



# St Mary's Newsletter

Issue 10

9<sup>th</sup> February 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

"Jesus reveals to us that God is not a detached master who speaks to us from on high. He is a loving Father who draws near to us, comes into our homes, wants to save and liberate us, and heals us from every ill of body and spirit. #GospelOfTheDay"

*Pope Francis (@Pontifex)*

## Week Commencing 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Feb: Years 1, 2 & 3 Lenten Service 9am in school

*Parents/carers welcome*

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Feb: Years 1, 2 & 3 Celebration Assembly 9am

*Parents/carers welcome*

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Feb: Years 4, 5 & 6 Celebration Assembly 3pm

*Parents/carers welcome*

Mon 19<sup>th</sup>-Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb HALF TERM

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Feb: PD Day (no pupils)

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Prayer and Liturgy this week we have learnt how Jesus' life was very busy, but that He found peace by going to a quiet place to pray and be with His Father. Jesus shows us that we too can find peace in the busyness of our daily lives. We thought about how we can make time for prayer this week and how it is important to take time to rest and recharge our batteries even though we are very busy.

Thank you for your responses to the parent survey, we are currently collating the responses and will update you on the results very soon.

Warm Regards

Mrs Berry and Mrs Measham



## 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.



## SPORTING NEWS

Some Year 5 and 6 children had great fun at the School Games Dodgeball event on 30<sup>th</sup> January. I was impressed with their skills, especially the ducking and diving! All the children showed great team spirit and were good company. It was so wonderful to see the enjoyment and fun sport can bring to our lives.



The girls made an amazing start to their netball league with a 15 - 2 victory at Piper's Vale. The girls worked hard and were tenacious. It was great to see their team spirit and chilled but determined approach to their netball. Well done girls and thank you to their adults for supporting and transport.

Mrs Dyer



### 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.

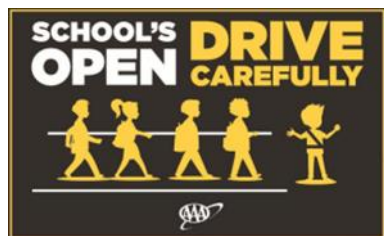
### LOST PROPERTY

Please can we remind parents to name all property, as it helps us to reunite lost items. We have a large selection of lost property in the Office, which you are welcome to sort through! All lost property not collected by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February will be donated to the PTA and the charity box.



### 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.

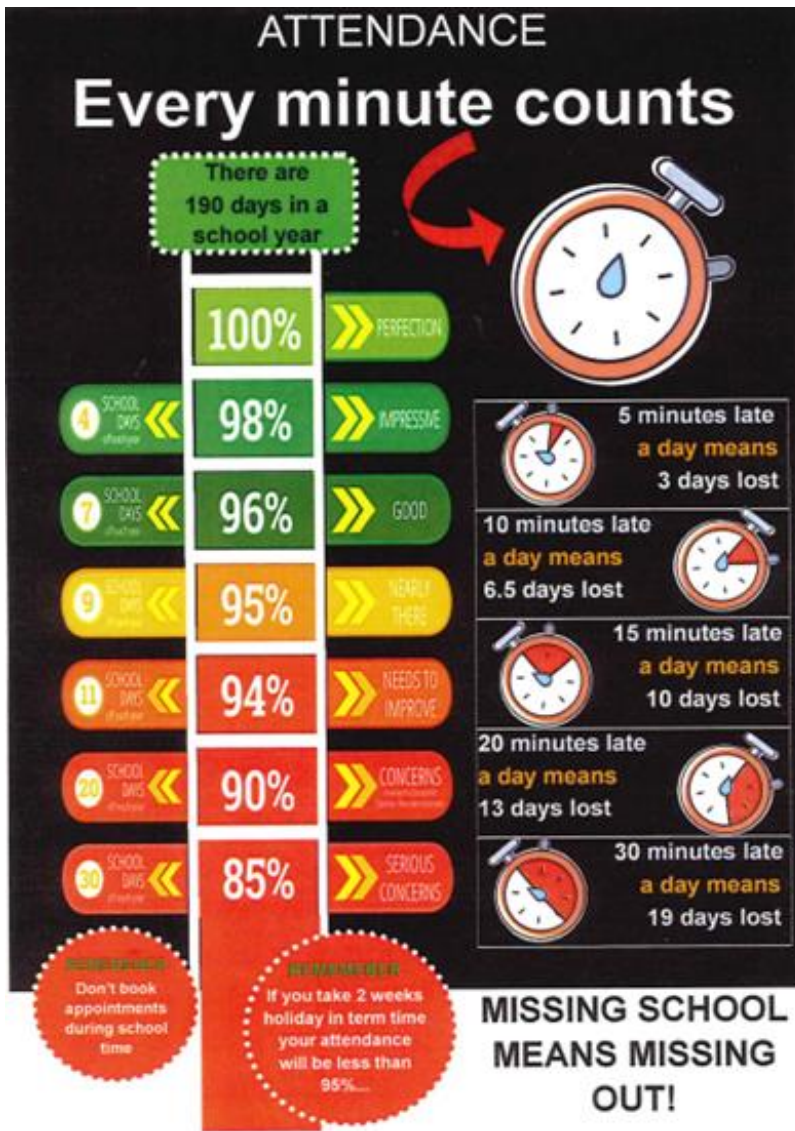
### READY TO LEARN

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](mailto: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.



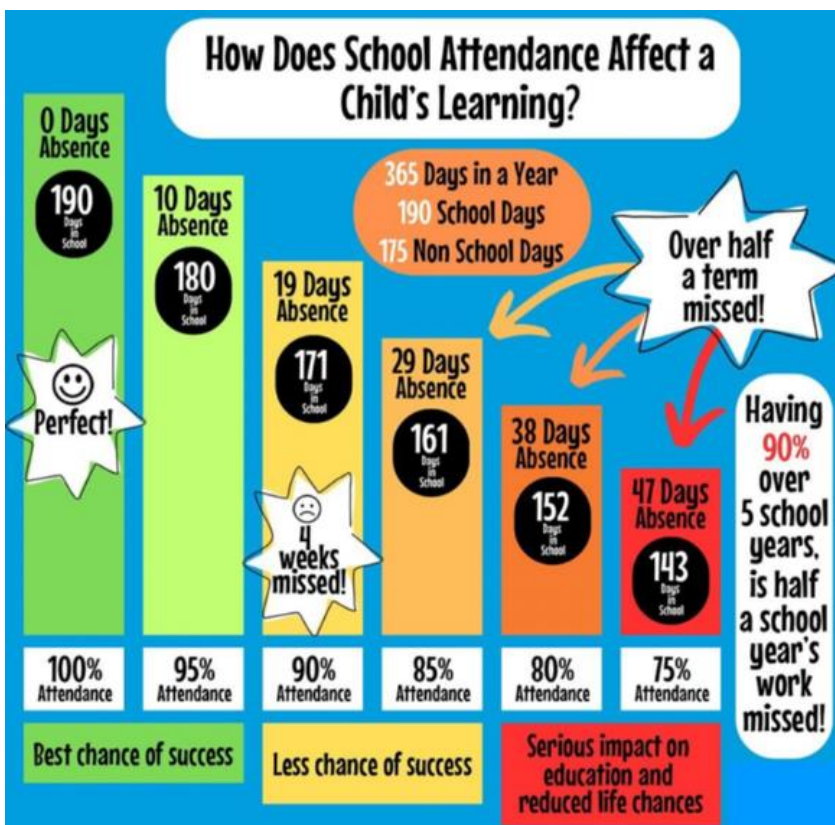


## ATTENDANCE

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.





## INVITATION FROM ST ALBAN'S

The St Alban's Catholic High School production of Little Shop of Horrors starts in less than one week, with opening night on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February. The show will run for 3 nights, until Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

We would love to extend the invitation to enjoy this show to your year 5 and 6 pupils and parents/carers, particularly those who may be hoping to attend St Alban's in the coming years and may enjoy an insight into the school show experience!

Students have worked extremely hard and the school would love to encourage as much support as possible for this incredible show. Timings and ticket prices can be found on poster. If anyone would like to purchase tickets then we would kindly ask them to call into the school to pay cash and collect their physical tickets.

We look forward to hopefully welcoming you next week to enjoy Little Shop of Horrors with us!

## MUSIC LESSONS

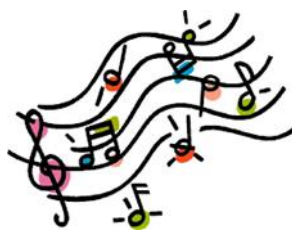
Reminder of days when pre-booked and pre-paid lessons take place.

Mondays - Violin

Tuesdays - Brass

Thursdays - Woodwind

Please encourage your children to remember their instrument!





# Supporting Readers at Home



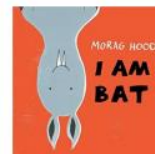
Open University research suggests there are three important ways to support readers and a love of reading.



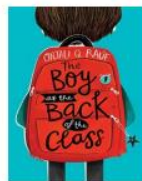
Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is a pleasure, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones too.



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>



## Where Magic Grows

**Author:** Onjali Q Rauf **Illustrator:** Katarzyna Doszla **Publisher:** Orion

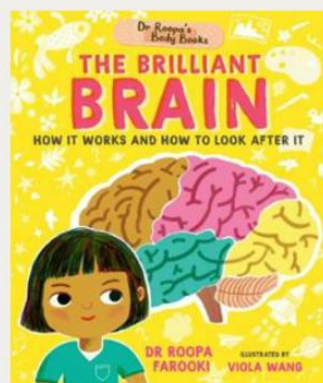


This stunningly beautiful book is a treasure trove. There are 7 original short stories here, and each one makes a perfect bedtime story read. They have the classic feel of fairytales or One Thousand and One Nights, the Arabian tales told by Scheherazade, but they are all new, timeless tales. New legends. All the stories start with a poem and they are set all over the world, including Japan, the Amazon and London.

My favourite tale is Francesca's Feet and the Old Man's Shoes in which a spoiled rich girl gets to literally walk in someone else's shoes and discover kindness and empathy. The tales are stunningly illustrated by Katarzyna Doszla, adding a thrilling pace to the stories. And the end result is a book to love and read over and over, especially at bedtime with 6-10 year olds but could also work as primary school story time as there will be lots to discuss about morality and empathy.

## Dr Roopa's Body Books: The Brilliant Brain

**Author:** Dr Roopa Farooki **Illustrator:** Viola Wang **Publisher:** Walker



Every second of the day, something is happening in your body – and your brain is controlling it all! Your brain is responsible for your thoughts, feelings and memories, but also telling your legs to walk and your lungs to breathe. And it makes you you!

This is a simple introduction to the way the brain works and, although it is a complicated topic, Dr Roopa Farooki explains the brain's many functions in a clear, child-friendly way. There are a few technical terms, such as 'cerebrum' and 'cerebellum', which are defined, and the pronunciation is spelled out, to aid the reader. Also included at the end of the book are handy tips for looking after your brain, such as eating healthily, sleeping lots and wearing a helmet if you're on a bike. The illustrations make this book a delight to read – they're bright, full of imaginative detail and very friendly, meaning children are likely to pick it up and keep turning the pages.

This would be ideal for a curious pre-schooler, but also for a Reception classroom. Friendly, informative and beautifully illustrated.

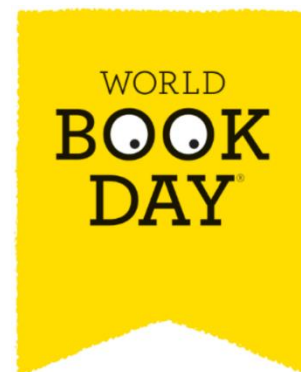
Interest age: 6-8

6-8 years

Non-fiction

## WORLD BOOK DAY 7<sup>TH</sup> 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.



Multiply Suffolk delivers an integrated system of wellbeing, skills and employability, embedding numeracy with clear pathways of support pre- and post-employment. The team are currently working with parents/carers/guardians in the school environment, to support them understand their children's homework and to have a better understanding of what is currently being taught in schools. Further information can be found at: [Multiply Suffolk](#)

## MEASLES IN SUFFOLK

We have been asked to circulate this important information from Suffolk County Council.

**Is your child fully vaccinated? Catching up is easy, at any age.**

You may have read or heard that cases of measles are increasing in England. While cases in Suffolk are currently low, we should prepare for and protect against the potential for increased cases.

If your child has not been fully vaccinated with the MMR vaccine it is a good time to get this done to protect them.

**What should I do?**

**Step 1: Check whether your child has had all of the vaccines they should have had.**

You can look in the 'immunisation' section in your child's red book (Personal Child Health Record) to see if they have received their MMR vaccination.

If you're still unsure, check their records with their GP or email the vaccination clinic [hct.SuffolkSAIS@nhs.net](mailto:hct.SuffolkSAIS@nhs.net)

**Step 2: If your child is missing any vaccination, book an appointment to get them up to date.**

This can be done at a vaccination clinic or your GP.

If you would like to book a place on a clinic, please call 0300 555 5055 option 3 to book appointments for any outstanding vaccinations.

**Important – Please do not attend a clinic without booking in advance.**

For more information, including a list of available vaccination clinics, visit [Childhood Vaccinations – Healthy Suffolk](#)



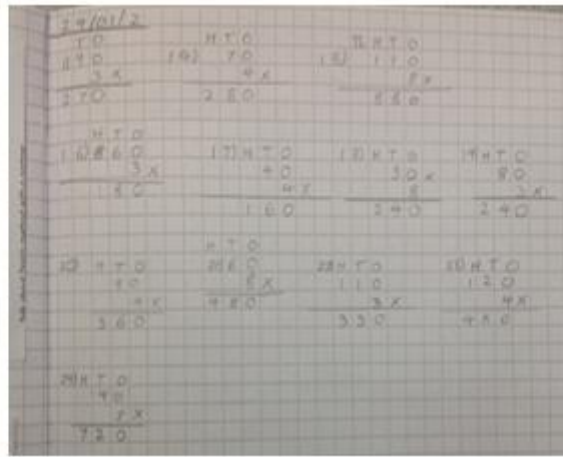
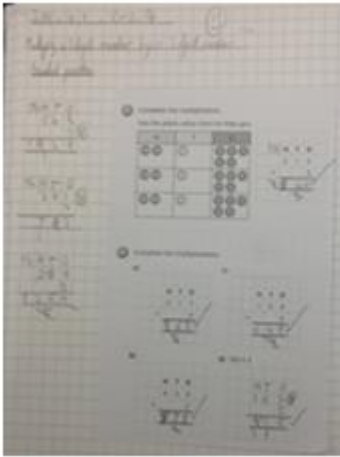


# SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR 4

Well, I cannot believe that it's already the Spring Term and soon the nights will be starting to draw out again. Yippee for lighter evenings! The year 4 children continue to show tremendous resilience and mostly excellent learning behaviour. Again, this is a busy term and there are many great opportunities for learning to look forward to.

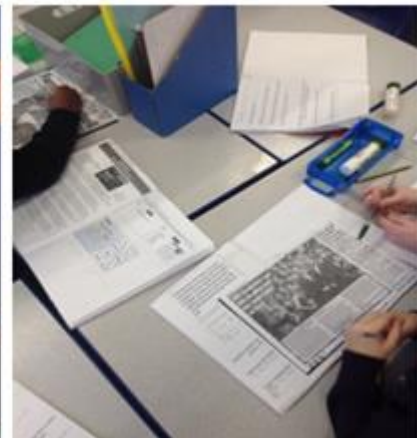
## Maths

In maths, we continue to cover all four mathematical operations and recently we have explored factors and further methods for multiplication and division. We continue to work hard on our presentation and multiplication skills in all of our maths lessons and are seeing some super improvements.



## English

In English, we have explored News Reports and we enjoyed writing our own news reports about the River Orwell Floods. This was very topical given the amount of flooding we were hearing about across the country. The River Orwell part was, of course, made up!





## Science

Our new topic in science is 'Animals including Humans and The Digestive System'. So far this term, we are enjoying learning about teeth, how we can tell what food animals eat by their teeth, making our own teeth indentations and trying to investigate who took the bite from the pear! (Ask the children about this..)



## RE

In RE, we have been learning about 'Jesus the Teacher'. So far, we have learnt that Jesus was born a Jew; we have explored Jesus's presentation in the Temple; Jesus's travelling and teaching; and how Jesus came to show us the way to live. We completed tables and spoke about how good things would come to people when the Messiah comes.

Find - Luke 4:18 - fill in all the good things that will come to these people when the messiah comes:

The poor	They will hear the good news
The captives (prisoners)	He shall be to praise (they will be free)
The blind	They shall see (they will be healed)
The oppressed (look up the word)	They shall be set free (they will be free)



## Art

In Art, we have responded to the Traditional Kente Cloth by Gilbert (Bobbo) Ahiagbe. Over the three-week block we have experimented with a range of surfaces, and have combined colour, texture and pattern and explored the symbolic significance of colour. We have an amazing mini gallery in our classroom to admire and inspire us. Below are some amazing examples of our work.



## IN NEED OF SUPPORT?

Some sources of support are as follows:

<https://healthwatchesuffolk.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

15th February – Years 1, 2 & 3 Lenten Service

16th February – Celebration Assembly

19th–23rd February – HALF TERM

26th February – PD Day (no pupils)

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

#### Spring Term 2024

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Half term: 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Staff Training days: 3<sup>rd</sup> January & 26<sup>th</sup> February

#### Summer Term 2024

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Bank holiday: 6<sup>th</sup> May

Half term: 27<sup>th</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May

Staff Training day: 12<sup>th</sup> April