

ST. MARY'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Summer 2



Dream - Believe - Achieve

As we reach the end of another busy and successful term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the many wonderful experiences, achievements, and opportunities that our pupils have enjoyed over the past few weeks.

Our Year 6 pupils have been preparing for their transition to secondary school and have shown tremendous maturity and resilience throughout the term. One of the highlights has been their exciting residential visit to Govilon, where they embraced new challenges, developed teamwork skills, and created memories that will last a lifetime. They have also demonstrated fantastic enterprise skills through their successful Flapjack Sale, raising funds while showing excellent organisation and enthusiasm.

The whole school enjoyed taking part in Sports Day, which was a fantastic celebration of teamwork, determination, and sporting spirit. It was wonderful to see pupils encouraging one another and giving their very best in every event.

Alongside Sports Day, many pupils have represented the school at a variety of sporting competitions and festivals, showcasing not only their talents but also their excellent behaviour and sportsmanship.

Music has also played an important role this term. Pupils took part in the Just Sing event, joining with other schools to celebrate the joy of singing. Their enthusiasm, confidence and musical talent made us incredibly proud, and it was wonderful to see them performing with such energy and enjoyment.

We were delighted to welcome our Greek visitors this term. This valuable cultural exchange provided pupils with the opportunity to learn about life in another country, share experiences, and develop a broader understanding of the world around them. It was a memorable experience for everyone involved.

Our annual St Mary's Got Talent event once again demonstrated the incredible range of talents within our school community.

From singing and dancing to musical performances and other creative acts, the confidence and courage shown by all participants were truly inspiring.

We are also extremely proud of the pupils who took part in our community litter pick. Their commitment to caring for our local environment reflects the values we strive to promote every day and shows how even small actions can make a positive difference.

As always, none of these achievements would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our staff, the support of our families, our wonderful PTFA and, most importantly, the enthusiasm and commitment of our pupils. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this term such a success.

We wish all our families a restful and enjoyable break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term ahead.
Best wishes,
Mrs Reynolds

Congratulations to our Amazing School Community!

I am delighted to share some wonderful news with our school community. Our school has been recognised as the Primary Education Excellence Award 2026 – Northamptonshire at the 10th Annual Midlands Enterprise Awards. This year's event marks a full decade of recognising and celebrating the Midlands' finest businesses and organisations, and we are incredibly proud to be honoured in this way.

This achievement reflects the dedication and hard work of our staff, the enthusiasm and resilience of our pupils, and the ongoing support of our families. It is a celebration of everything that makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

Thank you for being part of our journey and for continuing to support the work we do every day for our children.

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Learning the Value of Justice Through Collective Worship

This term, our collective worship has focused on the important value of **justice**. Through stories, reflection, and discussion, pupils have explored what it means to treat others fairly, stand up for what is right, and ensure that everyone is given equal opportunities to thrive.



JUSTICE

Learning about justice helps children understand key **British Values**, particularly the **rule of law**, **mutual respect**, and **individual liberty**. Pupils have considered how laws help protect people from unfair treatment and why respecting the rights of others is essential in creating a positive and inclusive community.

Our discussions have also linked closely to the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)**. Children have reflected on their right to be treated fairly, to have their voices heard, and to feel safe and valued regardless of their background or circumstances.

In addition, pupils have explored how justice relates to the **protected characteristics** outlined in the Equality Act 2010. They have learned the importance of respecting people of different ages, disabilities, races, religions, genders, and family

backgrounds, recognising that everyone deserves dignity, equality, and respect.

By developing an understanding of justice, we are helping our pupils become compassionate, responsible citizens who are prepared to contribute positively to a diverse and democratic society.



Attendance Matters

New research from the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) suggests that a child's happiness and overall life satisfaction may be just as important for school attendance as their sense of belonging at school. Looking at data from thousands of young people, researchers found that children who reported lower life satisfaction were more likely to miss school, with the link particularly strong for girls.

The findings challenge the idea that improving school belonging alone will solve attendance issues. Instead, they point to the importance of understanding how children are feeling both in and outside the classroom.

For parents, this is a reminder that changes in attendance can sometimes be an early sign that a child is struggling more broadly with their wellbeing. Schools working with **The Difference** have found that listening to pupils' experiences and tracking measures such as engagement and belonging can help identify concerns before attendance starts to decline.

Let's make sure our children have the best possible start in life and ensure they are at school regularly.

Class	Present: Marks (%)
Hope	97.00%
Trust	96.40%
Kindness	96.20%
Forgiveness	94.70%
Perseverance	94.30%
Friendship	93.60%
Peace	92.70%
Justice	92.60%
Acceptance	92.10%
Respect	91.50%
Wisdom	90.80%



**Winning class for
the year:**

KINDNESS 96.1%

Safeguarding Children Over the Summer Holidays

As we approach the summer holidays, we know that children and young people are looking forward to spending more time with family and friends, enjoying activities, and taking a well-earned break from school. While summer is a time for fun and relaxation, it is also important to remain mindful of children's safety and wellbeing.

Staying Safe Online

With more free time during the holidays, many children spend longer periods online. We encourage parents and carers to:

- Talk regularly with their children about their online activities.
- Check privacy settings on devices, apps, and social media accounts.
- Remind children never to share personal information with people they do not know.
- Encourage children to tell a trusted adult if anything online makes them feel worried, upset, or uncomfortable.

Out and About

As children become more independent during the holidays:

- Ensure they know what to do if they feel unsafe or get lost.
- Discuss safe places to go and who they can contact in an emergency.
- Agree on boundaries regarding where they can go and when they should return home.

Water and Sun Safety

Whether visiting beaches, swimming pools, or parks:

- Supervise children appropriately around water.
- Encourage the use of sunscreen, hats, and regular hydration.
- Teach children about the dangers of swimming in unsupervised areas.

Emotional Wellbeing

Changes in routine can sometimes affect children's emotional wellbeing.

- Maintain regular opportunities for children to talk about their feelings.
- Encourage a balance of activities, rest, and family time.
- Look out for signs that your child may be feeling anxious, isolated, or upset.

Trusted Adults and Support

Remind children that they can always speak to a trusted adult if they are worried about themselves or a friend. If you have concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing during the summer holidays, please seek advice and support from appropriate services.

Here are some safeguarding services and sources of support:

- Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Partnership – safeguarding advice, online safety guidance, and resources for parents.
- Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) – for concerns about a child's welfare. Telephone: 0300 126 7000.
- Family Help (Early Help) – support for families experiencing challenges before problems escalate.
- NSPCC – advice and support for adults concerned about a child.
- Childline – confidential support for children and young people.
- CEOP – reporting online exploitation and accessing online safety advice.

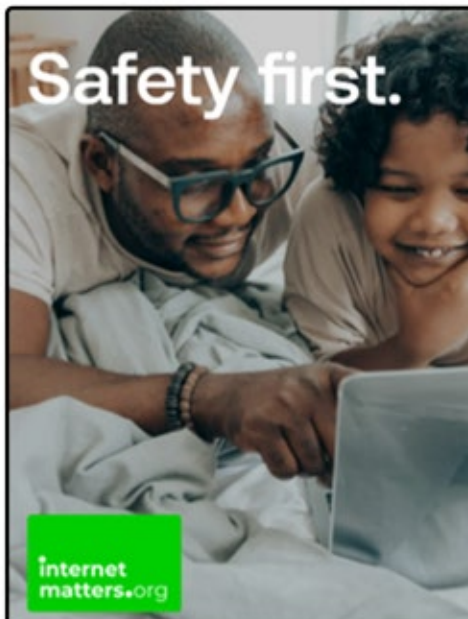
We hope all families enjoy a safe, happy, and healthy summer break. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep children safe.

Internet Matters

Find the Right Words

We know how hard it can be for parents to guide their children through an ever-changing online world. That's why we've worked with Internet Matters to provide expert guidance and comprehensive resources for parents and professionals to help keep them safe online. Download our guides on how to have effective conversations and implement parental controls.

<https://news.virginmediaio2.co.uk/find-the-right-words/>



Internet Matters supports parents and professionals with comprehensive resources and expert guidance to help them navigate the ever-changing world of child internet safety.

The goals

- Support parents and carers on all aspects of children's digital wellbeing
- Provide tailored guidance for the most vulnerable young people and their wide support network
- Bring together industry leaders and experts with the shared mission of improving online safety

Children's Online Safety Test

To get you up to speed on the things you should be keeping an eye out for, check out our Children's Internet Safety Test below, and keep on top of how your little ones are making use of the world wide web.

[Start the test today](#)

[Click here for
the Internet
Safety Test](#)

RECOGNITION AWARD

Congratulations to Bethany Robinson Winner of the Bishop's RE Award

We are delighted to announce that Bethany Robinson has been awarded this year's Bishop's RE Award in recognition of her outstanding commitment to Religious Education and the Christian values that are at the heart of our school community.

Bethany consistently demonstrates a thoughtful and reflective approach to her RE learning. Her work is of a high standard, and she expresses her ideas with maturity, insight, and respect for the beliefs and perspectives of others.

During collective worship, Bethany's responses are always considered and meaningful, showing a genuine engagement with the themes explored and a willingness to reflect on how they apply to everyday life.

Most importantly, Bethany lives out our school's Christian values in the way she treats others. She is kind, compassionate, respectful, and always strives to do what is right. Her actions reflect the values we seek to nurture in all of our pupils, making her a positive role model within our school community.

Bethany's commitment to her faith, her learning, and the values that underpin our school make her a thoroughly deserving recipient of this year's Bishop's RE Award. We congratulate her on this well-deserved recognition.



RECOGNITION AWARD

Congratulations o Esme Lee Winner of the Patrick PE Cup

We are delighted to announce that Esme Lee has been awarded this year's Patrick PE Cup in recognition of her outstanding commitment, dedication, and enthusiasm for sport.

Esme is a wonderful role model who consistently demonstrates the values of determination, resilience, and teamwork. Her passion for physical education extends far beyond the school day, with a particular commitment to netball and swimming.

Whether representing the school in competitions, training with her teams, or developing her skills outside of school, Esme approaches every opportunity with positivity and determination.

Within school, Esme is a supportive and encouraging teammate who always gives her best effort and inspires those around her. Outside of school, her continued dedication to training and competition reflects the hard work and perseverance that the Patrick PE Cup celebrates.

Esme's love of sport, combined with her exemplary attitude and commitment, makes her a thoroughly deserving recipient of this year's Patrick PE Cup. We congratulate her on this well-earned achievement and look forward to seeing her continue to flourish in her sporting journey.



COURAGEOUS ADVOCACY AWARD

A huge well done to Elsie and Bella-Rose for demonstrating outstanding community spirit.

After noticing a problem in our local area while out on a family walk, they took the initiative to make a positive difference by carefully picking up every last piece of litter in the Pocket Park.

We are incredibly proud of their thoughtful actions and grateful for the example they have set. Their commitment to caring for our local community shows that small acts of kindness can make a huge difference.

Thank you, Elsie and Bella-Rose - you are an inspiration to us all!



Cllr John Currall presented the girls with gift vouchers for our local Sweetie Shop as a thank you from the Duck Race Committee for all their hard work at the pocket park and for making our town a better place to live.



St Mary's Got Talent

This year in St Mary's got Talent we had a wonderful variety of acts that we have never seen before. Some of the performers included Ivy on the piano, Elliot, Esme and Toby perform a comedy acting scene and some very sweet reception girls doing a gymnastic routine!

Each child put their all into their performance and we are so proud. The student judges who led the whole thing did an amazing job picking the lineup after auditions.



It was a very tough decision, but the winner is

Ivy Wooder

Well done to everyone who participated!

READING Targets

Our children have continued to show great enthusiasm for reading throughout the year, and we are delighted to celebrate the progress made across the school. This term, Kindness once again led the way with an impressive average of 5.6 reads, closely followed by Acceptance with 4.1, while Hope and Forgiveness also showed strong commitment with averages of 3.3 and 3.7 respectively. It has been wonderful to see so many children developing positive reading habits, and these achievements would not have been possible without the fantastic support from parents and carers, who have encouraged regular reading at home throughout the year.



Thank you for your continued partnership in helping children foster a lifelong love of reading. As we head into the summer holidays, we encourage everyone to keep reading regularly—whether it's sharing stories together, visiting the library, or enjoying a good book in the sunshine. Every page read helps children maintain their confidence and gives them a great start for the new school year.

Class average reading scores 2025 ~ 2026

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Justice	4.4	3.8	3.2	2.2	2.3	2.9
Wisdom	2.9	3.7	2.4	2.9	3.0	1.3
Respect	2.1	2.1	3.5	3.0	2.1	1.4
Hope	2.7	2.5	3.7	3.5	4.0	3.3
Trust	2.1	2.3	2.4	3.6	4.1	2.5
Perseverance	2.8	3.8	3.4	3.6	3.7	2.7
Kindness	4.5	5.6	5.2	4.5	5.2	5.6
Acceptance	3.0	3.0	3.3	2.6	3.4	4.1
Forgiveness	3.7	2.7	3.5	3.0	3.1	3.7
Friendship				5.1	4.9	4.3
Peace				4.4	4.4	3.8
Whole School	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2



Remember to keep reading over the Summer Holidays.



It has been another fantastic term in Maths, with the children continuing to develop their confidence, fluency and problem-solving skills.

$$3 \times 7 = 21$$

$$4 \times 10 = 40$$

$$2 \times 5 = 10$$

$$6 \times 8 = 48$$

144 Club

We would also like to give a special shout-out to all the children who have worked so hard to become members of the 144 Club this year. The progress they have made with their times tables over the year has been fantastic, and we are excited to introduce a badge system next year to celebrate their continued success and achievement. The badges will showcase the children's achievements and levels with a bronze, silver, gold and platinum levels.

This term, we have also been running exciting inter-class Times Tables Rock Stars competitions. Each week, classes compete to win the trophy by showing the highest level of participation and practice.

A huge congratulations to **Perseverance**, who were our winning class this term on Times Tables Rockstars this term, taking an impressive 50% of the class competitions.



Values Crew



Thank you Maddie for being an amazing Chair of the Values Crew. You have done an excellent job!

"At the start of the year I was delighted to be head of the Values Crew and proud to carry that responsibility through the different terms.

We have planned lots of cool things to learn and have good 'learning starts' to begin a great day!

Thank you Georgia for your lovely account about your time of being a brilliant Vice Chair for the Values Crew.

"Throughout the year, we have worked together to make collective worship more engaging. I have had the opportunity to read prayers, share others' thoughts and feelings and so much more.

It has been such a delight to do this job and I can't wait to see what the next vice chair has in store for the school."

THANK YOU!

**Well done to all the Values Crew Team
— you have truly shown us what living
our school values looks like.**



KINDNESS AMBASSADORS

It's been a busy end of term but we haven't let that stop us in sharing our kindness in any way we can!



World Wellbeing Week

June saw us raise awareness of the 5 ways to wellbeing around school, to coincide with World Wellbeing Week. We learned that there are 5 simple steps we can take to help improve and maintain our wellbeing. These steps are:

- Connect
- Take Notice
- Give
- Keep Learning
- Be Active

Aiming to achieve these '5 a day' can have a real impact on our mental health, making us happier, healthier and kinder to your mind!



Litter Pick

Even as we type, we are planning a litter pick for the remaining week of the term. We know that showing kindness to the environment is just as important as showing kindness to humans, because after all, being kind to each other creates a kinder world – but being kind to the planet gives us a world to live in!



Kindness Scavenger Hunt

During the final week of term, we organized a scavenger hunt for the children. We hid 8 'kind words' around the outside area of school, and children were set the challenge of trying to work out the clues that would lead them to the words. Every child who completed the scavenger hunt got a small reward, and an overall winner was picked out of the hat and got a prize!

SCAVENGER HUNT



Well done to everyone who took part!

Summer of Kindness

Look out for your Summer of Kindness challenge sheets coming your way! There are 30 different ideas for sharing kindness – perfect for completing at least one a day over the lovely long summer break!



We hope you all have a safe, happy and KIND summer break!
The Kindness Ambassadors



ECO WARRIORS



It has been a busy and exciting term for our Eco Team!

Following the successful award of our grant, we were delighted to receive a fantastic delivery of gardening equipment and resources, allowing us to launch our new Gardening Club. The children have thoroughly enjoyed preparing the flower beds, weeding, planting and caring for our outdoor spaces.

We are also incredibly grateful to Bosworth's for their generous donation of plants, as well as to one of our wonderful parent helpers for donating fruit and vegetable plants. The Gardening Club has also worked hard to tidy and weed our outdoor learning area and even supported our EYFS children by helping to refresh their planters.

A particular highlight was our visit to Bosworth's Garden Centre, where the Gardening Club had the opportunity to decide how to spend our £250 grant from the Wildlife Trust. The children carefully considered their choices, explored the wide range of plants and gardening resources, and used their mathematical skills to budget and calculate how much money remained.

"I love being in Gardening Club. We get to do lots of weeding and plant new things around our school. It makes it look really good! I love finding all the worms and minibeasts with my friends too!"
Olivia.

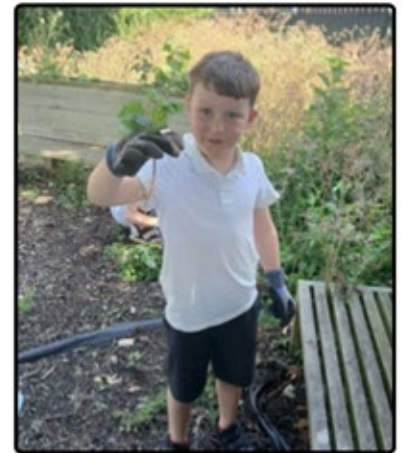
Our Walkie Wheely Wednesday initiative has once again been a great success. It encourages children and families to travel to school in a more sustainable way, helping to reduce our carbon footprint while promoting healthy lifestyles. Walking, cycling and scooting to school provides valuable daily exercise, supports positive mental wellbeing and ensures children arrive ready to learn.

Congratulations to Hope and Respect classes, who are currently leading the way in a very close competition for the most active journeys to school!

Our Kindness Ambassadors have also joined forces with the Eco Warriors to make a positive difference in the local community by taking part in a litter pick around the surrounding area. Their enthusiasm and commitment to caring for the environment have helped make our local community cleaner while reinforcing the importance of looking after the world around us. We are incredibly proud of the positive impact our children continue to have both within school and beyond.



Gardening Club



STUDENT COUNCIL



In this last term, the student council collected some very important pupil voice. We asked the school what their favourite part of St Mary's is and what they would like to change. It was so lovely to see how much the students love our school, as well as the worthwhile changes they would like to make to ensure it is even better.

Their ideas will help next year's student council hit the ground running and make a positive impact. We have loved being able to help our school make changes and represent each class across our school community this year.





Sunshine Room

**A Term Full of Smiles,
Stories and Splashes!**



The children have had a fantastic time enjoying a range of exciting activities and experiences. One of our favourite highlights has been our visits to the Community Library. The children love exploring the books, listening carefully to stories and joining in the sensory activities. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow and their enjoyment flourish with each visit.

We were also very proud of our involvement in Sports Day. The children joined their peers in the running races and showed fantastic enthusiasm from start to finish. Every child took part with a huge smile and plenty of determination. We were incredibly proud of their efforts and sportsmanship.

To celebrate the end of the term, we enjoyed a brilliant afternoon of water play and fun with our families. The children had an amazing time splashing, squirting and laughing together in the sunshine. There were plenty of squeals of delight and lots of excitement as everyone joined in the fun, ate ice cream and got wet!

It has been a joy to watch the children grow in confidence, develop friendships and embrace new experiences throughout the term. We would like to thank all our families for their continued support and for helping to make this such a happy and memorable year.

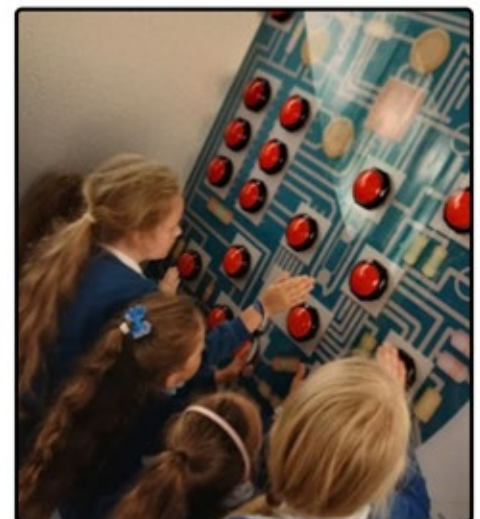


We launched our new unit, Exciting Explorers, with an exciting trip to the Space Centre. The children were introduced to space, rockets, planets, astronauts and more! We watched a fascinating planetarium show about astronauts and explored a range of exhibits and interactive displays, all of which sparked the children's interest in learning about space.

Year 1 & 2 Leicester Space Centre Trip



During the visit, we also learned about the Space Race and discovered which country won the race to land a person on the Moon. The children enjoyed finding out about the animals that helped scientists learn more about space travel, including Laika the dog and Ham the chimpanzee. We also learned about the historic Moon landing and the achievements of Neil Armstrong, the first person to walk on the Moon. The trip was a fantastic way to begin our learning and inspired lots of curiosity and excitement about our new topic.





YEAR 3 & 4 GREEK DAY

To launch our exciting new History topic on the Ancient Greeks, Year 3 and 4 enjoyed a fantastic Greek Day packed with creative and engaging activities.

The day began with an entertaining and informative show, where the children learnt about a variety of famous Greek myths and legends. From heroic adventures to fearsome monsters, the stories brought Ancient Greek culture to life.

Using these myths as inspiration, the children developed their own mythical creative writing, creating imaginative characters, settings and adventures. They also explored one of Ancient Greece's most important contributions to modern society: democracy. The children discussed ideas that could improve both our school and wider community before taking part in a democratic vote to decide on their favourites.

The fun continued with drama activities, where pupils worked together to bring different mythical creatures to life through movement and performance. They also learnt about traditional Ancient Greek pottery, designing and creating their own plates inspired by authentic Greek patterns and artwork.

The children had an absolutely wonderful day and fully immersed themselves in the activities. Greek Day has sparked great enthusiasm and curiosity, and we are all looking forward to continuing our learning about the Ancient Greeks throughout this half term.



YEAR 5 VISITS ROCKINGHAM CASTLE

The year 5 school trip this year, took us to Rockingham Castle as it linked up our History and Geography learning about castle and rivers.

The children were able to make connections with what they saw and their new learning and it was great to hear our children asking great questions to the guide.

Fun was had by all and a special thanks to the parents who came and helped take small groups for tours around the castle grounds. As promised, we left no children in the dungeons!



Year 6 Residential

Govilon 2026



Dream - Believe - Achieve



"Everything is possible for one who believes" Mark 9:23



Our year 6s who took part in this years residential had a fantastic time learning new skills and conquering fears.

We had a week of extreme heat, yet we jumped in cool waterfalls, walked through dark cold tunnels and went caving in 8 degree, 100 metres underground caves. It was a delight to hear children support one another.

The whole trip was a success as children enjoyed being away from home and loved the home cooked food. New relationships have been made as we lead up to their moving in their new secondary schools.

Farewell, Year 6

Flapjack Sale

A Buzz of Business in Year 6

The school was filled with excitement as our Year 6 entrepreneurs took charge of their annual enterprise projects.

The range of tasty - sugar-loaded- treats did not disappoint with every business selling out quickly. Our year 6 spent time marketing, budgeting and cooking their flapjacks all to raise money for their end of term treat.

The children shared that they really enjoyed having to plan from scratch with a set budget to guide them. We are growing business men and women for the future.



Leavers Service

Marking the End of an Era

Another year and another tearjerker! With a fantastic parent turnout to share and reflect on the children's time in primary school with memories, pictures, awards and songs.

The children made a super video to "A Million Dreams" - chosen by them. It is lovely that they have had so much input into the service knowing that what they said, they meant.

We wish all our children who leave us the very best futures but as year 6s the next step is both exciting and nervous, but we will always be here for them.



Dream - Believe - Achieve



Our annual Sports Days were a fantastic celebration of teamwork, determination, and sporting spirit.

Blessed with fine weather (mostly)

and enthusiastic support from families and friends, pupils gave their all in a wide range of track and field events, creating an exciting and memorable day for everyone involved.

Throughout the day, children demonstrated resilience, perseverance, and encouragement for one another, embodying our school values both on and off the field. From the sprint races and relays to the throwing and jumping events, every participant showed great effort and a positive attitude, with many pupils achieving personal bests. The atmosphere was filled with cheers as classmates, staff, and spectators supported every competitor. It was wonderful to see children celebrating each other's successes and showing excellent sportsmanship, reminding us that taking part, trying our best, and encouraging others are just as important as winning.

A huge thank you goes to our staff, volunteers, and families for helping to make the day such a success, and to everyone who took part with enthusiasm and determination. Congratulations to all of our pupils for their outstanding effort and commitment, and a special well done to our winning house team on their fantastic achievement.

Sports Day was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of being active and the strength of our school community. We are already looking forward to next year's event!



"Everything is possible for one who believes" Mark 9:23

Celebrating Sport

Rugby Team



Jack says:

"Going to the Saints ground in Northampton was an amazing experience. We got a tour of the stadium including seeing the changing rooms and the trophy cabinet.

It was a super hot day but they looked after us well by reducing the game time and having a nice air conditioned room to wait in.

As the Saints had won the premiership the week before, we got to see the trophy and have our photo taken with it.

Sadly we didn't win but had a really fun day."

NetballTeam



Our netball team put in a fantastic performance at their recent friendly, winning five out of six games and drawing the other.

The girls demonstrated outstanding teamwork throughout the tournament, communicating brilliantly and seamlessly rotating into different positions whenever needed.

Their fast pace, strong attacking play, and determined defending made them a force to be reckoned with. We are incredibly proud of their effort, sportsmanship, and commitment.

Watch this space for next year's St Mary's Superstars!



Sports Festival



Once again, I had the pleasure of taking a fantastic group of pupils to the Target Festival at Montsaye Academy, Rothwell. I was accompanied by an exceptional team of children who demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, teamwork, and outstanding behaviour throughout the morning. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school. This year's festival focused not only on target skills but also on working together to complete a variety of exciting challenges. The children enjoyed taking part in archery target practice, archery target ball, balance skills, a unique dodgeball challenge, and team catch. It was a fun-filled morning, and everyone embraced the activities with enthusiasm and determination.

Rather than hearing just from me, here is what two of our pupils had to say about their experience:

Rosie Saunders said:

"I was so happy to be picked to go. We had such a fun time, and all of the school helpers explained what we needed to do so we didn't get stuck. The activities started easy and then got trickier. We were in two teams and had to work together. Sometimes we had to call each other's names so we knew where we were throwing, so everyone had to listen."

When asked which activity she enjoyed the most,

Rosie said:

"I enjoyed the dodgeball challenge because I got to go in the middle to collect the cones while everyone else tried to stop me by throwing the balls. If I got hit, I had to put a cone back. It was such fun!"

Amelia Helling said:

"I loved the archery the most, but I really enjoyed all of the activities."

The girls also agreed that teamwork was one of the best parts of the day:

"We all helped each other, and that always makes things better. It's always kind to help each other."

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to Sarah Ibordor, who accompanied us to the festival. Your support was greatly appreciated and helped make the morning such a success. Well done to everyone who took part—you represented our school impeccably.



Esme's Swimming Gala



I swim for Wellingborough Amateur Swimming Club (WASC) and I was selected to swim at a gala in the Olympic pool in London.

This gala was against other swimming clubs, the majority were from London. I swam in eight events over the weekend and got seven personal bests. It was great fun getting to experience what an Olympian must have felt like.

The water was very cold. Some of the races I did were the 50 metre backstroke 50 metre freestyle 100 metre free 100 metre backstroke 200 metre backstroke 200 metre breaststroke 50 metre breaststroke and 100 metre breaststroke.

I was even more pleased with my Personal Best times as I had only just completed Club Championships in June where I also achieved personal bests, so beating these again was great! Club Championships is where you swim against other swimmers from your club.

I have now achieved eight county qualifying times. I am overall very impressed with my new personal bests, but most of all I had fun and loved hanging out with my friends.



Marianne's Very Muddy Run!

We are really excited to be doing our 2nd Pretty Muddy Run to raise money for Cancer Research UK.

We have experienced, first hand, the impact of cancer diagnosis, treatment and loss.

When we run we will be thinking of some very special people who are no longer with us. But, we are also running to celebrate the joy of beating cancer, not once but multiple times. 🌸🌸🌸

Plus the obstacles and getting very muddy with Daddy is huge amounts of fun!

Thank you for your support.

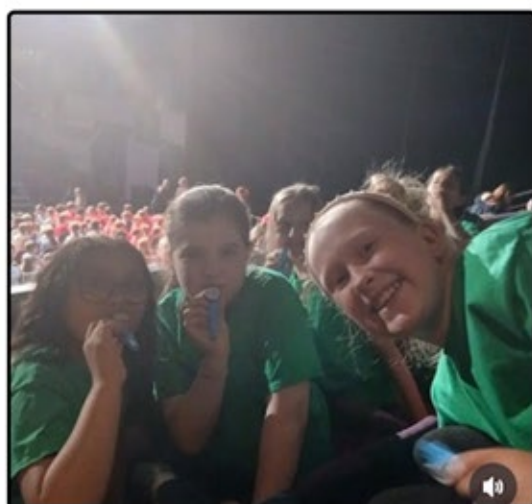
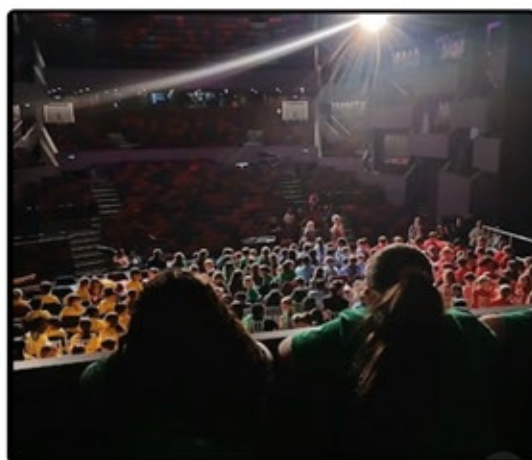
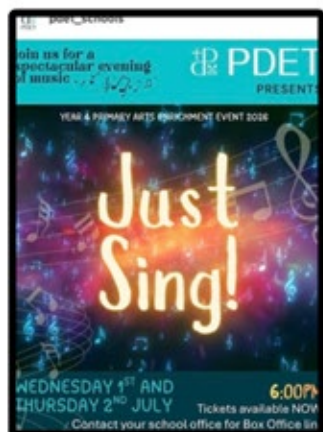


Just Sing Yr4

Well done to our Year 4 singers

The children had a fantastic time, joining lots of our PDET schools for our annual JUST SING.

The children were AMAZING!



Dance Festival

This year Mrs Reynolds continued her yearly tradition of taking a dance group to The Festival which is held at the Derngate in Northampton.

Each student who participated worked incredibly hard over the course of several months to learn the dance choreographed by Mrs Reynolds.



The dance routine was all about being loud and showing your true personality no matter what anyone thinks. The dancers were absolutely amazing and they represented our school with pride.



Look to the St Mary's Instagram for a video of their wonderful performance.

We need you!



Calling all volunteers...

Volunteers Needed – Listen to Children Read

We are looking for volunteers to spend time listening to children read at school. This is a rewarding way to support our children and help build their confidence and literacy skills.

All volunteers will need to complete the school's volunteer approval process before participating.

If you are interested, please contact or visit the school office for more details about the volunteer process and how to get involved.





ST. MARY'S PTA & FRIENDS

PTFA NEWS

Thank you PTFA
from all of us!

A big thank you to our wonderful PTFA for treating the children to ice poles during the hot weather. They were very much appreciated and brought lots of smiles.



SEND Annual Survey



**The North Northants
SEND Annual
Surveys 2026 are
now live.**

Survey link:

<https://npcv.co.uk/send-annual-surveys-2026>

We have been asked to support 'Northamptonshire Parent Carer Voices' by sharing a survey with our parent carers and young people with SEND aged 0–25. (Survey closes 5th August 2026)

The surveys provide an important opportunity for families and young people to share their experiences of SEND support and services across education, health and social care within North Northamptonshire.

Feedback gathered through the surveys helps us better understand what is working well, where improvements have been made, and where further development is still needed.

Following the survey, a full report will be produced and published. This year's findings will also be evaluated and compared with previous survey reports to help identify improvements, ongoing challenges and any declines across different service areas.



Additional Resources

[Home - BIOS](#)

[Eye tests for children - NHS](#)

[Child vision screening information for parents - GOV.UK](#)

Vision Screening

- The NHS recommends vision screening at age 4 to 5 years.
- Primary school vision screening is not offered in Northamptonshire.
- We recommend your child attends any local optician for a routine eye test during their reception academic year,
- This is recommended even if you do not have any concerns regarding their eyesight
- We want to identify children with reduced vision in one or both eyes.
- The aim is to detect any visual problems early so your child can receive effective treatment.
- Your child's eye test is FREE. Eye tests are free for children under 16 and for young people under 19 in full-time education.

Thank you, Orthoptics,
University Hospitals of Northamptonshire

Your Child's Vision

Child's vision in children is a key part of their development and early detection of visual problems is important for their learning and general well-being. The visual system continues to develop from birth and reaches maturity by approximately 8 years of age. The majority of identified visual problems are treatable and the earlier these are identified the better the visual outcome is.

Vision screening allows the detection of reduced vision in one or both eyes at an age when treatment has the potential to improve vision. The target condition is Amblyopia, where the vision in one or both eyes doesn't develop properly. It is estimated that 1 in 50 children will develop this condition, but often younger children are unaware there is anything wrong with their vision, as they have grown up with and become used to it.

