



St Mary's Friday Flyer

Friday 4th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Friday everyone!

It's hard to believe we have already completed another week of the new school year.

It has been a wonderfully busy and positive start, with staff and pupils quickly settling back into school life.

One of the highlights of the week has been seeing our older children show such kindness, care, and responsibility towards our new Reception pupils as they begin their journey at St Mary's full-time. Their support, encouragement and friendly smiles have helped the youngest members of our school family feel welcomed and valued from day one.

In Collective Worship this week, we have continued to explore our Christian values and how they support us in living out our vision: *"Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love"* (1 Corinthians 16:13-14).

Communication

Class Dojo is not to be used as a form of communication with staff. Please email the school office who will be able to help.



ClassDojo

If you need to contact the school, please contact the school office:

- Phone: 01664 562500
- Email office@stmarys.risemat.co.uk
- Arbor In-App Message

Water Bottles



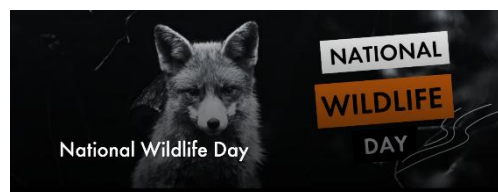
Please ensure that children are only sent into school with water in their bottles.

Water bottles are not stored on classroom tables next to your child. This is due to space on tables and the potential for spillages.

Children's bottles are kept on the side within the classroom and children have many opportunities across the day to access them. Please ensure that they have your child's name on them please.

National Wildlife Day

National Wildlife Day is celebrated on 4th September and provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the beauty and importance of the natural world around us. As a school, we encourage our children to appreciate and care for God's creation, whether that is through exploring our outdoor environment, learning about



local wildlife or taking small actions to protect habitats and the creatures that depend on them.

This year, we challenge our families to spend some time outdoors together this weekend, looking for signs of wildlife in gardens, parks, or local green spaces. By taking time to notice and care for nature, we can all play a part in protecting our environment for future generations.

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it." Psalm 24:1

Education Sunday



Education Sunday in 2026 takes place on Sunday 13 September 2026. It is celebrated annually on the second Sunday in September, shortly after the start of the new academic year.

The 2026 theme from Churches Together in England is **"Living Well Together"**, encouraging reflection on how education helps people from different backgrounds and beliefs learn, flourish, and live well alongside one another.

As a Church of England school, St Mary's we will be marking Education Sunday through:

- A special collective worship focused on education and learning.
- Leading prayers for pupils, staff, governors, and families.
- Reflecting on how your school vision, *"Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love"* (1 Corinthians 16:13-14), supports everyone to flourish.

It is a time to think about how the Church can support education and a time to give thanks for the gift of education.

Start of the Day

Children must not be on the school site before **8:40am**, when the gates will be opened. We do not have sufficient staff available to supervise children before this time. If your child arrives at school before 8:40am, you will be notified. It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that children arrive at the designated time and not earlier.

Please ensure that children arrive promptly at **8:40am** so that they can enter school and be ready to begin the school day at **8:50am**. The school gates will be locked at **8:50am**. If you arrive after this time, you **must** sign your child in at the school office. Late arrivals are recorded and monitored.

Parents and carers must not enter the school building at any time during the school day. This is for safeguarding reasons, and anyone entering the building without authorisation will be asked to leave. Staff will ensure that all external doors remain secure. If you need to speak with your child's class teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), please contact the school office to arrange this.



Collection at the End of the Day

To help ensure a smooth and safe collection process, please collect your youngest child first if you have children in both key stages, before going to the KS2 playground to collect older siblings.

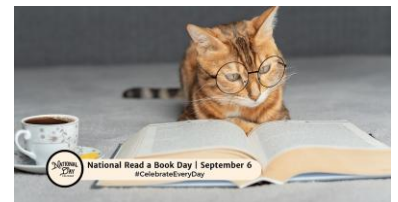
Daily 10 Reading Challenge



We are trying to encourage children to be reading as much as they can. Staff will be checking and recording how many minutes your child has read at home for and at school each week. Children will be rewarded with certificates for set time periods, and these achievements will be celebrated in our assembly each Friday. Children **must** have their reading books and reading diaries in school with them every day.

Read a Book Day

Read a Book Day takes place on 6th September and is a wonderful reminder of the joy that reading can bring. Books open the door to new adventures, spark our imaginations, and help us learn about the world around us. Whether children enjoy fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or picture books, reading regularly helps to develop vocabulary, creativity, and a lifelong love of learning.



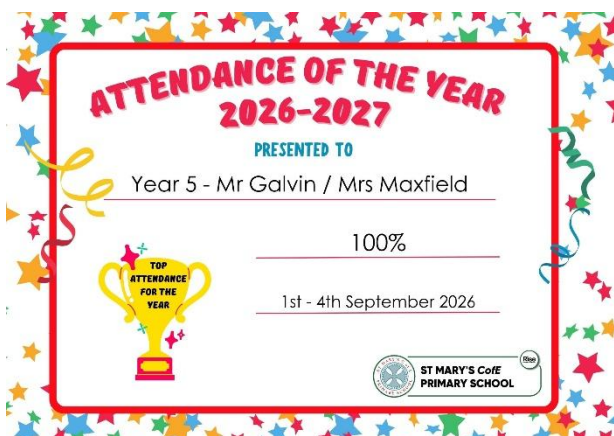
We would encourage all of our families to celebrate Read a Book Day by setting aside some time to enjoy a book together this Sunday. Sharing stories, discussing favourite characters, and reading aloud are all fantastic ways to nurture a love of reading at home.

Attendance of the Week

Each week, we celebrate the class with the highest attendance by awarding them our Attendance of the Week Certificate. Excellent attendance helps children make the most of their learning, build positive routines, and develop strong friendships.

The winning class is announced during our Celebration Assembly on a Friday afternoon, and they proudly receive their certificate to display on the class wall.

Thank you to all parents and carers for supporting good attendance and punctuality. Every day in school counts and makes a difference to your child's learning.



classroom



Our new **EYFS** starters have settled into school wonderfully this week. They have been learning how to play alongside their new friends and have shown excellent turn-taking skills. It has been fantastic to see them working so hard, building new relationships, and enjoying life in their new class. We are very proud of how positively they have embraced this exciting new chapter.

It's been a big change for the year one's, but they've coped very well with the transition from EYFS. In P.E we've been working on the fundamentals of movement – jumping, running and travelling in different ways. We've also started our Geography unit called "Around Our School" and have been wandering around the school using clipboards and maps of St Mary's. Finally, the children have been most excited about computing lessons and have been creating digital art to work on their mouse skills.

A fabulous start for **Year 2** and lots of sea themed topics! We have been looking at sentence structure in writing and expanded noun phrases. We have been writing some lovely descriptions about sea creatures! Also with an ocean theme, we have begun our new music topic based around the oceans and our PE lessons have been around using our bodies to pretend we are sea creatures and the sort of movements we may come across from all the creatures under the sea. The class are settling into new routines in year 2 really well and we are looking forward to the year ahead!

Year 3 have settled in well to the new school year. So far, we have begun our writing on legend narratives, recapping expanded noun phrases and learning about speech marks. In geography, we have been looking at the history of our local area and have loved looking at old maps of Melton from 1890! Our first trip to the leisure centre for our swimming lessons was a great success. The children loved getting in the pool and were respectful when moving through the public area. Overall, we have had a very busy two weeks!

What a fantastic second week back in **Year 4**! We have been busy learning all about numbers up to 10,000 in Maths and developing our writing by learning how to extend our clauses and add more detail. Science has been a real highlight this week, with lots of exciting experiments! We have been racing liquids (unfortunately at the cost of one of Miss Mann's shoes!), investigating how much air is inside a sponge and exploring how different solids react to light. Another fun-filled and exciting week in Year 4 — we can't wait to see what next week brings!

Year 5 have spent their first full week getting stuck into our curriculum – and doing it brilliantly. We have used our iPads to help with our learning across different subjects. In Maths, we are recapping and moving on with place value. In Writing, we have explored how to use adverbs and adjectives differently to enhance our writing. Our main topic has been Geography, where we are looking at people and populations across the world and in the UK. It's been a great start!!

Wow, two weeks completed already! **Year 6** have settled into their new routines incredibly well and have risen to the challenge of completing some practice SATs papers, giving them a valuable insight into what to expect later in the year. We have also finished our history topic and rounded it off with an incredible classroom debate. The pupils demonstrated fantastic teamwork and excellent communication skills. Keep up the great work, Year 6!

Dates to Remember 2026-2027

Below are dates for this academic year. We will continue to add new dates, and these will be added in green.

Print me and keep me handy!

REVISED DATE

Monday 7 th September	Mr Haggatt (Long Field Academy) to meet with Year 6
Monday 14 th – Wednesday 16 th Sept	Year 6 Bikeability Training
Thursday 17 th September	Rev'd Mary Barr Collective Worship
Wednesday 23 rd September	Severn Trent Water Assembly – Whole School
	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 25 th September	Year 3 Rise Sports Charter
Friday 2 nd October	Harvest Festival (details to follow)
	Macmillian Coffee Morning (details to follow)
Monday 5 th October	Parents Open Classroom Event (details to follow)
Friday 9 th October	SEN Profiles to Parents
Monday 12 th October	Prospective New Starters 2027 Event
Tuesday 13 th October	SEN Calls to Parents (details to follow)
Wednesday 14 th October	Prospective New Starters 2027 Event
	SEN Calls to Parents (details to follow)
Friday 16th October	School Closed – Inset Day
Monday 19th – Friday 23rd October	Half Term
Monday 26 th October	Parents Evening (details to follow)
Tuesday 27 th October	Individual Pupil School Photos
Wednesday 4 th November	Parents Evening (details to follow)
Monday 9 th November	Prospective New Starters 2027 Event
Friday 13 th November	Children in Need (details to follow)
Monday 16 th November	Anti Bullying Week
	Odd Sock Day (details to follow)
Thursday 19 th November	Rev'd Mary Barr Collective Worship
Friday 18 th December	Last Day of Autumn term
21st December 2026 – 1st January 2027	Christmas Holidays
Monday 4 th January 2027	School Open – Spring Term starts
Friday 12th February	School Closed – Inset Day
Monday 15th – Friday 19th February	Half Term