



Spring Term Newsletter 6

Friday 27th March 2026



St Mary's C of E Primary School Growing our community together *'Welcome, Nurture, Grow, Flourish'*

Dear St Mary's Community,

As we come to the end of the Spring Term and look back on all that we have achieved so far in 2026 I feel incredibly proud of our children and thankful to be part of such a wonderful community at St Mary's including our staff, parents and friends from St Mary's Church who do so much to make our school such a special place to grow and learn each day. Our vision to create a welcoming, inclusive and nurturing learning environment where all can flourish is evident in the way children and adults treat each other and the commitment to supporting each individual to achieve their potential.

As we move forward into our partnership with St Paul's CofE Primary next term we look forward to building on the strong foundations already in place at St Mary's and working with our colleagues at St Paul's to enable both of our schools to continue to grow and flourish.

It is also time to say some fond farewells to some important members of our school community. After seven years at St Mary's, we are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Lawlor. Mrs Lawlor will be missed by us all and we wish her all the very best for the future.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Hopkins. Mrs Hopkins has been class teacher to many of the children as well as a kind and supportive colleague. We thank her for all that she has done at St Mary's during her time with us and hope that she will come and visit when she is able to.

And finally, thank you to Mrs Mastrocola for all your help and support this term. We hope that you have enjoyed your time at St Mary's as much as we have enjoyed having you here.

Wishing you all a happy Easter

Mrs Quinn and the team at St Mary's



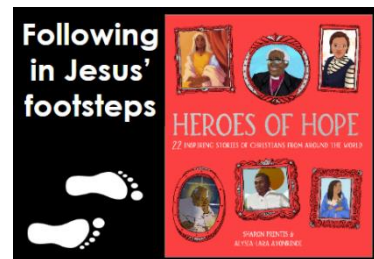
Collective Worship



We concluded our 'Heroes of Hope' collective worship series by considering Jesus' words **'If any of you want to be my followers, you must forget about yourself. You must take up your cross and follow me.'** (Mark 8:34)

We talked about the ways in which the Heroes we had learned about had followed in Jesus' footsteps by showing love and forgiveness, being a good

neighbour and helping those in need. We finished with a reflection on what we had learned from the way these heroes lived their lives and whose footsteps we might follow in life.





We have also heard some of the key stories that lead up to Easter, including Palm Sunday, The Last Supper, Jesus' Arrest and Crucifixion and St Mary's Open the Book team have really helped to bring the stories to life for the children.



In addition to leading collective worship in school each week, Revd Nicholas has visited Reception Class and welcomed Year 1-6 into church this week to lead us in a special Easter Service.



Prom Praise

On Tuesday 17th March, St Mary's school choir joined hundreds of other children from church schools across London to sing and dance at the Royal Albert Hall as part of Prom Praise for Schools. Prom Praise for Schools is committed to spreading hope and unity through music and cultivating emotional and spiritual intelligence through faith-based storytelling. This year the theme of 'What were you made for?' told the story of four very different children who are transported through time



to key moments of the Bible story. It was a truly exciting and immersive experience, led by the music of All Souls orchestra and supported by West End Has Faith. Thank you everyone who helped to make this opportunity available to our children. They loved it!



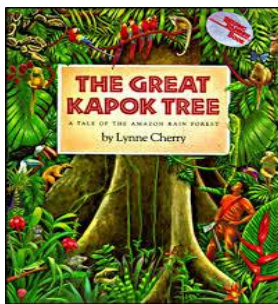
Y1 class assembly



This term, Year 1 has been learning about explorers and on Monday 16th March, they presented their learning to their adults in their class assembly. The children shared their work and performed their songs beautifully and with great confidence. They also sent an important message about being brave and resilient and left all of the adults feeling incredibly proud of our Year 1 explorers.



Year 4 urge you to 'Save the Rainforests!'



Year 4 have been reading 'The Great Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry. Following a visit to Kew Gardens where the children were able to explore the sights and smells of the rainforest plants located in one of Kew's magnificent glasshouses, they



learnt that Saturday 21st March is UN Day of the Forests and used their persuasive writing skills to create speeches designed to encourage others to stop deforestation. They looked at Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai as examples of effective speakers before writing their own speeches.

"Please do not cut down these irreplaceable trees," cried a heartbroken baby hummingbird from her leafy lush tree.
Today, on International Day of the Forests, I am speaking for the breathtaking, vulnerable rainforests of our endangered planet. These priceless forests are critical for the earth.
Around the world, rainforests absorb carbon dioxide and give us oxygen. They prevent global warming and many exotic, precious animals only live in these pre-historic jungles. Yet every three minutes rare defenceless creatures die because of careless deforestation. Fragile plants crumble and the world continues getting worse.
"You're killing the earth's future," shrieked a scared devastated parrot covering behind a thick tangled vine. Please help me. With your power and determination we can stop this and put it to an end.
Save a leaf, don't take a tree. Who's with me?"

Sporting Achievements



Some of our Year 2 Pupils took part in a dodgeball festival at Kingston Academy. It was a fantastic opportunity to test their skills and the children enjoyed playing some games against other schools. Thank you to the amazing sports leaders at Kingston Academy who

helped to coach the children through the morning and well done to all the children who took part and represented our school so well.



PTA Easter Egg Hunt



Thank you to our wonderful PTA for organising our annual Easter Egg hunt which the children love. Your support throughout the year is much appreciated and we would like to say a big thank you for the time and effort that you put into organising these events.



Congratulations to Yellow Team who were the half term winners of our Dojo points competition, we hope you enjoyed your end of term treat!
Well done to everyone who earned points for their team this term. I wonder who our next winners will be?

Online Safety

The internet is a wonderful place, filled with real opportunities for young people to learn, play and talk to their friends. We all know however that there is a lot of content online, and not all of it is appropriate for children and young people. To protect your child from seeing anything inappropriate or upsetting online, why not consider setting up parental controls in your house...

The 4 big internet providers in the UK – BT, Sky, TalkTalk and Virgin Media – provide their customers with free parental controls which can be activated at any time. These providers have come together to produce a series of helpful video guides to help parents download and set up the controls offered by these providers. To watch these videos visit the [UK Safer Internet Centre](#).

Learn about e-safety together with these fun activities:

- Watch [The Adventures of Kara, Winston and the SMART Crew](#) and learn the 5 e-safety SMART rules.
- Read the brilliant e-safety resource, [Digiduck's Big Decision](#), and follow Digiduck and his pals in this story of friendship and responsibility online.
- Follow the adventures of Smartie and Daddy Penguin as Smartie learns how to be safe on the internet. Once you read the [e-book](#) why not draw a poster, write a song or make a Smartie the Penguin [sock puppet](#).

Teach the 5 e-safety SMART rules to stay safe online



S **SAFE** Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe. 

M **MEET** Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk 

A **ACCEPTING** Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you. 

R **RELIABLE** You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found. 

T **TELL** Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline – 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk 

BE SMART WITH A HEART Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online. 

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Term Dates

Summer 2026 Term 1 Monday 13 April 2026 to Friday 22 May 2026 (including bank holiday on 4 May)	
13/4/26	INSET day (pupils do not attend)
14/4/26	First day back for pupils
4/5/26	Early May Bank Holiday pupils do not attend
22/5/26	Last day of half term school finishes at 3:20pm
23/5/26-31/5/26	Half term break
Summer 2026 Term 2 Monday 1 June 2026 to Monday 20 July 2026	
1/6/26	First day back for pupils
17/7/26	Last day of academic year school ends at 1:15pm
20/7/26	INSET day (pupils do not attend)
21/7/26 – 3/09/26	Summer holiday break