



St Mary's Friday Flyer

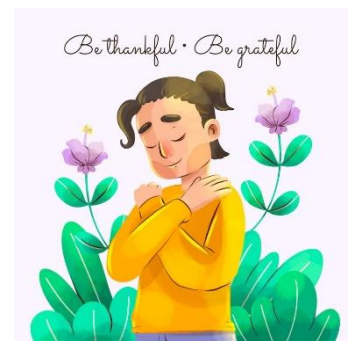
Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

During our Collective Worship this week, we have been exploring our Christian values and thinking carefully about the value of gratitude. The children have reflected on the many things they are grateful for and discussed how showing appreciation can have a positive impact on those around us.

You may wish to continue these conversations at home by considering:

- What are you most grateful for at the moment?
- How can we show appreciation to the people who help and care for us?
- Why is it important to recognise the good things in our lives?
- How can a simple "thank you" make someone feel valued?



Taking time to pause and reflect on our blessings helps us develop a positive outlook and strengthens the relationships we have with others. We encourage all of our children to look for opportunities to show gratitude throughout the week ahead.

Our Christian Values in Action

At St Mary's, our Christian Values guide all that we do. We encourage our children to:

- ★ Serve others with love
- ★ Show respect to everyone
- ★ Practise thankfulness each day
- ★ Choose kindness in their actions and words
- ★ Be honest and truthful
- ★ Persevere when learning becomes challenging

Together, these values help us to grow as a caring, supportive and faith-filled school community.

To serve others



To be respectful



To be thankful



To be kind



To be truthful



To Persevere



This week

The school term is now well underway, and it has been wonderful to see our classrooms and corridors buzzing with enthusiasm, positivity, and laughter. The children have settled into their routines exceptionally well and are showing a real eagerness to learn. As I visit lessons across the school, I am continually impressed by their focus, resilience, and commitment to producing their very best work.

Creating a calm and purposeful learning environment remains a key priority for us. We have been encouraging children to move around the school thoughtfully and respectfully, helping to ensure that everyone feels safe, settled, and ready to learn. This calm approach is having a positive impact across the school, allowing children to make the most of every learning opportunity.

Bikeability Training

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, Bikeability that was planned for next week for the Year 6 children has had to be cancelled. We are in discussions to hopefully rearrange this for after the half term break.



A Fantastic First Full Week in EYFS



This week marked a very special milestone as our EYFS children completed their first full week together at school. We have been incredibly proud of how quickly they have settled into their new routines, explored their learning environment and begun to build new friendships.

It has been wonderful to see the children growing in confidence each day as they take part in learning activities, play together and become familiar with life at St Mary's. They have shown great enthusiasm, curiosity and resilience as they have navigated new experiences and challenges.

A huge well done to all of our EYFS children for such a positive start to their school journey. We would also like to thank our parents and families for their support in helping the children settle so successfully. We are looking forward to a fantastic year of learning, discovery and fun together.

Collection at the End of the Day

If for any reason you are not collecting your child, then you must notify either the class teacher in the morning at drop off or the school office during the school day of any changes to arrangements **before 2.45pm**. We will not be able to release your child to anyone else unless we have been notified in advance.

Celebrating Success

It has been wonderful to see so many children demonstrating enthusiasm, determination and pride in their learning over the past few weeks. I have thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the achievements taking place across the school and recognising the many children who have earned certificates for their efforts in class and their commitment to the Daily 10 Reading Challenge.



We are equally proud of the successes our children achieve beyond the school gates. Whether through sports, performing arts, community groups or other clubs and activities, we love to celebrate these accomplishments as a school family. If your child has received a certificate, medal or award outside of school, please do send it in so that we can recognise and celebrate their achievement during our Friday Celebration Assembly

A huge congratulations to all of our children for the effort, perseverance and positivity they continue to show. Keep up the fantastic work!

FoSMS



FoSMS (Friends of St Mary's School) would like to welcome all parents to the start of our new academic year. The sole purpose of FoSMS is to raise funds for the school to be spent directly on enhancing the children's education and experience whilst at St Mary's. In recent years they have hosted summer fetes as well as school discos and tuck shops for the children.

Everyone in our school community is welcome to join. If you would like more information regarding this, please speak to Mrs Sanders in the school office.

The next FoSMS meeting including AGM will be held on Thursday 24th September from 3.30pm till 4.30pm.

Also, don't forget the FoSMS Design a Logo Competition.

Children's Possessions

Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their name and class. This includes coats, water bottles, and lunch boxes.



School Shoes



Please can I remind you that children's school shoes should be black. Children should not come into school wearing bright coloured sport trainers or shoes. This is part of our uniform and needs to be always upheld.

Attendance



We will monitor pupils' attendance regularly throughout the year. Regular attendance at school plays a vital role in supporting children's wellbeing, maximising their progress in learning, and helping them achieve their full potential. Good attendance is the foundation of a successful and positive school experience.

We are committed to promoting excellent attendance for all pupils and strive for every child to attend school every day. To make the most of the educational opportunities available, it is important that children arrive at school on time and attend every day that the school is open, unless an absence is unavoidable.

Good attendance is important because:

- There is a clear link between attendance below 95% and lower levels of achievement.
- Children who attend regularly make better academic and social progress.
- Regular attendance helps pupils establish routines, keep up with learning, and maintain friendships.
- Pupils with strong attendance records are better prepared for transitions between primary school, secondary school, further education, and future employment or training.

Absence Procedures

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness or another unavoidable reason, please notify the school as soon as possible on the first day of absence, preferably before the start of the school day. Parents and carers should provide the reason for the absence and keep the school informed if the absence continues for more than one day.



If we have not received an explanation for a child's absence, the school will contact parents or carers to ensure the child's safety and wellbeing. Where appropriate, medical evidence may be requested to support an absence.

Where attendance becomes a concern, we will work closely with families to identify any barriers and offer support to help improve attendance.

We are supported by Karen Harvey, our Trust Attendance Officer, who reviews and monitors attendance on a termly basis. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child attend school regularly and on time.

Collective Worship with Revd Mary Barr



We are delighted to be welcoming Revd Mary Barr to school on Thursday 17th September to lead our Collective Worship. This visit is part of our valued partnership with St Mary's Church, which plays an important role in supporting the spiritual life of our school community.

We are looking forward to working with Revd Mary again this academic year and know that the children will enjoy her first Collective Worship of the term.

Rise Multi Academy Trust Year 3 Sports Festival 2026



The children in Year 3 will be taking part in the Rise Trust Year 3 Sports festival on the 25th of September. This year it is being hosted at St Lukes C of E Primary School in Thurnby.

This event is an important part of our Rise MAT Pupil Charter, providing children with the opportunity to come together, enjoy physical activity and build friendships with pupils from across our family of schools.

An email has been sent home with full details. Please ensure you have read it and given consent on Arbor.

Christmas Tree Festival Artwork Competition

We are delighted to share an exciting opportunity **for pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6** to take part in this year's Melton Mowbray Church Christmas Tree Festival.

Children are invited to create a picture based on one of the following Nativity themes:

- Shepherd(s) with sheep
- Angel(s) with stars
- Mary, the mother of Jesus
- Baby Jesus in the manger



Please ensure that your child's name, year group and school name are clearly written on the back of their artwork.

All entries should be handed in to the school office no later than Monday 26th October.

Selected entries from local schools will be celebrated during the Family Carols in the Trees Service at 6.00pm on Saturday 28th November.

We look forward to seeing the wonderful creativity and artistic talent of our pupils as they take part in this special community event. Good luck to everyone who enters!



classroom



This week in **EYFS**, we have been enjoying the colourful story of Elmer and using it as inspiration for lots of exciting activities! The children have explored colours and patterns, created their own colourful Elmer pictures and talked about what makes each of us special and unique. We have also started our maths lessons, and the children have already amazed me with their fantastic counting skills! It has been a wonderful week of learning, creativity and fun.

In **Year 1** phonics this week we've been looking at different spellings of the 'ai' sound (ai / ay / a-e). Our story in English has been *The Cat in The Hat*, which has been very popular with the children. The class have also enjoyed practising their map skills on Thursday; the class used their maps to find the coloured objects hidden around the field and playground.

Year 2 this week have been continuing with their topic of Sentence structures in Writing and using conjunctions to join two phrases. We have looked at the different spellings of the sound 'd' in phonics and continued with place value work in maths. We did learn a little more about Roald Dahl as it is Road Dahl Day on Sunday and the children all discussed their favourite Roald Dahl books.

This week, we have begun an investigation into why St Mary's primary school moved location. The children have compared maps from 1890 to 1970 and pictures of the old St Mary's building to our current location. They have been very enthusiastic about this topic and have already begun discussing possible reasons for the move. They have continued swimming and are getting more confident in the water with every lesson. On top of this, the children have also been learning about number lines to 1000 and triple repetition in the predicate of a sentence. What a busy week for **Year 3**!

This week, we've continued our science learning with some more exciting experiments. We investigated how quickly different sizes of chocolate melt — and we may even have enjoyed a little taste test along the way! We also discovered that some solids can make ice melt, which led to some fantastic observations and discussions. In writing, we have been working hard to learn and use a range of subordinating conjunctions. We have also started to explore diary writing and think carefully about the features that make a diary engaging and effective. In French, we have been practising how to greet our friends, building our confidence with some new vocabulary. Another busy, productive and most importantly, fun week in **Year 4**!

In **Year 5** this week, we have come to the end of our Geography unit on People and Population and started our Science unit on Earth and Space, looking at what the universe is and our solar system. In maths, we are continuing our learning about numbers up to 1,000,000 — rounding, comparing and ordering. In writing we have been comparing different persuasive speeches and looking at which uses the features we have been learning about most effectively. Lots of hard thinking this week!

This week in **Year 6**, the children have been working incredibly hard as they completed one maths unit and began a new one, where they can continue applying their number knowledge to solve practical problems. In English, we have been building on the skills learned last year, taking our writing to the next level by adding greater detail and sophistication. We are also thoroughly enjoying our class novel, *Can You See Me?* which offers a fascinating insight into the life of an autistic girl through her own perspective, helping us to develop both understanding and empathy.

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!

Monday 14 th – Wednesday 16 th Sept	Year 6 Bikeability Training Canceled
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