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

Newsletter Friday 11th September 2026

What a fantastic and busy week we have had in school! It has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled in, and we are incredibly proud of them all. They have made such a positive start, and it has been lovely to see them growing in confidence and getting stuck into school life.

A big thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher evening last night. We hope you found the evening informative and interesting, and that it gave you a useful insight into your child's class and the year ahead. Many of you will have been given the 'How to Help Your Child' information sheet relating to your child's class. If you didn't receive one, don't worry – these will be sent out by email later this week.

Today, we are celebrating TT Rockstars Day, and it has already been great fun! As I write, we have just enjoyed a fantastic Rock Star Fashion Show in the hall, with some wonderfully creative outfits on display. I am particularly looking forward to finding out who will be crowned our School Times Tables Champion later today, when we come together for a big whole-school competition. It is very exciting!

As always, please remember that my door is always open. If you have any questions, issues or concerns, I am always happy to have a chat and see how we can help.

Have a lovely weekend, everyone, and thank you for your continued support.

Mr Matt Vale-Smith

Headteacher

St Edmundsbury and Ipswich
Diocesan Multi Academy Trust

Values: Generosity

Issue No : 1

Friday 11th September 2026

Diary Dates:

11/09—TTRS Day—Children to dress in rock clothing!

30/9—Happy Days Photography

1/10—6/10—Travelling Book Fair

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

Weekly Attendance to 11/9/26

Reception	100%
Year 1	94.2%
Year 2	93.9%
Year 3	95.4%
Year 4	96.9%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	96.4%

Office News

Outstanding Debt—Monies are still owed for academic year 25/26, Please check outstanding balance in MCAS and ensure debts are cleared by 11th September 2026, thank you

Year 6 Residential Trip—October 2026: Final few payments to be received for the Hoodies please —MCAS/Trips

Main Reception Gate: Please could we ask when entering or leaving the school via the main gate that it is closed behind you.

School Dinners—We hope the children are enjoying the new Autumn Menu from our Caterers, Miquill. Please ensure your child's meal is pre-booked in advance, including if they are having a packed lunch. The cost of a meal is £2.75 for children in Years 3—6, unless in receipt of Free School Meals.

SENCo News

MacMillan Coffee Morning—St Mary's staff will be holding a bake off on Friday 25th September to raise funds for MacMillan. The children will be able to vote for the best and most inventive cake during assembly. All we ask is for a donation of 50 pence. This donation will allow your child to be in with a chance of winning a cake to bring home and enjoy.

Parents Voice—Miss Matthews would like to invite external professionals into the school to provide parents with the opportunity to engage, ask questions, and gain insights. If you have a particular professional service you would like to see invited, please contact Miss Matthews on the playground or email the school office by Friday, 18th September. We will do our best to arrange this.
Additionally, attached at the end of this newsletter are details of professional services provided by All Things Autism.

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.

National Child Measurement Programme—Year 6

Following details sent out to Year 6 parents on 6th September, this is a reminder of your 14 day window if you wish your child to be opted out of the programme.



Beatrix Potter—Nursery & Reception

In Potter Class this week, we have been settling into our new routine and exploring our invitations to play and learn. Reception children have worked so hard beginning their Phonics learning and can now orally blend the word 'Sat'. Reception have also begun their Maths lessons and are Wiz's at subitising to 3. Nursery children have loved exploring a range of malleable play activities such as water, sand, and Playdough; they even had their first Dough Disco session of the term with Mrs Wallace.

I am so proud of Potter Class !

Ed Sheeran—Years 1 & 2

Sheeran Class have had a fantastic week of learning! On Monday, we started our science learning by comparing ourselves now to us as a baby, noticing differences and similarities. In RE, we learnt about how important it is for Christians to feel part of God's family, Asher said he feels like Sheeran Class feels like a family, and I agree! Our maths learning is centred around place value and the children are enjoying using lots of different manipulatives to show the values. It's been really busy, but really enjoyable.





Little Beethoven's

In Little Beethoven's this week our theme has been frogs . We have been singing ' 5 little speckled frogs ' . In our art lessons the children have been making frog faces with paint and paper plates. Our phonics lessons have been lots of fun our Beethoven's blending the word 'frog' well done ***** .

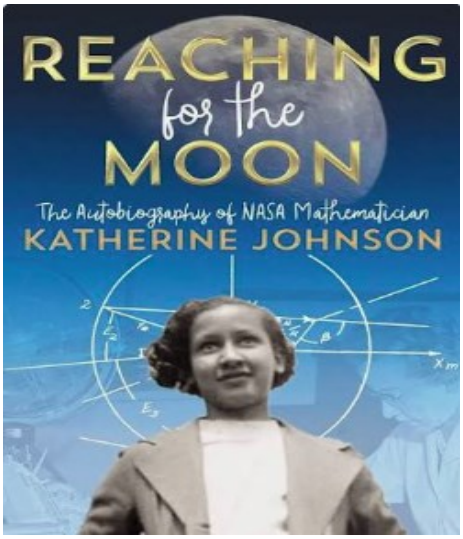
We found that chia seeds soaked in water looks like frogspawn and has a lovely slimy texture which the children explored with delight.

It's been such a fun week with some fantastic learning .

Chris Packham —Years 3 & 4



This week in Packham Class, we enjoyed learning about our class namesake, **Chris Packham**. We researched his life and work before using our knowledge to write thoughtful letters to him. The children worked hard to include interesting facts and questions in their writing. In **Maths**, our focus has been on **place value**, exploring how numbers up to 1,000 can be partitioned into hundreds, tens and ones to strengthen our understanding of number. Our **Science** lesson saw us investigating the force of **friction**. Using a range of materials, we carried out a fair test to find out which surface allowed a toy car to travel the furthest. We made predictions, recorded our observations and discussed our results.



Katherine Johnson—Year 5

Johnson class absolutely loved their first clarinet session with Mr Rowe from County Music Services. We learned the names for different parts of clarinet and we built our clarinet for the first time. We showed fantastic focus and respect whilst listening and learning. We are very much looking forward to having a go at playing them next Tuesday.

Aaron Fotheringham —Year 6



In Fotheringham class this week, we have started to read an information book 'Planetarium'. Our aim is to create a non-chronological report to inform my classmates about a newly invented planet. In maths we have been learning about place value; reading and writing 7-digit numbers as well as ordering several numbers and learning about powers of 10. We have created some fantastic information posters about Aaron Fotheringham using research skills. On Wednesday year 6 applied for the roles and responsibilities they would like for the year. We will keep you posted on who gets which job!

Friends of St Marys School



PARENTS AND CARERS:

Come and join us for a cuppa and biscuit to hear about what it means to be apart of the PTA, what we are hoping to achieve and how you can help us.

SEPTEMBER

TUESDAY 22 3.20PM

LOCATION: YEAR 5 CLASSROOM

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING, PLEASE EMAIL US AT
FOSM@STMARYSHAD.CO.UK

ST MARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL

StarSmile DENTAL PRACTICE

NHS

NEW NHS CHILD PATIENTS WELCOME!

StarSmile Dental Practice is now accepting **new NHS patients aged 18 years and under.**

If your child is not currently registered with an NHS dentist, we would be delighted to welcome them to our practice.

Children aged 18 years and under ONLY



NHS appointments available

Call 01473 82399 to book an appointment

Spaces are limited and appointments will be allocated subject to availability.

Thank you,
Kayleigh Gleed
Practice Manager
StarSmile Dental Practice

St Mary's Church

POP-UP PICNICS

FOOD & DRINK | GAMES & CRAFTS| ALL FREE

(12PM-2PM SESSIONS AND AFTER 3.30PM ARE RESERVED FOR CHILDREN AND CARERS ONLY)

As the leaves turn golden, and the air becomes crisp, join us for our indoor Pop-Up Picnics where you will find free food, games and crafts and a very warm welcome!

Wednesday 2.30pm - 5.00pm
9 SEPTEMBER 2026

Wednesday 2.30pm - 5.00pm
23 SEPTEMBER 2026

Wednesday 2.30pm - 5.00pm
7 OCTOBER 2026

Wednesday 12.00pm - 2.00pm
28 OCTOBER 2026

Wednesday 2.30pm - 5.00pm
11 NOVEMBER 2026

Wednesday 2.30pm - 5.00pm
25 NOVEMBER 2026

St Mary's Church Hadleigh - office@stmaryshadleigh.co.uk

"The snacks are good...It's FUN!"

"I like the games and running around"





FROGS

A kids club with love and faith

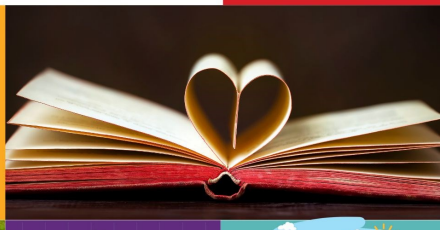
ST MARY'S CHURCH, HADLEIGH

"I love the crafts - They're AMAZING!"

"Everyone is nice and kind"

"I like singing the songs"

"I like all the stories!"





For primary school children

Fridays term time 3.45pm to 5.15pm



For more info email office@stmaryshadleigh.co.uk