



St Mary's Newsletter

Issue 18

24th June 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 does not spare us from difficulties, but helps us face them. We thus learn to cling to Him more and more, trusting in His power. #GospelOfTheDay (Mark 4:35-41)." *Pope Francis (@Pontifex)*

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all enjoying the warmer weather. Please remember water bottles and sun hats.

At the end of this term, Mrs Snowden will leave us to go on maternity leave. We welcome Miss Godbold back in September.

The class teachers for the next year will be:

Reception – Mrs Goodwin & Mrs Woods

Year 1 – Mr Cook

Year 2 – Miss Maskery

Year 3 – Miss Godbold & Mrs Veitch

Year 4 – Mr Bentley

Year 5 – Miss Southgate

Year 6 – Mrs Duhamel-Newton

We have our transition morning on 9th July, when children will spend the morning in their new classes.

Thank you for all the positive feedback about Sports Day. A great day was had by all.

Warm Regards

Mrs Berry and Mrs Measham

Week Commencing 24th June 2024

Arts Week 24th-28th June

Tues 25th June: Key Stage 2 Singing on Playground at 3pm

Parents/carers welcome to attend

Tues 25th June: Summer Concert at 6pm

Only pre-booked tickets

Tues 25th June: Year 3 Swimming

Thurs 27th June: Year 2 Trip to Felixstowe

Fri 28th June: Arts Week Exhibition (School Hall)

Wed 3rd-Fri 5th July: Year 6 PGL Trip

Thurs 4th July: Year 5 Parish Mass in Church at 9.15am

Parents/carers welcome to attend

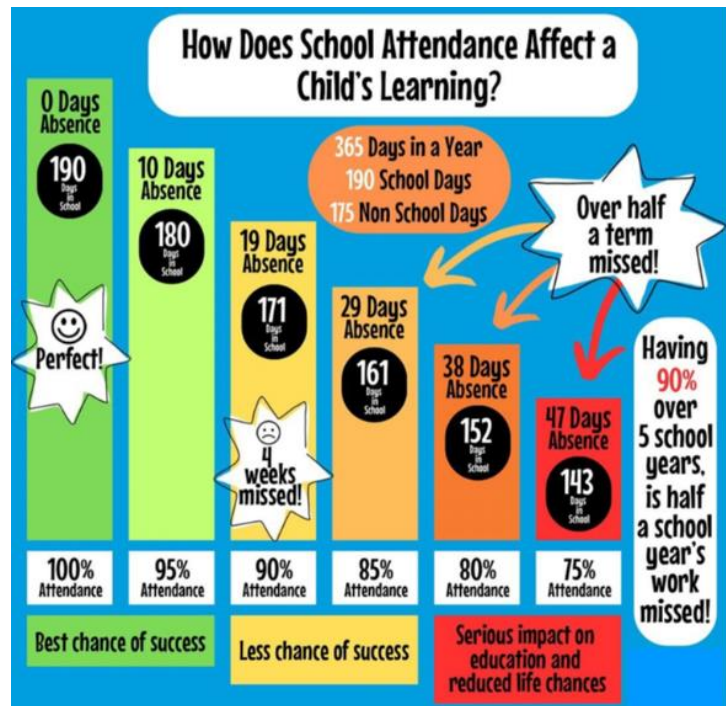
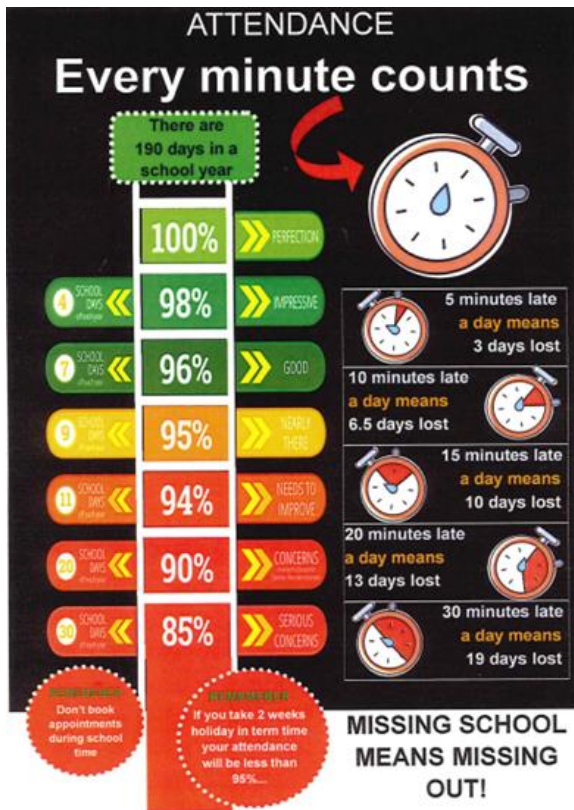
Thurs 11th July: Year 6 Parish Mass in Church at 9.15am

Parents/carers welcome to attend

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.



PARKING

The school has received complaints from local residents regarding parking in the area. Please be advised that the roadway beyond the school is **PRIVATE** and **parking is not permitted**. Some drivers have reportedly been blocking driveways and parking on double yellow lines.

Please be considerate of our local neighbours.

Thank you for help and understanding.



NO PHONES ON SCHOOL PREMISES

Can we please kindly request that parents/carers **do not use mobile phones** anywhere on the school premises (including the playground) due to safeguarding concerns. Many thanks for your support.

Think before you park

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

DO NOT PARK ON THE FOLLOWING

- 8 am - 6 pm
- No stopping Mon - Fri 8 am - 5 pm on entrance markings
- BUS STOP

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

IPSWICH BOROUGH COUNCIL

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.

SPORTS NEWS FROM MRS DYER

Some Year 5 and 6s attended the School Games Netball on Monday 17th June, winning most of their games. For some children it was their first tournament. The sun was shining and brought out the best in our team spirit and joy of sport. Well done and thank you for the wonderful support from parents and friends.

Mrs Dyer

VISITOR IN YEARS 4 & 5

Year 4 and 5 had a wonderful experience with Marcel from OGEN, who is a composer who travels around the world sharing his amazing skills with schools. We learnt how to use his software and develop our compositions through layering. The children can also use the website at home and the details have been sent on Parentmail.



FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

Well it shone. And then it rained. Then it poured. Then it shone again. Then it rained a little more. But we did it! It takes more than a drop of rain to put off our brilliant St Mary's community!



Tombolas, crafts and games galore, lots of lovely toys and books that found themselves a new home, brilliant raffle prizes won and over 100 delicious burgers and hot dogs consumed throughout the day. Summer fair 2024 - completed.

Well done to the wonderful and hard-working PTA team who showed up early, armed with gazebos, barbecues, umbrellas, ponchos and the kitchen sink to make sure everything was as weatherproof and watertight as it could be!

Thanks to each and every one of our fabulous volunteers for being amazing and flexible throughout the fair, working hard, stepping in, and switching jobs at the drop of a hat to make sure we could still offer as much as possible!

Thanks also to the Police, Jigsaw Dance, and Brown Owl and the 3rd Constable Brownies and Rainbows for coming along and supporting the fair. We were disappointed that the Fire Service couldn't make it, they do their very best but there's always a risk they get called out.

And huge thanks to all of you and your families and friends for showing up, despite the dodgy forecast, and having a wonderful time. The children certainly looked like they were enjoying themselves and that's what it's all about!

We always want to let you know the amount raised as soon as we can, but it gets a little complicated as we have to remove expenses. It takes a lot to put on a fair and while we are blessed with brilliant families who provide wonderful donations, we've still had to buy in food, drink, prizes, craft, raffle tickets and the all-important glitter supplies!

The claims aren't all in yet so we can't provide a final figure until they are, but I think it's safe to say the weather didn't beat us. We have counted an incredible £2013.12 in takings. We also have two, potentially three matched funding applications from volunteers which, if approved, will add another £1,000 and change. Once expenses are removed and applications approved we will publish the final figure.

This means we have another injection of funds to pay off the final instalment of the incredible history wall the children have been enjoying since January. This school year, we have also funded keyboards for the children's music lessons and provided a Christmas budget for rainy day toys. The most important thing is the experiences though and we've loved seeing your children's happy faces at the discos, fairs and our Play2Day event.

We desperately need a new chair and new committee members to join us for the coming school year, to keep all of this going, so if you are interested in finding out more about what this involves please contact friendsofstmarysipswich@gmail.com

Thanks for all your support.
Friends of St Mary's

WELL DONE

Well done to Nancy in year 4 who raised £1,800 by taking part in the Race for Life. Together with her friends who also took part, they raised an incredible £2,800 for Cancer Research. Amazing! Well done everyone!

IGNITING LEADERS CHANGING LIVES

PiXL Reading

READING FOR PLEASURE

UNLOCKING THE MAGIC OF STORYTIME: CREATIVE STORYTELLING TECHNIQUES

Diving into a book with your child is more than just reading words on a page; it's an adventure into new worlds, an exploration of wild imaginations, and a journey through stories that can last a lifetime. To turn reading time into an even more engaging and magical experience, here are some creative storytelling techniques that can bring stories to life for your young readers.

1. BRING CHARACTERS TO LIFE WITH VOICES

Nothing captivates a child's attention quite like hearing the different characters in a story speak in unique voices. By changing your tone, pitch, and speed, you can help each character leap off the page. A deep, grumbly voice for the wise old owl, or a high-pitched squeak for the tiny mouse, adds depth to the narrative and helps children differentiate between characters, making the story more memorable and fun.

2. EXPLORE THE STORY'S THEMES TOGETHER

Every story offers a chance to explore valuable lessons and themes. Take a moment after reading to discuss what the story was about beyond its plot. Ask questions like, "What do you think the main character learned?" or "How does this story make you feel?" This not only enhances comprehension but also encourages empathy and critical thinking.

3. USE OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS TO SPARK IMAGINATION

Encourage your child to think beyond the story by asking open-ended questions. Inquiries such as, "What do you think happens next?" or "If you were in the story, what would you do differently?" prompt creative thinking and personal connection to the narrative. These questions allow children to use their imagination and become part of the storytelling process.

4. INCORPORATE PROPS AND VISUAL AIDS

Bringing stories to life doesn't have to be limited to vocal variety; props and visual aids can add an exciting layer to your storytelling. Use anything from stuffed animals to represent characters, to simple handmade drawings or objects around the house related to the story. This visual element can enhance understanding and make the story more tangible.

CREATIVE STORYTELLING TECHNIQUES

5. MAKE IT INTERACTIVE WITH ROLE-PLAY

Invite your child to act out parts of the story with you. This could be as simple as making gestures, facial expressions, or fully acting out scenes. Role-playing helps children better grasp the story's events and characters' emotions, making reading a more interactive and immersive experience.

6. PAUSE FOR PREDICTIONS

Before turning the page, ask your child to guess what they think will happen next. This not only builds suspense and excitement but also engages their analytical skills as they try to predict the storyline based on clues and patterns they've noticed.

7. CREATE A READING RITUAL

Establishing a special reading ritual can make storytime a cherished part of the day. Whether it's a special corner of the house dedicated to reading, a specific time of day, or even a unique way of opening a book together, rituals can make reading time something your child looks forward to.

By including these storytelling techniques, reading can become a dynamic and enriching experience. It's not just about the stories themselves but the shared moments of discovery, laughter, and wonder that make reading together so special. So, grab your next book and let the adventure begin!



To read the full newsletter, with lots of book recommendations: [PiXL Primary Reading For Pleasure - Parents Newsletter \(Summer 2024\).pdf](#)

HELP US WIN £1,000 FOR OUR LIBRARY!



Nominate us at
nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize
and you could win a £100 gift card!



Scan me!



#rebuildthelibrary

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE AT SUFFOLK LIBRARIES



Reading Quest is the new summer reading programme created by Suffolk Libraries, that aims to build a fun summer of reading for children and their families.

Reading Quest is an exciting opportunity to get the whole family involved in reading and making memories this summer! The challenge is open to children of all ages and all reading abilities.

Every week during the summer holidays, staff and volunteers will be on hand to chat to children about the activities completed each week and the exciting books they've read. While visiting the library, children can collect a weekly reward and a new stack of books to enjoy at home.

Visit your local library from **13th July** to collect your free map and start your quest!

Reading Quest is primarily aimed at children aged 2-12 years old, however, older children might be interested in volunteering in their local library to support younger children to take part.

For further information please visit the Suffolk Libraries website: <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/resources/reading-quest>



LEGO enthusiasts will have a treat this summer as a special exhibition comes to The Hold on Ipswich Waterfront just in time for the school holidays.

The exhibition showcases replicas of impressive structures from all around the world, created using over half a million LEGO bricks. The exhibition, created by Warren Elsmore, features not only the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, but also modern, natural, and historical wonders from all seven continents. Visitors will embark on a journey that takes them from the ancient pyramids of Egypt to the bustling streets of Old London Bridge, to the breath-taking night sky of the Aurora Australis, and finally to the centrepiece installation of the Great Barrier Reef.

Suitable for all ages. £5 per adult, £4 per child, £14 per group ticket (2 adults and 2 children). Book tickets here: <https://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/brick-wonders/>

The exhibition opens on Friday 12th July and runs until the end of September.



SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR 2

R.E.

RE – We have heard and read the story of the Good Samaritan. We made 'helping hands' to show how we could help our neighbours. We also made prayer cards, asking for God's help to be a better Samaritan for our neighbours in our community.



P.E.

We had a workshop with Dance East! We enjoyed learning about dance with a professional dance teacher.



D.T.

We learned about waterproofing and made some origami hats. We waterproofed them by coating them in wax crayons. We found that this was the most absorbent material when we did a fair test.



We made some healthy oats and fruit for our morning snack. We also made some healthy crisps and potato rostis. We learned about processed and ultra-processed foods.



Book by
DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics by
TIM MINCHIN

St Alban's Catholic High School
presents

ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.

Wednesday 10th July & Thursday 11th July
6.00pm - 7.30pm
Doors open at 5.30pm

Adult - £10 Tickets available to
Child/Concession - £5 purchase on ParentMail

Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR. is presented through special arrangement with
and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, New York, NY

Tickets can be purchased by calling St Alban's on 01473 726178

St Alban's
Catholic High School




Open Mornings

An opportunity to visit and experience the school as a live, learning environment, see our outstanding facilities and talk with key staff members.

Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th July 2024
9.10am - 10:25am

To book a tour please scan the QR code



St Alban's is part of the
Our Lady of Walsingham
Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

St Alban's Catholic High School
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Telephone 01473 705266
@StAlbansHigh
stalbanshigh ipswich

LEARNING RESPECTING CARING #thestalbansway

NSPCC LISTEN UP, SPEAK UP



Listen up, Speak up

It's up to all of us to keep children safe. Take our free, 10-minute digital training and learn what to do if you're ever worried about a child or their family.

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

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

24th June: Arts Week
25th June School Music Concert
26th & 27th June Year 6 High School Induction Days
28th June ARTS Week Open Evening
16th July Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Sports Day
17th & 18th July Key Stage 2 Play
19th July End of Term Mass 2pm 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

Term dates for 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Wednesday 4th September – Friday 20th December
Half term: 28th October – 1st November
Staff Training day: 2nd September, 3rd September &
4th November

Spring Term 2025

Tuesday 7th January – Friday 4th April
Half term: 17th February – 21st February
Staff Training day: 6th January

Summer Term 2025

Wednesday 23rd April – Tuesday 22nd July
Bank holiday: 5th May
Half term: 26th May – 30th May
Staff Training day: 22nd April