St Mary's C of E Primary School

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

Stonehouse Rd, Hadleigh, Ipswich IP7 5BH
Tel: 01473 823268 E-mail:admin@stmaryshad.co.uk
Headteacher: Mr Matt Vale –Smith

Values: Generosity

Issue No : 7

Friday 9th October 2026

Diary Dates:

19/10—21/10—Year 6 Residential

W/C 19/10—Learning Conferences

Term Dates—Autumn 2026

26/10—30/10—Half Term

2/11—PD Day—School Closed

18/12—Last day of Term

Happy Friday! Another busy week full of learning. Yesterday was fun-filled with our first 'iRock' assembly. iRock provide our children the opportunity to learn instruments such as the electric lead and base guitars, drums and keyboards. Lessons are available in school time as well as an after-school rock band session. Each term will culminate in a school band show to the school and invited parents. If your child is interested in joining our school rock band, information was sent home with your child yesterday or ring the school office for further details including pricing.



School Mascot

I would like to introduce 'Cookie' who has recently become our school mascot. Cookie's owner Marta often walks her to school. Cookie loves seeing all the school children. It only seems fitting that she becomes a member of our school family!

School Ambassadors

A big thank you to Charlotte and Lilly in Year 5 for representing our school as Ambassadors today. Each term, they will meet with other school ambassadors from our MAT 21 schools to share ideas on how to improve our schools. Mrs Caffull (our MAT CEO) said that she was impressed with Charlotte and Lily's enthusiasm, kindness and ideas. Well done girls – you are awesome!

Have a great week!

Mr Matt Vale-Smith,

Headteacher

Weekly Attendance to 9/10/26

Reception	96.5 ↑
Year 1	93.9% ↑
Year 2	96.2% ↑
Year 3	94.4% ↓
Year 4	95.1% ↑
Year 5	93.3% ↓
Year 6	93.9% ↓

St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Multi Academy Trust

St Mary's C of E Primary and Nursery



OPEN DAYS

Join us to explore our school and discover what makes St Mary's a special place.

Thursday
15th October
10 - 11am

Saturday
17th October
10 - 11am

Primary School Places for September 2027

Nursery Places available now

All enquires please call the Office on
01473 823268

A nurturing community | Inspiring learning | Happy, confident children | Strong values for the future

Office News

Outstanding Debt—Please ensure all debts, including nursery provisions and other services provided, are settled promptly. If you need assistance with verifying the balance or making a payment, please contact the school's administrative office.

Year 6 Residential Trip—October 2026: We still have 3 payments to be received for the Hoodies please —MCAS/Trips

Main Reception Gate: **It is imperative that the school gate is closed every time it is opened for you. We cannot stress this enough.**

Free School Meals - If you feel your child may be eligible for Free School Meals (separate to Universal Free School Meals) we strongly urge you to apply via this link, regardless of your child's year group. A qualifying child brings in much needed funds.

https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals

Class Fundraising Christmas Cards—Your child will be bringing home a Parent Order Card with details of your child's artwork along with instructions for viewing, approving and ordering online. **Closing Date 22nd October 2026**

SENCo News

Thank you to all parents who have booked and attended their learning plan meetings so far. It has been lovely to meet with you and discuss your child's progress and next steps.

I am looking forward to meeting with those parents who are still due to attend next week.

A reminder that all learning plans will be emailed to you once they have been finalised. These will then be reviewed at the beginning of the Spring Term.

Parent Reading Volunteers – A Little Help Needed!

We would be very grateful for any parents who may be able to volunteer some time to support our children with their reading. Even a regular commitment of a short amount of time each week can make a real difference and is greatly appreciated.

Community News

Applying for a secondary School Place—Year 7

Applications must be made between 12th September and 31st October 2026. All of the information you need to help you make your decision is available on the website at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions from 12 September 2026.

Reception Start September 2027—Open sessions

If you have a child or know someone whose child will be starting school in September 2027, we are holding 2 open sessions - Thursday 15th October between 10 and 11 am, and Saturday 17th October between 10 and 11am. Please contact the school office to add your name to the respective session you would like to attend.

Applying for a Primary School Place - you must apply for a primary school place for 2027/2028 school year by the closing date of **15 January 2027**. You can apply on line via Suffolk County Council

https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2027-2028



Beatrix Potter—Nursery & Reception

Potter Class have had a great week of learning! Their focus for drawing club was Leaf Man and they draw lovely pictures of where the wind could take them, they have wonderful imaginations! In music, the children learnt two different notes and sang a new song, which we then extended and made our own. Well done Potter Class!

Ed Sheeran—Years 1 & 2

Sheeran Class have been busy writing stories in English based on the work they've completed on Puffin Peter. The children had a brilliant PE session on Tuesday when they tried cardio drumming for the first time. The children were then treated to some fun parachute games. All the children really enjoyed the irock assembly on Thursday, as did





Little Beethoven's

This Week in Beethoven Class we have been doing all about the word "Like". We have liked our toys, our food and liked fun activities like blowing up balloons and letting them go and whizz around the classroom.



Chris Packham —Years 3 & 4

Packham Class – This Week

It has been another busy week in Packham Class!

History: We have continued learning about Ancient Greece, exploring the Greek city-states and different types of rule, including tyranny.

Art: We had lots of fun exploring the distinctive illustration style of Quentin Blake, experimenting with expressive lines and drawings.

RE: We explored *Desmond and the Mean Words* by Desmond Tutu and discussed the people who influence us, as well as the importance of kindness and the words we use.

English: We have been writing poetry about our special things, using descriptive language and poetic techniques. We are now beginning to edit and improve our poems ready for our final versions.

Well done, Packham Class, for another fantastic week!

Katherine Johnson—Year 5

Johnson Class have been inspired by the vibrant work of Morag Myerscough and Yinka Ilori, exploring how colour, pattern, light and contrast can transform structures and spaces.

We have been getting brave with bold colours and exciting combinations, thinking about how colour can create different moods and bring spaces to life. We will continue experimenting, creating our own mood boards and gathering inspiration for our final art pieces next week. We can't wait to see where our creativity takes us!

In RE this week Y 5 and Y6 were looking at examples of pulpits and lecterns that might be seen in a church. We were trying to understand why they are used and what difference they make to readings of the Bible in a Christian service. The children had some interesting ideas and asked some relevant questions. If anyone is able to visit a church, or churches, to look at pulpits and lecterns we would appreciate a few photos (send them using the Class Dojo for your child).



Aaron Fotheringham —Year 6



In Fotheringham class this week, we have finished our non-chronological reports about a planet we have created. They are fantastic and I will share some of these on dojo next week.

In English we have started a new text 'Night of the Gargoyles'. We have been looking at how the vocabulary creates mood and atmosphere.

In Maths we have been looking at factors and multiples and looking at how these are different to each other. We have also been investigating rules of divisibility.

On Thursday lots of parents joined me to find out about the year 6 residential...exciting!!

Thank you to everyone that came along

FANCY DRESS SCHOOL DISCO

Thursday
22nd October

Key Stage 1
3.15pm - 4.15pm

Key Stage 2
4.30pm - 5.30pm

Snacks, Tuck Shop and Glitter Tattoos available

Tickets will be available on mychildatschool app

£5 each

2 or more children £10

Come in fancy dress or disco clothes!