



# St Mary's Newsletter

Issue 15

3<sup>rd</sup> May 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

"Today we remember #SaintJosephTheWorker. Let us ask the Lord to renew and increase our faith, so that our every task may begin in Him and find completion in Him."

*Pope Francis (@Pontifex)*

## Week Commencing 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May: Bank Holiday (no school)

Tues 7<sup>th</sup> May: Year 3 Swimming

Tues 7<sup>th</sup> May: Reception Share afternoon 2.30pm

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> May: Year 3 Share afternoon 2.30pm

Fri 10<sup>th</sup> May: Years Reception & Year 1

Art Workshop Visit

W/C 13<sup>th</sup> May: SATs week

Tues 14<sup>th</sup> May: Year 1 Trip to Colchester Zoo

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> May: Years 3 & 4 Class Mass-

Parents are welcome to join us.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As May begins we have been thinking about Mary, the mother of Jesus, a symbol of God's love and a reminder of the importance of human relationships and connection. Mother Mary is a beautiful example of how God can transform us from ordinary people to extraordinary ones. This May lets ask ourselves how we can live our life more like Mary.

On Monday, James Carter award winning children's poet visited the school, we enjoyed a lively assembly and each class took part in a poetry workshop. The feedback from pupils and staff has been fantastic!

Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the bank holiday.

Warm Regards

Mrs Berry and Mrs Measham

## READY TO LEARN

Please ensure that your children are in the playground at **8.40am** for when the bell rings. After 8.50am children will be given a late mark. 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.



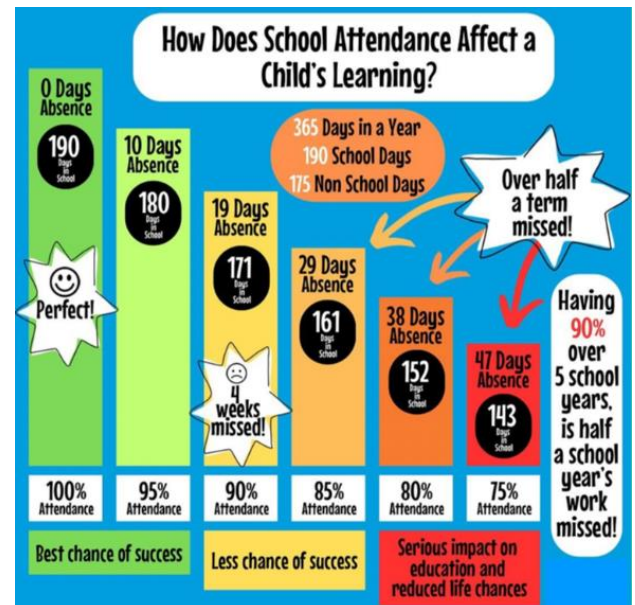
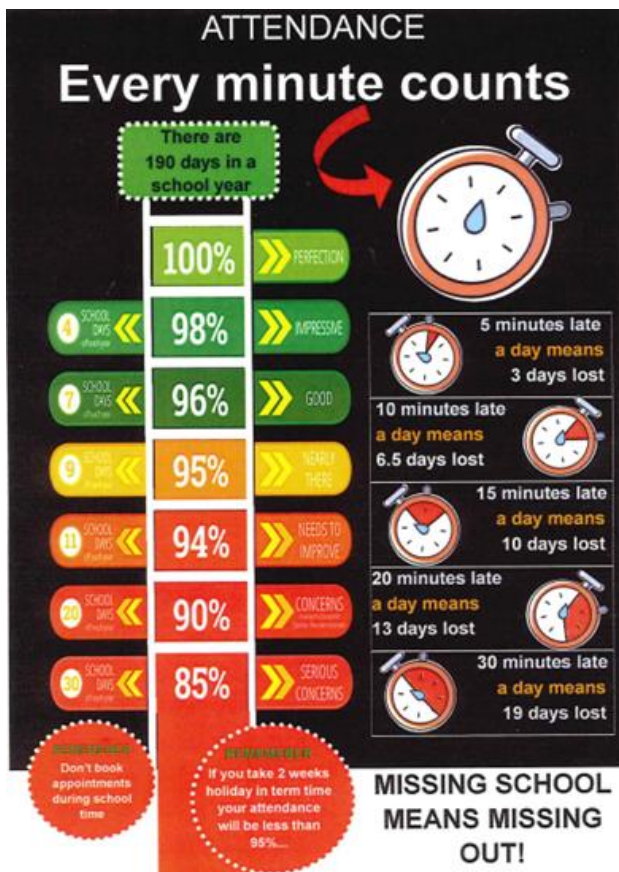
If your child is ill, please leave a message (every day of absence) on the School Absence Line (01473 728372) before 8am, or send an email to: [admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk) We do ask that all children who have been sick or had diarrhoea remain at 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. Registers close at 9am.



## PARENTMAIL/COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

The school uses Parentmail to communicate with

parents/carers and it is very important everyone is able to access our messages. Please contact the school office if you are experiencing any difficulties in receiving messages, as you may miss some crucial information.



If you move house or update your telephone number or email address, it is vital that we are kept informed. Please email us so that we can update our records with your new contact details: [admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk)

## SPORTS CLUBS SUMMER TERM 2024

### **Mondays**

Football Club (years 3, 4 & 5 boys) 3.30-4.30pm.

### **Thursdays**

Football Club (years 3, 4 & 5 girls) starts at 8am.

### **Fridays**

Multisports Club (years 1, 2 & 3) starts at 8am. **FULLY BOOKED**

Handball & Dodgeball (years 4, 5 & 6) starts at 12.10pm. **FULLY BOOKED**

Cricket & Rounders Club (years 4, 5 & 6) 3.30-4.30pm.

Please contact the School Office for further information.



## **Match reports from Mr Hurd**

### **IPSSA Football Leagues:**

**We have now completed all matches across all league for the school this season. The Boys Football league team played 7 matches and learnt a great deal to help them with their development for next year, winning just 1 of their matches but showing signs of progression in each match.**

**The Girls Football league team played 5 games, winning 1 of them but all matches were extremely close. The girls still have a Cup Quarter-Final to look forward to.**



Suffolk New College Rural Campus (Otley College) will be holding a family fun day on **Saturday 11th May**. Between 10am - 4pm you can visit and enjoy fun-filled outdoor activities that include: field games, animal petting, arts and craft competitions, face painting, food and drink samples, alongside catering demos and a flame-grilled BBQ.

This event is free to attend – although there is a £5 parking fee – but you will need to have a pre-booked ticket. Spaces are limited so book now to avoid disappointment. Due to the animals on-site and health & safety concerns, dogs are not allowed.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/big-day-out-tickets-713604108097>

# SAVE THE DATE – FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2-4pm



## A request from the school council

**We are looking for some board games that can be played outside at lunchtime. As School Council members we would like to give our pupils some board games to be enjoyed and be responsible for. Please bring your prized possessions to the office and we can collect them from there. Thank you for your support and kindness.**

**Yours sincerely, School Council**



## BLUE CROSS VISIT

We received an informative visit from a volunteer from the Blue Cross, who gave us some advice about how to be safe around dogs.



Pets change lives  
We change theirs

# Be safe with dogs

There are lots of good things about having a dog: they are great friends, they keep you fit and you can learn a lot about caring and being responsible when helping to look after them. Dogs can feel a lot of the things that you can, such as happiness, anger and fear, so it's important that you understand how to behave around dogs at home and outside, so you can enjoy being with them and can stay safe.

### To stay safe you should not approach when the dog



has a toy



is sick or injured



is sleeping



is eating



is in bed or under a table



is trying to move away



has puppies

### Rules around dogs

- Never touch a dog that is left alone
- Don't enter a garden if a dog is loose
- Never run or shout
- Do not hug a dog - how would you feel if a stranger hugged you?
- Never sneak up and surprise a dog
- Always make sure a dog has the choice to move away from you if they want to

### Reasons why a dog might bite

- Protecting themselves or their property
- Pain
- Feeling trapped
- Surprised by your actions
- Excitement
- Worried or nervous

### How to greet a dog using the 3Cs of Canine Choice

Think - do I really need to stroke them? Remember they may be busy or having a bad day

- **Check** - ask the owner first
- **Call** - call the dog to you by patting your legs gently and saying "hello"
- **Count** - if the dog comes to you, count three strokes on their shoulder and then stop, giving the dog the choice to move away

The 3Cs of Canine Choice will help keep you and the dog safe and happy

### If a strange dog runs up to you

- Stand still
- Drop food or toys away from you
- Fold your arms
- Make no noise
- Look away from the dog

### If you are knocked to the ground

- Roll up like a stone with your face to the ground
- Cover your face with your hands
- Be as silent and still as a stone



Of the people who get bitten

70% of bites happen in the home

80% are bitten by a dog they know

Sick, injured and homeless pets have relied on us since 1897.



# Dog body language - read the signs



## Go away



I am afraid, I'm cowering away from you and may hide under furniture. See how my ears are flat back. I may show my teeth, snarl or growl.



I am bold and am standing my ground. Look at how the hair on my back is raised and how tense my body is.



I don't want my tummy tickled. I am really scared. I moved away from you and rolled on my back, and my tail is tucked between my legs. I am so scared that if you come to tickle me, I might think you are going to hurt me and I might bite.



## I'm not sure about you yet



I'm moving slowly and lowering my head. My paw is raised and I may lick my lips to show I am a little unsure.



I am moving away from you with my head lower than my shoulders. I have tucked my tail away and may glance over my shoulder and show the white of my eye.



My head is lowered and my tail is tucked away. I am looking at you sideways and may yawn to show I am not sure about you.



## Happy to meet you



My body is relaxed. Look how my ears are forward or relaxed and my tongue is hanging. I am wagging my tail and my body.



I am down in a play bow - I want you to play with me! My front legs are straight forward and my back end is raised. My tail is high and wagging. I may bark to get your attention.



My tail is wagging. You can tell from my face that I'm interested and alert - look how relaxed my jaw is and my tongue is hanging down.

### Blue Cross

Sick, injured and homeless pets have relied on us since 1897. Thousands of abandoned or unwanted pets turn to us for help every year. Our doors are always open to them and with your support, they always will be.

Blue Cross Education Team  
Shilton Road, Burford, Oxon OX18 4PF

Telephone: 0300 111 8950  
Email: [education@bluecross.org.uk](mailto:education@bluecross.org.uk)



[bluecross.org.uk](http://bluecross.org.uk)

Pets change lives  
We change theirs

Registered charity no: 224392 (England and Wales), SC040154 (Scotland)

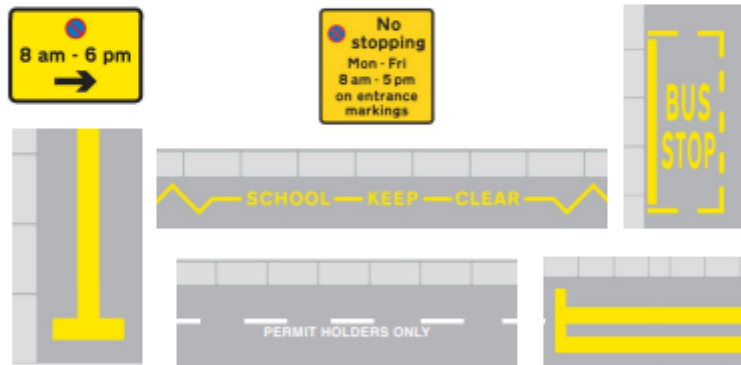
ED-14222-0719





POOR AND INCONSIDERATE PARKING CLOSE TO SCHOOLS CAN PLACE CHILDREN AT RISK

**DO NOT PARK ON THE FOLLOWING**



To report problem parking, scan the QR code

Failure to follow these rules may result in a Penalty Charge Notice being issued.

Please park safely and be considerate of others.



**#thinkb4upark**

## IS THIS OK? – ONLINE SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SUFFOLK

Is This Ok? is a project run by Missing People and has been supporting young people since 2019.



It is a safe, completely anonymous and confidential service, recently launched in Suffolk that allows young people to find out more information about topics affecting them and to speak to a trained member of the team to get support, in efforts to stop exploitation.

The service is open every day and young people can speak to a member of the team between 4pm – 11pm to get specialist, non-judgemental support.

Please visit the Is This Ok? website to find out more: <https://www.isthisok.org.uk/>



## Suffolk Parent Carer Forum **OPEN EVENT**

Meet professionals in SEND & Mental Health from  
Suffolk County Council, Health Services, Voluntary  
Sector and more

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June**

**10:30 – 1:30**

United Reformed Church  
Ipswich St, Stowmarket  
IP14 1AD

Information Stands

Presentations

Refreshments Provided

Free Attendees draw to win an Amazon Voucher

Working towards a brighter future for  
Suffolk's children and young people

🏠 Suffolk Parent Carer Forum, Brightspace, 160 Hadleigh Road, Ipswich, IP2 0HH  
☎ 01473 760933 ✉ info@suffolkpcf.co.uk 🌐 www.suffolkpcf.co.uk

Are you worried about how they are feeling?

**DECREASING DEPRESSION**

**FREE TALK**



May 14th 7-8pm

Jane Keyworth, Lead Facilitator at FACE  
gives a one hour online talk explaining  
what we can do to reduce the symptoms of depression.

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk) go to **PARENT** page





Special Educational Needs  
and Disability Information,  
Advice & Support Service

**sendiass**

## Working with Schools

SENDIASS is offering a relaxed online session for parents and carers exploring solution focussed approaches for working with schools.

This will include exploring practical strategies to prepare for and manage meetings and conversations with settings around your child's special educational needs.

Because of the interactive nature of this session, we don't have a pre-recording to send to parents who register. We will instead send the slides and additional resources which we refer to.

**8<sup>th</sup> May 2024      10am – 12 noon**

Click here to book: [BOOKING LINK ON EVENTBRITE](#)



Special Educational Needs  
and Disability Information,  
Advice & Support Service

**sendiass**

## EHC needs assessments

SENDIASS is offering an online session explaining Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessments. This session was co-produced separately with parents and practitioners, and both are welcome to book.

The session will explore:

- The purpose and threshold of an EHC needs assessment and when one might be requested.
- A family's options if they receive a refusal to assess.
- What happens if an EHC needs assessment is agreed and how families are involved.
- What happens at the end of the process.

Everyone who books will be sent a pre-recording of the session and links to a suite of additional resources.

**22nd May 2024      6pm – 7:30pm**

Click here to book: [BOOKING LINK ON EVENTBRITE](#)



# SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR 5

We had a very busy Spring Term in Year 5 with so much learning happening.



In RE, we reflected on the Last Supper and spent some time looking at how it has been represented in a variety of works of art.

We talked about which piece of art had the biggest impact on us. There was some excellent reasoning going on as to why we felt one was more powerful than the other.

We have spent some time exploring how our actions have consequences. We thought about positive actions having positive consequences and how we can try and make this a part of our everyday lives.



We also looked at the Parable of the Lost Son and reflected on God's love for us. We then ended with a debate on whether we agreed with the father or the eldest son. This led to a very interesting discussion between the children.



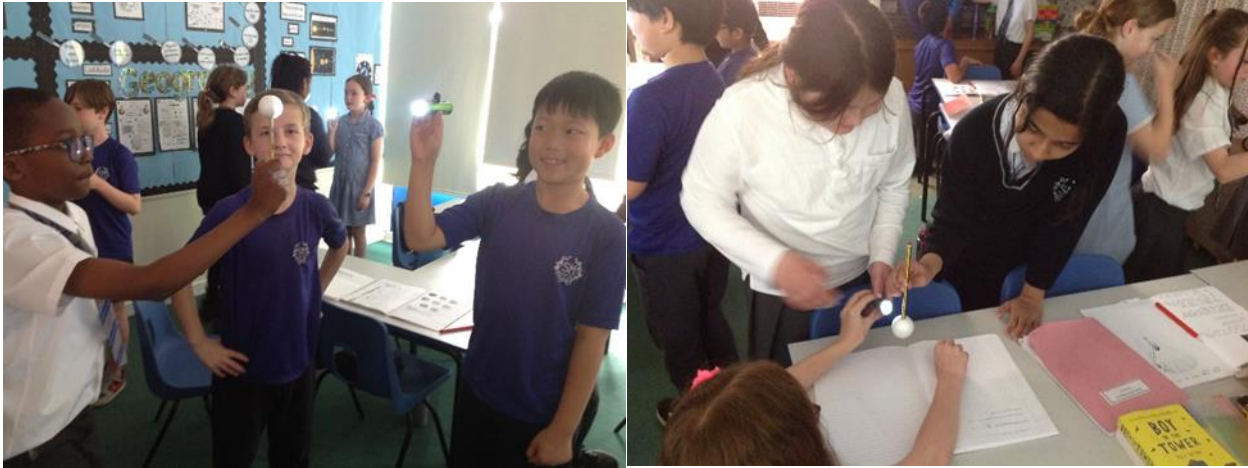
## Ignite Workshop

Year 5 were visited by Hamish and Alex from the Ignite Youth Group. The workshop focused on the presence of Jesus in our lives and how he is the bridge between God and humanity. The children enjoyed singing songs and also listened sensitively to Hamish and Alex's life stories, describing their entrance into the Catholic faith.





In Science, we have started our work on our topic Earth and Space. After consolidating our previous learning on the planets in our solar system, we moved on to how our view of the moon changes over a lunar month.



In DT, we investigated which fabric is ideal for creating a functional and hardwearing lunch bag. We tested a variety of materials for qualities such as their feel, absorbency and how hardwearing it might be for daily use. We then developed our cutting and sewing skills, learning running stitch and back stitch and produced our own personalised lunch bag. The children were rightly proud of their creations and some used them to bring their lunch into school.



We are already working hard this term and we are looking forward to our history lessons where we will be learning about the Mayan civilisation, geography lessons on map skills and studying the artist Bisa Butler. Keep up the great work Year 5!

## YEAR FOUR AND FIVE TRIP TO NORWICH THEATRE

Children from Year 4 and 5 were especially lucky to attend the Norwich Theatre last week to see the Performance of *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q Rauf. Touching on the issue of childhood refugee Ahmet, and his unexpected invitation from the Queen, the performance expertly retold this amazing story through dialogue, dance and drama. The children behaved extremely well and represented St Marys in an excellent manner. The icing on the cake was meeting some of the actors after the performance.

## NSPCC LISTEN UP, SPEAK UP

A graphic for NSPCC's 'Listen up, Speak up' training. It features a collage of diverse people, including a woman, a baby, a man, a woman holding a baby, and a young boy. The background is green with colorful geometric shapes like a red triangle, a pink circle, and a yellow triangle. A white box on the left contains the text 'Listen up, Speak up' in green, followed by a description of the training and a green button that says 'Sign up for our 10-minute training'.

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](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

## 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.

### Summer Term Dates

2<sup>nd</sup> May Beginning of Term Mass 2.30pm in Church

W/C 13<sup>th</sup> May: SATs week

W/C 20<sup>th</sup> May: Other Faith Week

24<sup>th</sup> May Celebration Assembly

**27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May Half Term**

W/C 24<sup>th</sup> June: Arts Week

25<sup>th</sup> June School Music Concert

28<sup>th</sup> June Open Evening

17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July Key Stage 2 Play

19<sup>th</sup> July End of Term Mass 2pm in Church

### Term dates for 2023 – 2024

#### 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



Term dates for 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Half term: 28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November

Staff Training day: 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 3<sup>rd</sup> September &  
4<sup>th</sup> November

Spring Term 2025

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Half term: 17<sup>th</sup> February – 21<sup>st</sup> February

Staff Training day: 6<sup>th</sup> January

Summer Term 2025

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Bank holiday: 5<sup>th</sup> May

Half term: 26<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> May

Staff Training day: 22<sup>nd</sup> April