



4th September 2026

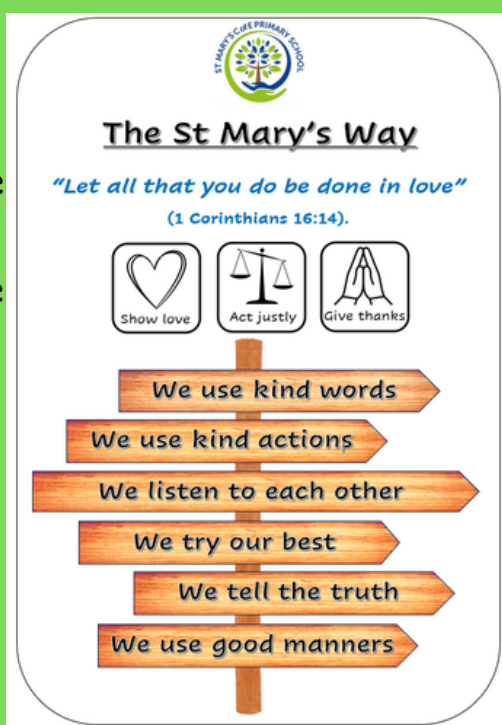
This Week at St Mary's...

What a fantastic start to the year! We are so fortunate to have had such an incredible refurbishment in school giving Early Years a new classroom, creating 'The Burrow' - a nurturing space where children can be supported in a variety of ways whether this is to consolidate learning or to work on social and emotional skills. More information on this wonderful space will be provided as we embed this brand new provision. We have now created a corridor that runs through school making the space much more user friendly and meaning that all classrooms have their own designated space to learn. Toilets have been updated and the whole space has had new flooring and fresh decoration! We are incredibly proud of what has been achieved and I can't thank the staff enough for all their hard work in getting these spaces ready for September in such a short space of time! THANK YOU ALL.

Whole school
attendance this
week...

95.2%

This week we have reminded our children of our school vision inspired by the parable of the mustard seed. We talked about all the things that help us at St Mary's to grow and flourish. We spoke about our St Mary's way and how this supports children to be the best they can be.



Dates and Events

SEPTEMBER

15th	OPEN EVENING
15th-22nd	BOOK WEEK - Book fayre in school
21st	World Peace Day
25th	Macmillan coffee morning

FULL DIARY DATES COMING
SOON

Classes



ROBIN CLASS

Nursery & Reception
Mrs Bee & Mrs Coleman



WOODPECKER CLASS

Year Three & Four
Miss Woodhouse



WREN CLASS

Year One & Two
Miss Selby & Mrs Greenwood



OWL CLASS

Year Five and Six
Miss Wright

OPEN Evening

15TH SEPTEMBER
FROM 3.30PM

JOIN US TO SEE OUR
Refurbishment!

We can't
wait to
welcome
you!

SEE OUR
Refurbishment
AND IMPROVEMENTS
ACROSS THE SCHOOL

TEA & COFFEE
Served

BOOK FAYRE
Open!

Everyone welcome!

OPEN EVENING

15th September

We know how desperate you all are to come and see our new improvements and we can't blame you!

We will be holding an open evening on Tuesday 15th September from 3.30-4.30pm for all current parents to come along and see the improvements. During this time class teachers will also be on hand to ask you any questions you have about the new year.

We have one final phase of improvements planned for the October half-term break, during which Wren Class will also receive a refurbishment. Once this work is complete, we look forward to holding a GRAND OPENING event for the whole community. Any help in organising this would be greatly appreciated, please see Mrs Bailey to get involved!

NEW YEAR INFORMATION

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY

ATTENDANCE

At St Mary's we have high expectations for attendance and define good attendance as at least 97% across the school year. This equates to no more than five days of absence (10 sessions).

- School gates open at **8:40am** and close at **8:55am**.
- School gates open at **3.25pm** and close at **3.40pm**
- Children arriving after 9:00am will be marked as late.
- Arrivals after 9:15am (when registers close) will be recorded as an unauthorised absence ('U' mark).

Regular attendance is vital, as poor attendance has a significant impact on learning and reduces future opportunities. We therefore ask all parents and carers to work closely with us to ensure children attend school every day.

Please note: the school cannot authorise holidays unless under exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised absences may be referred to the local authority and may result in a Fixed Penalty Fine.

If we suspect a child is on holiday without notification, a home visit may be carried out. Please see the attached Attendance Guide for a full outline of our policies and procedures. It is the parents' responsibility to complete a 'leave of absence request' for any intended holiday/leave of absence a minimum of 20 school days prior to the holiday/leave being taken.

ILLNESS

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please contact the school office as soon as possible. We require contact made on each day of a child's absence.

- If we cannot reach a parent/carer by 1:00pm, a home visit will be made to check on the child's welfare and safety.
- If a child has been absent for nine sessions, a welfare visit will be conducted in line with our safeguarding and attendance policies

Contact must be made via telephone or email to the school office.
office@stmarysedwinstowe.snmat.org.uk Please DO NOT send absence notifications via class dojo to teaching staff.

IT IS VITAL WE HOLD CORRECT DETAILS FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD/REN. PLEASE ENSURE YOU UPDATE US WITH ANY CHANGES TO CHILDREN'S HEALTH AS WELL AS CONTACT DETAILS SUCH AS TELEPHONE NUMBERS, EMAILS AND ADDRESSES PROMPTLY

FORMS TO COMPLETE

PLEASE ONLY COMPLETE FORMS THAT ARE NOT ALREADY IN PLACE

Class Dojo Agreement

New parents, we ask you to review and complete our Class Dojo agreement.

[CLICK HERE](#)

WALKING HOME or to the Craft Centre Car Park Owls/Woodpeckers ONLY

OWL CLASS children may walk home from school with prior written consent.

A number of WOODPECKER AND OWL children walk to meet parents at the Craft Centre car park. We now require formal parental consent for this to take place [CLICK HERE](#)

PIERCED EARS

If your child has recently had their ears pierced or you have not completed this disclaimer please do so here. Children MUST remove or cover earrings for any PE sessions.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Changes to School Dinners

From 1 September 2026, the cost of a school meal will increase to £3.40 as a result of increased staffing costs, inflation and rising food prices. We appreciate that this is a significant increase; however, it is unfortunately unavoidable. Children will continue to have a choice of two meal options each day, including a main course and dessert.

Changes to Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal. Once children move into Year 3, school meals become chargeable unless they are eligible for free school meals through the criteria outlined below. It is important that all families who may be eligible apply, regardless of their child's year group.

From September 2026, families who receive Universal Credit will be able to access free school meals regardless of household income. Families will be required to complete an annual eligibility check. If this applies to you, please complete the attached form and return it to the school as soon as possible. Families with a household income below £7,400 may also be eligible for targeted free school meals, which provide access to additional benefits, including targeted support in school and access to HAF (Holiday activities and Food programme) during school holidays.

Further information can be found on the Nottinghamshire County Council website [here](#).

ALLERGIES AND INTOLERANCES

It is VITAL we are provided with information regarding allergies and intolerances. Health care plans will be required for any allergy that is severe and should be accompanied by supporting medical information. Where children have mild allergies, sensitivities or intolerances we will record this on our medical records.

Relevant information regarding allergies and intolerances is shared with appropriate staff members. It is also important that we are kept up to date with any changes to these. All staff are trained in Allergy and Anaphylaxis .

Digital Devices

Children are not permitted to use mobile phones while at school. We recognise that some older children who walk home independently may need a phone to support their safety. In these circumstances, children must hand their device to the school office on arrival and collect it at the end of the school day. Smartwatches are permitted only where they are being used as a watch or fitness tracker. If a smartwatch has features such as messaging, phone functionality, a camera, music or apps, the child will be asked to remove the device and not wear it in future.

PARKING

A reminder that the school carpark is for STAFF AND VISITORS ONLY. Parents/carers are not to use this unless for accessible reasons and should inform the school prior to this. As we are situated in a residential area it is important that we respect the driveways of our neighbours. Please do not park over drives and keep to one side of the road to allow vehicles to pass easily at the top of the drive. For the safety of our pupils please take extra care when driving around the school site.

COMMUNICATION

EMAIL: Letters and important information will be sent via email, please ensure your email details are up to date.

NEWSLETTERS: Will be added to the school website weekly

CLASS DOJO: Staff will upload regular learning updates and class messages

MESSAGING: Please note that Class Dojo is not monitored throughout the day and therefore it is important that parents call school with any messages. Where messages are sent staff are only expected to reply between the hours of 8am and 5.30pm and responses are not immediate.

We will be reviewing our communication systems this term and any changes to this will be sent to parents in a letter via email.



Our Friends PTA are in the process of finalising their events calendar for the year and can't wait to share them with you!

The group are always looking for people to help and support and would appreciate more people joining.

If you are interested in helping please send an email to ptastmarys@outlook.com

PLEASE SIGN UP TO EASY FUNDRAISING!

Already school has accrued over £200 just from using this app with only 10 people signed up so far. Please sign up using the link on this image and help us raise vital funds!

CLICK THE IMAGE

The advertisement is for easyfundraising. It features the easyfundraising logo at the top left. The main text reads 'Shopping online? Raise free funds for us at the same time'. Below this is a yellow 'Sign up' button. To the right, there are several circular icons representing different online retailers: John Lewis, eBay, Etsy, H&M, Debenhams, M&S, Amazon, Tesco, and Next. Below these icons, it says 'and 8,000+ online retailers...'. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'Friends of St Mary's CofE Primary School - Mansfield Fundraising Ideas' which explains how to use the service to raise free funds by shopping online via easyfundraising.org.uk. The easyfundraising logo is also at the bottom left of this section.