February 2026

St. Mary's CofE Primary School

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'Within the love of God, working together, growing together, for all to flourish.'

Upcoming Events

Friday 13th Feb – last day of the half term

Monday 23rd Feb – start of the new half term

Friday 27th Feb – deadline for writing competition

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Rights Respecting Focus -
ARTICLE 24 –

Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must work to provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment so that children can stay healthy.

With the new calendar year just over one month old, we approach the end of another half term which signals the half way point in the school year.

This is a fact that always makes me reflect on how quickly time travels and makes me appreciate the importance of every day in school.

Keep in Touch

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World Book Day

For those of you who enjoy World Book Day, you need to pencil Thursday 5th March into your diary because that is the day that we will be doing our best to celebrate all things to do with books and reading.

Mrs Ironmonger will be sending out a letter soon with an overview of the theme we are going for this year so look out for the letter that will come home soon with all the details.

Purple Mash Library

On the theme of reading, don't forget the information I sent out recently about the new Purple Mash Library, which is available for children to use. All they need to do to access the library of books and activities, is to log in to Purple Mash just like they would do in school. If there are any issues accessing the books, please let me know and I will look into it for you.

Healthy Snacks / Lunchboxes

Can we please remind you of the importance of making sure that your child has a healthy and balanced packed lunch if that is what they choose to bring.

Although we appreciate that some children may have specific dietary requirements and '*likes* & *dis*likes', a packed lunch should include some sort of sandwich / wrap, some fruit or vegetables and a sweet treat to finish (but not a chocolate bar). Other items can of course be included, but please look to include these staple items as a starting point.

Playtime snacks also need to be healthy snacks, not sweet treats.
Thank you for your continued help with this.

House Point Badges

We have seen a drop in the number of children wearing their house point badges. We know that children don't like to wear them on their PE days in case they fall off, but on their non-PE days can we ask you to encourage badge wearing in school please. Children DO NOT need to wear all their badges, unless they would like to, but if they can wear the latest badge they have received at least, it would be good to see.

It's a really good way to make children feel pride in what they have achieved.

Forest School clothes and boots

With the weather still being very wet at the moment, can we please ask that you make sure your child has appropriate warm and weather proof clothing for their Forest School sessions. The last thing we want is for school uniform or shoes to get damaged or dirty.

Thank you

Half term holiday club

Are you looking for a half term holiday club?

Don't forget that you can access the Achieve4All half-term camp at school on Tuesday 17th February (see the poster).

Follow the link on the Achieve4All website to make your booking.

https://achieve4all.co.uk/

Parking

Can I please remind you again about safe parking outside the school. Whilst I appreciate that during the colder months more people drive to school, can I remind you that there should be no parking on the markings or the double yellow lines along Steer Point Road.

With more cars parking incorrectly, there is an increased risk to pedestrians, especially those needing to cross the road. None of us would want to see an accident._

Mental Health Corner

This week is Children's Mental Health Week and we will be helping children and supporting them within the theme '**This is My Place'.**

This theme will help us all focus on identity and belonging and how this supports our well-being.

Dates for the Diary…

As more dates are confirmed we will let you know.

Friday 13th February	Last day of the half term
Tuesday 17th February	Achieve4All Holiday camp
Monday 23rd February	First day of the new half term
Friday 27th February	Deadline for the writing competition
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day (further info to follow)

Don't forget that school term dates for the rest of this year and next year, can be found on the school website, especially if you are looking to book holidays and need to know when the school is closed.

Writing Competition – deadline Friday 27th February

This week, children will be bringing home some information about a writing competition that we will be having across all age groups in school and we would like to encourage everyone to have a go. The theme of the writing will be linked to the exciting news story which is about to happen any day now, where a new rocket (Artemis II) will be heading back to the orbit the moon on a mission that will lead to further exploration of space in the years to come.

We hope that everyone will want to have a go at this and we look forward to seeing all of the wonderful writing that the children can come up with.

And Finally…. Young Voices

Last week we took a St. Mary's choir to the NEC in Birmingham to join around 5000 other children from across the country to take part in a huge performance of songs. It was a truly amazing show which gave the children the thrill of performing in front of a large audience, in a huge venue as part of a massive children's choir. What an amazing opportunity it was for them all.

We're very grateful for Mrs. Kay's effort in getting the children through all of the rehearsals which clearly paid off. We were also really pleased that some parents and carers were able to make it all the way to Birmingham to enjoy the show too and their feedback was lovely. One even said that the event had been the

'Highlight of my parenting journey'.

Kind regards

Adrian Clements

Head of School