



# St Mary's Church of England Primary School

**DREAM** with all your mind,  
**BELIEVE** with all your heart,  
**ACHIEVE** with all your might.

**Summer Term Newsletter**

**May 2024**

## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can hardly believe that it's time to break up before we start the final half term of this academic year. This Summer Newsletter, as always, celebrates some of the incredible things that go on at St Mary's every week. Together with the learning experiences on the school website which is updated regularly, it exemplifies our vision that where your children are concerned, only the best is good enough. As we draw to the end of the academic year and my eighth year at St Mary's, I'm proud that we continue to strive to give your children the best possible primary experience they could have, crammed full of inspiring moments and exciting activities which create memories that last a life time. I know next half term will be truly memorable in equal measure and I hope that you can join us in school if you can for our 'Creation and Innovation' week on June 6th and the various Sports' Days coming up. Not to mention our Year 5 and 6 production of 'The Wizard of Oz' and our Leaver's Assembly.

I know that we will have 75 very excited children and staff on 5th June when Years 4, 5 and 6 go on their London residential which really is jam packed with excitement and culture. Year 2 certainly had a fabulous time at Beaumanor this week as the photographs on our Twitter account show. Please take the time to have a look.

Our Year 6 SATs have been and gone! I am so incredibly proud of the children who took the tests in their stride, with confidence and resilience. Our year 6 children are extremely talented mathematicians, future authors, amazing sportspeople and aweinspiring artists. As well as, filmmakers, computer code whizz-kids, hilarious entertainers and fantastic dancers. Most importantly, they are happy young people who know the importance of being kind to each other, working hard, staying positive and looking out for their friends and younger school mates. The tests are just a small part of school life and our children have once again done us, and you, proud. Well done Year 6!

*Continued overleaf.*

We are really looking forward to some sunnier weather after the recent rain. With this in mind, can I remind parents to send children to school with a sun hat for playtime, as the sun is strongest when the children are playing outside. Ideally, children will have long lasting sun cream applied before school.

Please can I politely remind parents that there is a member of staff on the school gates from each Phase in the morning to pass on messages to class teachers. Parents **SHOULD NOT** be speaking to staff when the children are in their lines. Alternatively messages can be sent via the school office. Thank you for your co-operation.

We have attached the uniform expectations overleaf as a reminder. Please remember that shoes worn on uniform days must be plain black and leggings can only be worn on PE days.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 3rd June.

Best Wishes,



Mrs R Ayres  
Headteacher

## Christian Values

The Christian Value we are focusing on next half term is Thankfulness.



## Bikes

Did you know that we have a bike lending scheme at St Mary's? There is no charge for this. Please speak to Mr Long if you are interested in borrowing a bike.



## Work Celebration

On Wednesday June 26th, we will be having an after school 'Work Celebration' where we will be inviting parents and grandparents into school to look at their child's work. We have had lots of visitors to St Mary's this term including local Heads and our school and classroom environment is highly praised and something we are incredibly proud of.

**Please save the date and join us to celebrate your child's achievements!**

## School Uniform Requirements

**Girls** Purple cardigan/ jumper/fleece. White or lemon polo shirt. Grey/black skirt or trousers. Grey/black/white socks or grey/black tights.

**Boys** Purple jumper/fleece. White or lemon polo shirt. Grey/black trousers. Grey/black/white socks.



Girls may wear a yellow/white or purple/white checked summer dress in the summer months.  
Boys may wear grey/black shorts in the summer months.

**Please name all items, including shoes and coats,**  
**to ensure lost items can be identified and quickly returned to their owner!**

### **Footwear**

Children should wear black shoes for school or boots in the winter. They should not wear heeled shoes, 'Ugg' style boots or trainers for school. (If in doubt please speak to the Headteacher before purchasing footwear.)



### **PE Uniform**

PE kit should be worn on PE days.

Purple logo PE shirt (or plain purple T-Shirt)  
Black shorts  
Black PE skirt  
Black pumps or trainers of any colour  
Black tracksuit bottoms for cold days



### **Jewellery**

For safety reasons children should not wear jewellery in school. Wristwatches and stud earrings are the only items permitted. These must be removed for all PE, games and swimming lessons. With stud earrings children must be able to take them out and put them back themselves. If this is not possible then they must be removed before the child comes to school. Children's ears should not be pierced during term times, as children must be able to remove their studs for games and PE lessons.

### **Book Bags**

A book bag can be purchased directly from the school. Payment will need to be made via ParentPay. A book bag is very useful for carrying books, homework and other home-school communication items.

### **Other Information**

Hair accessories should be kept to a minimum, extravagant fashion items are not allowed.  
Please ensure that hair is an appropriate colour/style for school.  
Make up and nail varnish are not permitted.

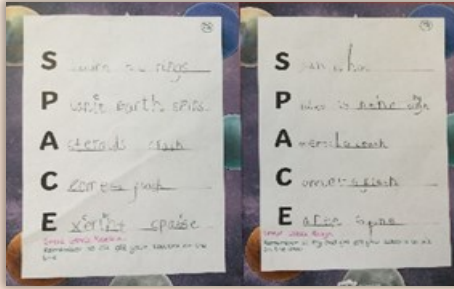
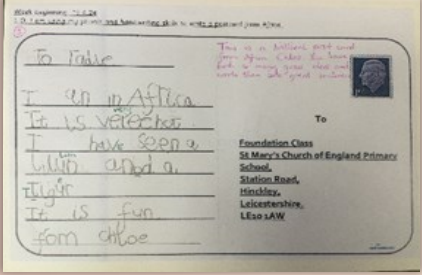
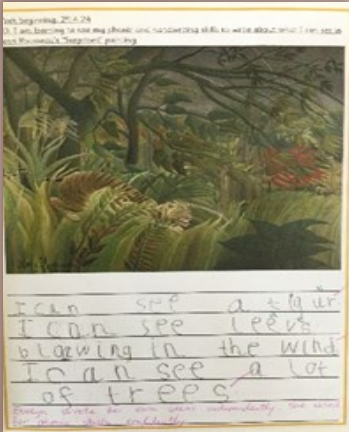
### **Health and Safety**

For health and safety reasons, long hair should always be tied back for PE.

***The school reserves the right to require pupils to change any items of clothing, headgear or footwear, which are considered unsuitable for school wear.***

# Foundation News

The children have enjoyed exploring the world and space in our current topic 'Adventures Near and Far'. We began our learning journey right here in Hinckley, before travelling off to hot and tropical lands including Africa, the rainforest and Australia. We then ventured up and flew into space, where we discovered what it takes to be an astronaut. The final part of our adventure took us all around our Solar System, where we explored strange new worlds.



The children have been working really hard on their phonics and writing this half-term. We have written postcards from Africa, used sentences to describe animals and scenes, created acrostic poems about space and written stories.

In Maths, the children have been learning how to build numbers beyond 10, add more and take away. We have also looked at doubling numbers to 10 as well as sharing and grouping amounts.



The children enjoyed learning about our artist for this topic, 'Henri Rousseau'. We used our superpowers of looking to study his painting closely and recreated our own artwork based on his famous painting 'Surprised'. The results were AMAZING!



As part of our focus on Space, the children loved making star biscuits. The children said that the best part about making them was the fact that they could eat them! Apparently they tasted delicious!

# Year 1 and 2 News

This term we have really enjoyed exploring Kenya with our 'Let's go on safari' topic. We have found out a lot about the animals, landscapes and climate of this country. We have also had a visit from Mary and Lexie. They have family who live in Kenya and have been to visit several times. They gave us a really interesting talk about the Kenyan way of life, including the Maasai tribe.



Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024  
 I'm happy to talk to you about Kenya.

**Savannah**  
 A savannah is a grassy plain. A savannah normally has trees. A savannah is near the equator.

**Mount Kenya**  
 Mount Kenya used to be a volcano. Mount Kenya is the highest mountain in Kenya and the second highest in Africa. Mount Kenya has snow on top.

**Beaches**  
 Beaches in Kenya have soft sand. Beaches in Kenya are very hot. Beaches in Kenya have sand by the sea. Beaches in Kenya have very blue sea.

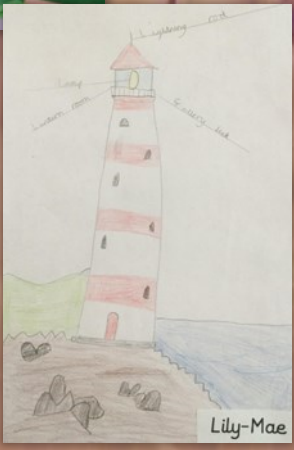
**Fruits and vegetables**  
 Fruits and vegetables in Kenya are very fresh. Fruits and vegetables in Kenya are very good. Fruits and vegetables in Kenya are very healthy.

*You have made some thoughtful comments.*



To celebrate our topic, we held an African Art Day. We opened up all three classrooms and the children were able to take part in different art activities throughout the day. These included safari silhouette pictures, making bracelets, weaving in the style of a Kente cloth and making African fruit sticks to be dipped in yoghurt. The children were also able to go outside and create African patterns on the floor with chalk.

We have also started reading The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch and there is an immersive corner in each classroom which displays a scene from the story. The children have enjoyed reading about those cheeky seagulls!

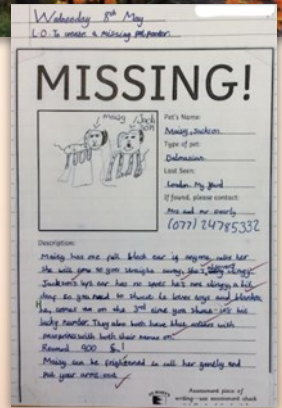


# Year 3 and 4 News

In English, we have been reading 101 Dalmatians by Dodie Smith. Look at the amazing immersive corners in our classrooms to inspire and ignite the imagination.



In art, we have been drawing sweet treats in our Fabulous Feasts project.



Our current DT topic is all about British inventors. We have started to research Alexander Graham Bell's invention of the telephone.



In Commando Joe's, we have been completing missions based on the explorer Kira Salak.



In computing, we have been understanding what a branching database is and how to create one. We used yes/no questions to sort objects into groups.

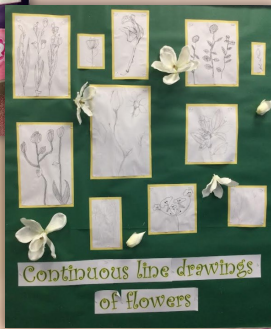


## Year 5 and 6 News

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our Year 6 children who have worked so hard and with focus for their end of year tests.

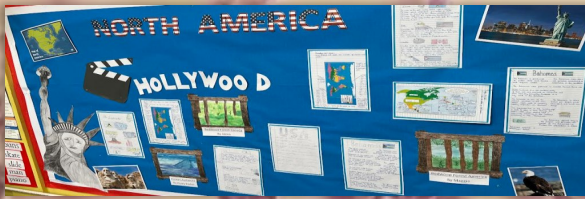
As the sun is finally shining, we have taken full advantage of our closeness to the Mead. We went and skipped and read while enjoying the great outdoors.

Hockey has been the focus of our PE lessons this term. We have learnt how to stop, control and pass the ball as well as playing some mini-games practising our skills and knowing how to handle the stick safely.

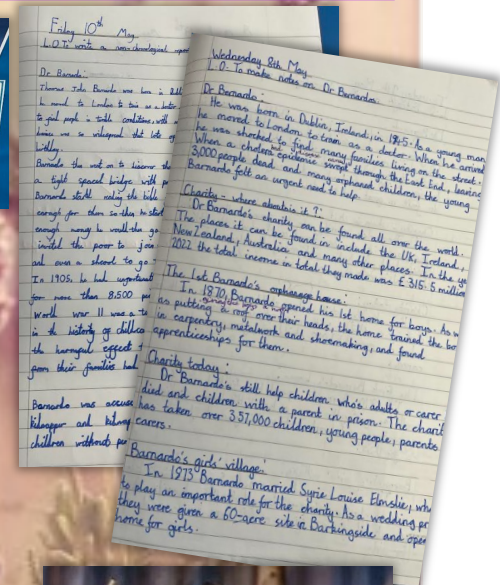


Art in year 5/6 has always been a strength and this term has been no exception. The wonderful 2D and 3D art work is a sight to see! Flowers have been produced in a range of media – graphite, black pens, wire and paper. Children enjoyed experimenting with different forms made out of paper.

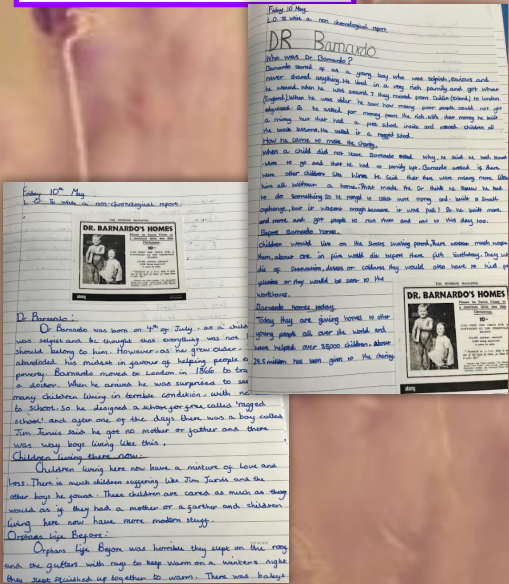
North America has been the focal point of our geographical topic this term. Looking at location, climate, capital cities and landscape has ignited interest in our world.



In their writing, year 5 have created a non-chronological report about the Children's homes that Dr Barnardo established. Informative and interesting details were researched. Please ask your children about him.



We are now looking forward to our end of term production.



## SATs!

Year 5 and 6 were brilliant during SATs week and had a well deserved treat on Friday 17th May after all the hard work had been done.



## Year 2 Residential Beaumanor Hall

Some very lucky children from Year 2 spent a night at Beaumanor Hall earlier this week. They had an amazing time and even got some sleep.



## Our Jay Foundation

The wonderful Our Jay Foundation delivered two Accessible Defibrillator information and awareness sessions, to approximately 100 children at St Mary's on 10th May.

All of St Mary's wore blue for Our Jay and they all took such a great interest in what the visitors were talking to them about (we already have their own OurJay Accessible defib).

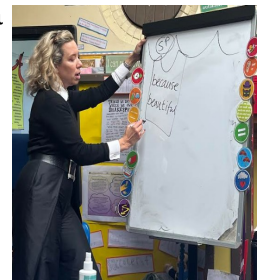
Lola from Newton Class was very knowledgeable about life saving skills and defibrillators, her hand was permanently in the air at every question – well done Lola!

For more information about Our Jay Foundation please visit <https://www.ourjay.org.uk/>



This half-term we have welcomed Jane Considine into school to train the staff on 'The Write Stuff'. This is an exciting and engaging writing programme that we will be introducing next academic year. The Write Stuff is not a scheme, it is a way to liberate the children so that they have a complete set of tools and structure that can be applied to their writing in all contexts.

We are really excited about this!



## Roving Bookshop

On Thursday 23rd May we enjoyed a day of books with the Roving Bookshop. The children had the opportunity to view and purchase books from a huge selection. Thanks for your support! We raised over £500.



 The Roving Bookshop

## Parent Carer Lunches

As part of our Food for Life programme we are inviting parents/carers to join their child for lunch. The dates for the next two events are as follows, please join us if you can!

### Foundation Class - Wednesday 5th June

Roast chicken dinner/vegetarian roast dinner/  
chicken sandwich or jacket potato

### Year 1 and Year 2 - Thursday 6th June

Pork sausages/vegetable pie/  
ham sandwich or jacket potato

**\*\*NOW FULLY BOOKED\*\***



## KITS Academy Sports Day

KITS Academy have been in school today and given the children some taster sessions of Street Dance, Boxing, Fencing and Table Tennis.

Some of these clubs will be on offer in the near future so please keep a look out!



## Governor Message

As we edge ever closer to the end of the school year, it will soon be time to look back on the achievements made by school, the staff and the pupils alike.

We are in no doubt that there has been progress made all round since our 'Good School' Ofsted rating. But one thing that has been highlighted is a drop in attendance at school. There is a lot of research, evidence and let's face it, logic, when it comes to the relationship between attendance at school and progression of a child's education.

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. The higher a child's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform and develop. We all have unavoidable, exceptional circumstances and illness to contend with, but this is where we plead with you to prevent the avoidable. Your child's development is important and a missed day will have an affect on your child's education. Catching up is not achieved by attending the next day, but can take several days.

Please, with every opportunity other than in exceptional circumstances or illness, ensure your child/ children attend school for their benefit. If your child is struggling to go to school, both the school and the Local Authority can help support you and your child.

Have a great bank holiday.

Ben Pearson

Vice Chair of Governors

## Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
Monday 3rd June	School opens for Summer 2
Monday 3rd June	Multiplication Check window opens for Year 4
Monday 3rd June	SEND Coffee Morning
Wednesday 5th - Friday 7th June	Year 4, 5 and 6 residential trip to London
Wednesday 5th June	Foundation Parent Lunch
Thursday 6th June	Year 1 and 2 Parent Lunch
Thursday 6th June	Creation and Innovation Day
Friday 7th June	Foundation and KS1 Cake Sale
Monday 10th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Week
Wednesday 12th June	2024 Foundation Intake Parents' Meeting
Thursday 13th June	F/KS1 Gold Award @ 9.10 in the hall
Thursday 13th June	KS2 Area Sports - Saffron Lane
Friday 14th June	KS2 Gold Award @ 9.10 in the hall
Friday 14th June	Year 3 and 4 Cake Sale
Monday 17th June	Calculator Crunch window opens for Year 6
Tuesday 18th June	Foundation Trip to West Lodge Rural Centre
Tuesday 18th June	Leicestershire Fire & Rescue visit - Year 1 and Year 5
Thursday 20th June	Year 5 and 6 visit to NWSLC
Friday 21st June	Food for Life Day
Friday 21st June	Year 5 and 6 Cake Sale
Friday 21st June	Rocksteady Concert
Monday 24th June	Year 1 and 2 trip to Coombe Abbey
Tuesday 25th June	Commando Joe's Curriculum Showcase
Wednesday 26th June	'Work Celebration'-View your child's work after school
Thursday 27th June	Our Jay Foundation Assembly
Friday 28th June	Tuck Shop
Friday 28th June	Summer Fair 3.15-5.00pm
Monday 1st July	Meet the Teacher - Year 1 and 2 at 8.45am
Tuesday 2nd July	Meet the Teacher - Year 3 and 4 at 8.45am
Tuesday 2nd July	Year 5 and 6 Production 1.45pm in the hall / 6pm in the hall
Wednesday 3rd July	Year 5 and 6 Production 1.45pm in the hall
Wednesday 3rd July	Meet the Teacher - Year 5 and 6 at 8.45am
Thursday 4th and Friday 5th July	Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Days
Friday 5th July	Whole school transition afternoon from 1.15pm
Monday 8th July	Foundation Sports Day @ 9.30am/Yr. 1 and 2 Sports Day @1.30pm
Tuesday 9th July	Yr. 3 and 4 Sports Day @ 9.30am / Yr. 5 and 6 Sports Day @1.30pm
Wednesday 10th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly @1.30pm in the hall
Wednesday 10th July	Year 6 Ball
Wednesday 10th July	School closes for Summer holidays

## Disclaimer

You will notice that from time to time the school circulates information provided by outside groups, regarding the services they offer or about local events in the area. Whilst we are happy to circulate the information for these parties, in the interests of offering our parents a varied picture of what is available outside of school, we in no way endorse them. We therefore recommend that Parents/Carers should satisfy themselves that the group or event runs the necessary checks and precautions to safeguard themselves or their children before participating.

# May Sports Week



Future School Fitness



Tuesday 28th—Friday 31st May

9am—3pm

Led by a  
**FULLY  
QUALIFIED  
TEACHER!**

For all children aged 5-15 years

Venue - Westfield Junior School

Sports Activities

Fun Games

Skills and Competitions

Dodgeball

Team Games

Football

Outdoor Gym

Plus Lots More!!!

Certificate  
for every  
child

Only  
£18  
per day

Hoodies,  
t-shirts  
and medals  
to be won

To confirm your child's place, simply contact Dean via:

Tel: 07986 131 790

E-mail: [futureschoolfitness@gmail.com](mailto:futureschoolfitness@gmail.com)

[futureschoolfitness](https://www.facebook.com/futureschoolfitness)

[futureschoolfit](https://twitter.com/futureschoolfit)

[futureschoolfitness](https://www.instagram.com/futureschoolfitness)



# CoachUnlimited Holiday Club



**Scan to book!**

or visit [www.coach-unlimited.co.uk](http://www.coach-unlimited.co.uk)



### When?

Thursday 30th May  
Friday 31st May, 0845-1515



### Where?

Desford Primary, LE9 9JH



### How much?

For children in Y1-Y6. £20 per day.



# BRIGHT SPARKS STEM FAIR



## SATURDAY 15 JUNE 2024

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

LEICESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

LONDON ROAD, GREAT GLEN LE8 9FL



REGISTER AT [WWW.LGS-SENIOR.ORG.UK/BRIGHT-SPARKS](http://WWW.LGS-SENIOR.ORG.UK/BRIGHT-SPARKS)

# OPEN INVITE TO BULKINGTON FOOTBALL TRAINING / TRIALS

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*Are you looking  
to Join an  
exciting new  
team / looking  
for a new  
challenge?*

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**E**xciting news from Bulkington Football Club! As we gear up for the new season 24/25, we are on the lookout for new players to join our squad. With the move from 7 aside to 9 aside, we're thrilled to announce that we will be holding open training sessions starting this week on Wednesday and Thursday nights from 6-7pm at the Bulkington recreational ground CV12 9JB, these sessions are completely free and open to all and will continue through until the Summer break.

This is aimed at kids in year 5 going into year 6, (under 10's to under 11's) we would love to welcome them to come and join us. We have spaces available in both our Saturday and Sunday teams, and we can't wait to see some new faces out on the pitch.

We want to assure all parents that our coaches are fully DBS checked and hold their FA 1 coaching, safeguarding, and first aid qualifications. The safety and well-being of our players is always our top priority.

So, if you know any budding young footballers who would be interested, please extend this invitation to them. It's going to be a fantastic season, and we would love to have them be a part of it. Looking forward to meeting all the new recruits!

If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are more than happy to provide any additional details you may need.

Contact 07581154818.

Kind Regards

Daniel Gibson



# TRIALS

SATURDAY 25TH MAY @ MATTIOLI ARENA

GIRLS U12 = 9AM -12PM

GIRLS U14 = 9AM -12PM

GIRLS U16 = 9AM -12PM

BOYS U12 = 12-2PM

BOYS U14 = 2-4PM

BOYS U16 = 4-6PM

## Hinckley and District Museum Ltd.

Framework Knitters' Cottages  
Lower Bond Street  
HINCKLEY  
Leicestershire  
LE10 1QU

Telephone 01455 251218

Email [hinckleymuseum@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hinckleymuseum@hotmail.co.uk)

Registered charity no. 1015922

Company registered in England no. 2734125



[www.hinckleydistrictmuseum.org.uk](http://www.hinckleydistrictmuseum.org.uk)

FUN CRAFT DAY AT HINCKLEY MUSEUM ON

MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY – 10am – 3.30pm

COME ALONG AND ENJOY MAKING

WINDMILLS AND KITES

# FUN SPORTS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

At Hastings High School, Burbage

Only £14.50



**Summer Holidays 2024**

**Dates:**

**Week 1 to Week 6:**

**15th July to 21st Aug**

**Details:**

**Venue: Hastings High School:  
Ages: 4-12 years**

**4yr olds can attend 4 hrs  
Times/cost:  
10am-3/3.30pm £12.50  
8.30am-3/3.30pm £14.50  
Early drop off option 8am £3**



**BOOK/Text: 07813175444**  
**www.sporting-dreams.co.uk**