



# CREATING ST MARY NEWSLETTER

March 2026

## What We Learned

### Ash Class

This half term has flown by, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed being scientists! We have been learning about what seeds need to grow healthily and the changes that occur over time. Exploring different offcuts and seeds from fruits and vegetables has engaged and excited us all.

We have also been learning poems and singing a variety of songs, which the children have loved. After the Easter break, we will continue our 'Let's Go Outside' theme, focusing on life cycles, minibests, and continuing to grow and care for our plants.

Spring Term has been fantastic, especially with our Surprise Reader. The children look forward to it each week, and it has been wonderful to hear a range of stories shared by different guests. In writing, we have shown great perseverance, using and applying our phonics knowledge. The children are now beginning to write more than one sentence during shared writing and in Drawing Club. In maths, we have explored sorting, doubles, odd and even numbers, and have started writing number sentences using addition and subtraction symbols.

In RE, we discussed why Christians place a cross in their garden at Easter. We learned that the cross is an important symbol for Christians and helps them to remember Jesus.

We hope you all have a wonderful and restful Easter, full of special moments, chocolate treats, and time spent with loved ones.

## PSA

Thank you to everyone who has helped us so far with the plans and work for the Allotment! We are hoping to have this open after the Easter Holidays.

We are hosting another Family Games Night on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome, an email link will be being sent out via Parentmail soon. Put the date in your diary.

Alongside this we have our Rainbow Raffle! We ask each child to bring in a small item for the hampers, in their corresponding colour. This can be anything at all! We've had donations previously of lego, candles, shower gel, fidgets, books, alcohol etc.

Please see below for the relevant colours:

Ash - Red  
Yr1 - Orange  
Yr2 - Yellow  
Yr3 - Green  
Yr4 - Blue  
Yr 5 - Purple  
Yr 6 - Pink

Also, the PSA Allotment project will be in the Stowmarket Stronger Starts campaign from April 28<sup>th</sup> (blue coin scheme). Please spread the word!



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### Chestnut Class

Spring 2 has been very busy! The children have all worked incredibly hard and it has been lovely to see the children encourage one another in our endeavors.

In English we have been focusing on a marmalade loving bear who goes by the name of Paddington. The children have sent Paddington to an array of wonderful places across the world in their writing, tying back to their last Geography unit on Climate Zones. We have also been focusing on Easter and creating poetry based on this time of year. This has been further enhanced by our DT project - creating Easter egg cushions!

In Science we have had fun exploring sound. The children made their own ear defenders and worked together creating musical instruments. Thank you to all the parents who sent in recycled materials from home, it was so appreciated! In Mathematics the children have primarily focused on fractions in Year 4, and length and perimeter in Year 3.

In PSHE we have been exploring safety. In RE we have looked at what do Christians mean when they talk about the Kingdom of God. We went on a school trip to Pipers Vale and the children had the biggest smiles on their faces as they tried out all the stations with a spring in their step.

In PE this half term the children have been playing netball and OAA. In Music we have been focusing on exploring more musical styles. Art has focused on drawing.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break.

## Hello...

Two whole terms done! This one has been so lovely, full of the signs of Spring and a bit of sunshine! Have a read through the newsletter to see what each class has been up to. We have so much coming up next term, it really is going to fly by. A reminder to log into the new system of Arbor to check any issues before we fully move across. Enjoy the break, see you in April!

## Sports & P.E

We have had two competitions this half term. Firstly in the basketball the team performed very well winning or drawing all of their matches. In the hockey, the team finished second and again finished undefeated. Thank you to Gipping Valley Sports Partnership for organising. We have also had an inclusive Sports enrichment day organised by the Partnership which the whole school took part in as well as our annual trip to Pipers Vale gymnastics centre. A busy half term and thank you to everybody who has supported the children.





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### Oak Class

This half term we have enjoyed taking part in our annual world book day celebrations. There were some fantastic entries so well done to everyone that took part.

In literacy the children have worked hard to retell the Hare and the Tortoise story and are now enjoying writing their own traditional tale. In art we have been learning about collages and print. We've looked at the artist Richard Long and enjoyed recreating his artwork by looking for natural materials on the field. When making our prints, the children were so impressed with negative prints and the different ways in making them. There were many wows and claps when we first saw them!

Earlier on in the term we learnt lots of facts about the first moon landing and created a fact file all about Neil Armstrong. The children had some fantastic questions and enjoyed the topic. Now we are learning about castles; their features and what life was like in a medieval castle. Some children wanted to weave tapestries for the walls, others wanted to defend the castle with their long bows. We even had some that wanted to be a gong farmer!

Well done everyone for all your hard work, keep doing your best and enjoy a happy, chocolate filled Easter holiday!

## BACK TO SCHOOL MONDAY APRIL 13TH

### Attendance reminders


Ash & Oak classes should arrive between 8.40am and 8.45am. Chestnut & Birch Classes should arrive between 8.30am and 8.40am. Younger siblings can arrive at the earlier time.

Between 8.45am and 8.55am, arrival will be marked as late. Any arrival after that time will be marked as unauthorised.

### Attendance YTD so far

- RECEPTION - 98.69%
- YEAR 1 - 95.12%
- YEAR 2 - 96.81%
- YEAR 3 - 96.59%
- YEAR 4 - 96.53%
- YEAR 5 - 96.67%
- YEAR 6 - 97.78%

**Money raised for Red Nose Day - £105.15!**  
Thank you to everyone who donated.





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### **Birch Class**

Birch class have had a busy half term. In literacy they have written newspaper reports based on a story in the news and are now writing an adventure story based on the story Kidnapped.

In computing the class developed their coding skills and in RE we learnt about heroes of the Christian faith. In history we learnt about the Mayans and in PE the children developed their netball skills with Liam.

Swimming has continued for year 5 whilst year 6 have stayed in school working on their grammar and reasoning skills. We are now back on the field at breaktimes and Birch Class lead daily play leader sessions. Well done everyone.

## Upcoming Events

April 13th - Back to School  
April 24<sup>th</sup> - PSA Family games night  
May 4th - Bank Holiday  
May 11<sup>th</sup> SATS Week  
May 12th - Class Photos  
May 19th - Enrichment P.E  
May 19th - Family Eucharist Service 9am  
May 22nd - Sports Day  
May 22nd - Ash and Oak Sleepover  
May 22nd - End of Term  
June 1st - Back to School  
June 19<sup>th</sup> - PSA Summer Fair  
June 29<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Performances 9.30am / 4.30pm  
June 30<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Performances 9.30am / 6.30pm  
July 3<sup>rd</sup> - Reports due out  
July 8<sup>th</sup> - DHS Induction day  
July 8<sup>th</sup> - Whole school move up day  
July 9<sup>th</sup> - Fun Day  
July 16<sup>th</sup> - 9am Leavers Service  
July 17<sup>th</sup> - 1.15pm Leavers Assembly, Y6 families  
July 17<sup>th</sup> - 1.45pm Leavers Celebration  
Assembly - All Invited  
July 17<sup>th</sup> - END OF SCHOOL YEAR!

## Parking Reminders

Please adhere to the staggered drop off and pick up times. There is parking available behind the village hall. Please be mindful of where and how you park, we have a duty of care to everyone using the roads.