and this is disruptive for your child and others in the class. Please remind children to come equipped for the day.



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 We do ask that all children who have been sick or had diarrhoea remain at home until 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. Please try to make appointments outside of school hours, however, for unavoidable medical appointments we do request notice in advance.

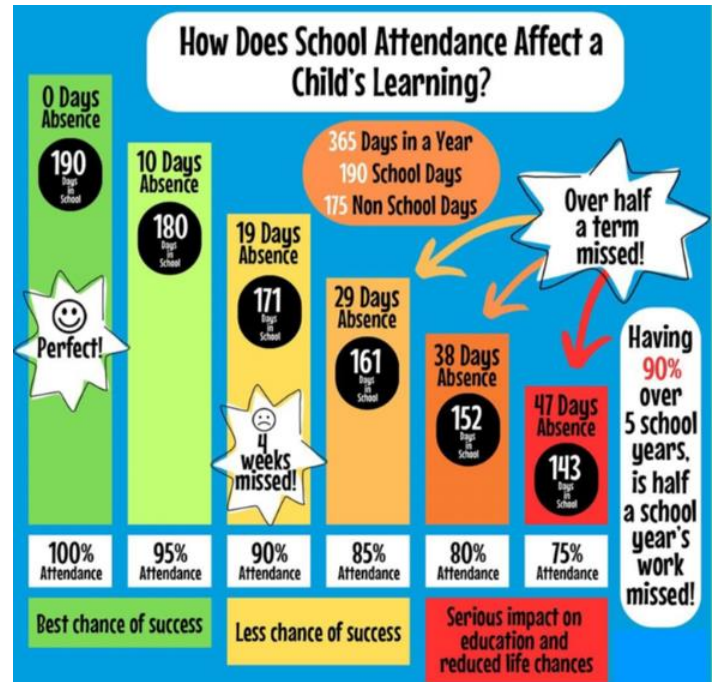


ATTENDANCE

Please take time to read and familiarise yourself with our Trust Attendance Policy: [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.



SCHOOL OFFICE

If you call the School Office, the telephone will be answered by either Mrs Todd or Mrs Harvey, who we have welcomed to St Mary's this week.

Sensory processing difficulties in the early years

SENDIASS is hosting a relaxed online session for parents and carers to help explain how we use our senses to navigate everyday life and react to the world around us.

The presentation will be delivered by a member of Suffolk's **Early Years and Childcare Service** and will explain how children take sensory information in and relate it to the behaviour that comes out.

The session will explore:

- How children process information through their sensory systems
- What sensory processing difficulties are
- How sensory processing difficulties might present in children 0-5
- Some simple strategies and resources that can support young children with sensory processing difficulties

5th March 2024 6pm – 7:30pm

[Click here to register](#)

"So useful...helps to understand some of the behaviour of my son."

"Brilliant session – thank you!"

"This has been really helpful, given some real strategies that we can use."

Booking link for Sensory processing difficulties in the early years: [Click here](#)





Planning transition to secondary school for pupils with SEND

SENDIASS is offering a relaxed online session for parents and carers to help them plan the transition to secondary school for children with SEND.

The session will be supported by a specialist teacher from the Communication and Interaction service.

We will explore:

- Information to look for to help you and your child prepare for working with school around transition
- Transition meetings and resources to help you and your child share your views
- Additional transition support and considerations

Anyone who books will be sent a pre-recording of the session and an additional video to help build your child's confidence for high school.

7th March 2024 10am – 11:30am

[Click here to register](#)

"This has helped massively!"

"This has been of immediate benefit. I feel more ready to carry things forward now."

"Really helpful and informative."

Booking link for Planning transition to secondary school for pupils with SEND: [Click here](#)

MUSIC LESSONS

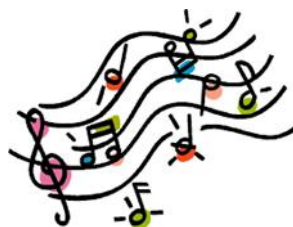
Reminder of days when pre-booked and pre-paid lessons take place.

Mondays – Violin

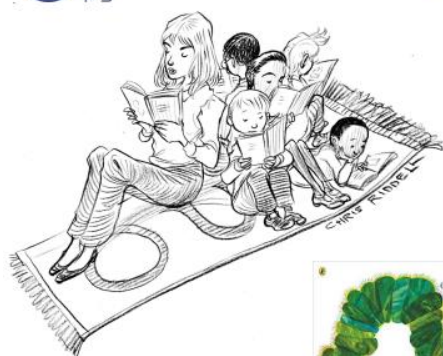
Tuesdays – Brass

Thursdays – Woodwind

Please encourage your children to remember their instrument!



Supporting Readers at Home



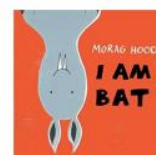
Open University research suggests there are three important ways to support readers and a love of reading.



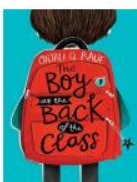
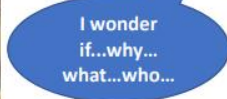
Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is a pleasure, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones too.



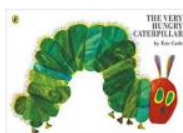
Making time to read alongside one another helps develop children's reading stamina and interest. Let them choose what to read and relax together.



Book Chats encourage readers. Invite them to make connections and share their views. Join in with your thoughts too!



Children who read, and are supported as readers, develop strong reading skills and do better at school.



For more ideas see the OU website:
<https://www.researchrichpedagogies.org>

BEAT THE STREET

There are now over 9,300 Beat the Street players across Ipswich! Here's how to get more points and keep updated:

Sign up to the newsletter, it has information about exciting events, opportunities to get points and more! Sign up to the weekly newsletter here: <https://www.beatthestreet.me/ipswich/newsletter/>

Discover what events are coming up here: <https://www.beatthestreet.me/ipswich/events/>

You can find where your nearest Beat Boxes are here: <https://www.beatthestreet.me/ipswich/map/>

Daily Mile x Beat the Street collaboration events will be taking place at 4.15pm at Holywells Park on 13th March, Bourne Park on 14th March and Christchurch Park on 15th March. To find out more about the Daily Mile, please visit: <https://thedailymile.co.uk/>

Take part in the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel 11th-22nd March <https://bigwalkandwheel.org.uk/>

To stay updated, you can follow on Facebook and Twitter @BTSIpswich

Have fun playing Beat the Street and good luck!

The poster features a vibrant, abstract background with large, stylized letters spelling 'DRESS TO EXPRESS' in yellow and orange. Below this, it says 'Friday 22 March'. On the left, there is a small illustration of a child holding a colorful umbrella. On the right, there is a white box with the 'Neurodiversity Celebration Week' logo and text. The text explains the purpose of the day, encourages children to use color to express themselves, and mentions that the day is for raising money to support Suffolk Young Carers.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week

On Friday 22nd March, we would like all children to take part on our 'Dress to Express Day'!

Our lives are full of colour and children can use colour to help make sense of how they are feeling and acknowledge through this that we are all unique and that different is 'OK'!

On this day, your child could wear their favourite colour or choose a range of colours or patterns that express themselves as an individual.

On this day we will be raising money to support the work of Suffolk Young Carers, along with brightening up the outside of our school. Any donations would be greatly appreciated and can be given in an envelope to your class teacher or staff on the morning gate.



SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR 3

Year 3 have had a very busy term, they have been working incredibly hard and enjoyed getting stuck in with their learning! Spring has almost sprung and we are looking forward to the continuous learning throughout the next term now that the weather will start warming up!



Art

In art, our young artists have been on an exciting journey of creativity! The children delved into the fascinating realm of primary and secondary colours, and discovering what happens when hues come together. The children then used dyes and materials to create some wonderful patterns with the dyes. They were amazed by this and created some truly amazing artwork!



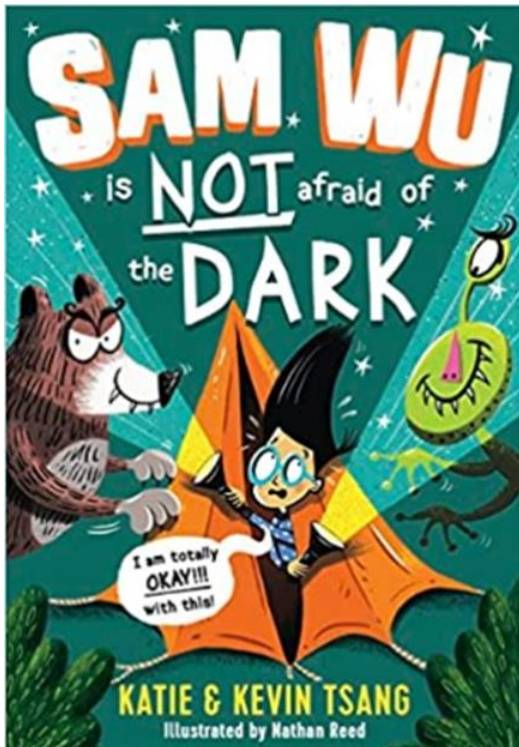
In our artistic exploration, we also took a moment to learn about Faith Ringgold. I am always amazed by the art work year 3 create and look forward to more artistic adventures ahead!





Science

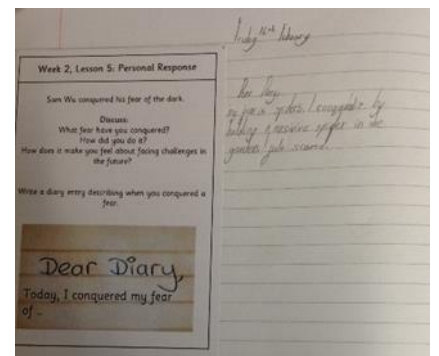
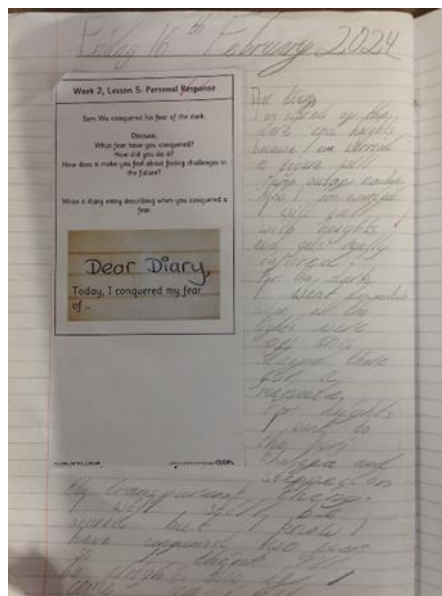
In science, year 3 have been embarking on an exciting journey into the world of plants! Each with their own daffodil, the children dived into the intricate details of this flower, from the stem and the petals to the sap inside the flower's stem. The children found this fascinating. The children then planted their own sunflowers; we are waiting for them to grow. During our science lesson, the children have been learning the key parts of the plants, the remarkable adaptations that allow the plants to thrive in diverse climates and the crucial elements plants need to survive – and we are only at the beginning of the topic!



Reading

During our guided reading lessons, year 3 have been reading about 'Sam Wu is NOT afraid of the DARK'. The story revolves around a young boy named Sam Wu, who is determined to prove that he is not afraid of the dark. Sam Wu finds himself facing fears and the main theme of the story is his fear of the dark; this occurs when Sam Wu goes on a camping trip with his friends. Eventually he overcomes his fear.

We discussed if we have any fears and the children were willing to share some of theirs – the most common one being spiders – and how we can overcome this fear. The children then wrote a diary entry based on if they have conquered a fear, how they did it and how it makes them feel about facing challenges in the future. The children enjoyed discussing this!



Writing

In our recent writing sessions, year 3 have been immersed in the captivating world of non-chronological reports. Our focus has been towns based in Suffolk. We focused our writing on Ipswich, Dunwich and Framlingham. The children delved deep into the history and the fascinating facts about these three towns, especially Dunwich. Did you know that half of Dunwich vanished into the North Sea during a fierce storm in the 13th and 14th centuries? The remnants now stand a mile from the sea. There is only one grave left from the old church which is now in the sea. The children were truly shocked and fascinated by this. They enjoyed researching the history and writing this down in a non-chronological report. Amazing work from everyone!



Grass can drive across it a day. The Waterfront has been around for 1,500 years.

Dunwich

Dunwich is the British town lost at sea. In 1284, the storm swept away half of the British town into the North Sea. These buildings, called homes, churches and much more. What is left today is only half a mile away from the sea. The only grave left since the storm is Jacob Fyfe's grave, is very close to falling into the North Sea.

Framlingham

Framlingham Castle was built in the 12th century. The Danes came here at King Edward's death on the 6th July 1552. The Castle has been around since the Anglo Saxons. Framlingham is now a village with some shops, three schools and hundreds of people one of which is Ed Sheeran.

Overall, Suffolk holds lots in its past. It contains loads of history and something to do. This amazing county in England!

Suffolk

painting a picture of Suffolk past

Based in East Anglia, Suffolk is a beautiful place full of cities, towns and villages. It is known as one of the biggest counties in England. You will find there is lots of things to do such as fabulous farms, amazing 2002 and beautiful beaches. As well as the big cities Suffolk has some amazing countryside. We will be looking at three of the most famous towns in the county: Ipswich, Dunwich and Framlingham and their unique story of their history.

Ipswich

In 790 the town extends north from the river into the area which is now known as the Buttermarket and Apple Square. In 869 Ipswich was invaded by Vikings. In 1473 Thomas Walsley's funeral ceremony to King Henry VIII is born in Ipswich. 1495 Christ Church park opens to the public to explore with out any charge. 1982 The Orwell Bridge opens which is cheaper than a tunnel, around

NSPCC LISTEN UP, SPEAK UP



It takes a village to raise a child. And it takes a community to keep children safe.

That's why the NSPCC is encouraging every adult in the UK to take their 10-minute digital training and learn how to listen up and speak up for children.

Listen up, Speak up will show you:

- *some signs a child might be at risk, and steps you can take to help
- *how to approach difficult conversations to help keep children safe
- *who you can contact if you're ever concerned about a child or their family.

Follow this link: [NSPCC Listen up, Speak up 10-minute Training](#)

Worried about a child?

If you're worried about a child, even if you're unsure, contact the NSPCC Helpline to speak to a counsellor. Call us on 0808 800 5000, or email help@nspcc.org.uk

IN NEED OF SUPPORT?

Some sources of support are as follows:

<https://healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk/signposting/youngpeople/>

You can call Childline about anything on 0800 1111. There is the option to speak with one of its councillors. It also has plenty of information on its website, including information about Cyberbullying: <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

[Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing Hub](#)

Information, advice and support for anyone concerned about the emotional wellbeing and mental health of a child or young person aged 0 to 25 years. Link above or call 0345 600 2090.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

Anyone can call Samaritans on 116 123. It does not matter how old you are or what is bothering you. [This page](#) on the Samaritans website tells you what to expect if you call them.

If you are concerned about an immediate risk to the safety of a child, please call Customer First on 0808 800 4005.

In an emergency, call the Police on 999.

Spring Term Dates

4th March – Book Week
7th March – World Book Day
11th March – Science Week
19th March – 3.30-6pm parents evening
21st March – 4.30-7pm parents evening
22nd March – 1.15pm KS2 reconciliation
28th March – Easter Liturgy 9am in church

Term dates for 2023 – 2024

Summer Term 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 19th July
Bank holiday: 6th May
Half term: 27th May – 31st May
Staff Training day: 12th April