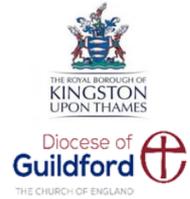




# Spring Term Newsletter 4

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026



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

### Dear St Mary's Community

We hope you all had a relaxing half-term and are now back to normal routines. It has been wonderful welcoming the children back for the second half of the spring term and to see them engaging in lessons and enjoying spending time with their friends at breaktimes.

We have already celebrated a range of achievements in our celebration worship this week and we have lots more exciting learning planned at St Mary's this half term, including our special World Book Day event on Thursday 5th March and our Science, Technology and Maths (STEM) week 9th-13th March. Encouraging children to talk about their learning, celebrate effort, and see challenges as opportunities to grow helps to build the resilience and confidence they need, both in school and beyond. Thank you, as always, for working in partnership with us and we look forward to seeing you at our Reading Cafe next week.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy weekend  
*Mrs Quinn and the team at St Mary's*

### Children's Mental Health Week



The week of 9th-13th February was Children's Mental Health Week. Our Mental Health Ambassadors led a collective worship with Mrs Quinn on the theme of 'Belonging'. We thought together about why we belong together and what it would be like to spend all day, everyday, on our own. We shared some ideas

about what belonging means to us as well as our top tips for helping ourselves and others to feel that they belong.

Belonging means...

- 'Feeling included, not left out'
- 'It's all about feeling safe'
- 'It's like a place where people are kind to you'



- 'Feeling a part of something'
- "It's being included in conversations"
- 'Feeling like there people respect your thoughts and needs'
- 'Feeling like you are being listened to'

### HOW CAN WE HELP OURSELVES TO FEEL WE BELONG

#### Top Tips from our Mental Health Ambassadors:

- Playing games with friends
- Join a club or take part in activities
- Trying something new or speaking to new people
- By talking to people about our feelings
- By being true to ourselves and doing things we enjoy

### HELPING OTHER CHILDREN FEEL THEY BELONG

#### Top Tips from our Mental Health Ambassadors:

- 'If you see someone left out then you can ask them to play'
- 'Be kind'
- 'By asking people how they are and if they are okay.'
- 'Make sure everyone has friends and feels included'
- 'Start a conversation with someone'

"Be somebody who makes everybody feel like a somebody"  
Brad Montague, the creator of the popular online series  
*Kid President*



**THIS IS MY PLACE**

**PRAYER:**  
Dear God,  
Thank you for making each one of us special and unique.  
Help us to know in our hearts that we belong and that we are loved.  
When we feel alone or left out, help us to remember that we are all part of one big family and that you are always with us.  
Amen

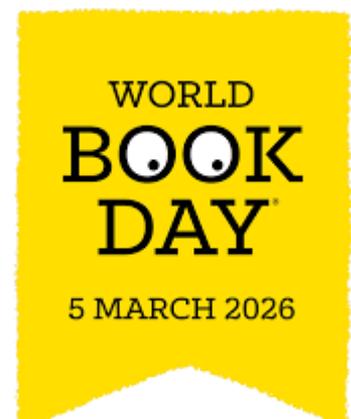
Throughout the week some of our Year 6 pupils helped the rest of the classes to learn a dance to the song 'Happy' and on Friday we all came together as a community to sing and dance together in the playground. It was a real celebration of the St Mary's community and a wonderful end to the first half of the Spring Term.



## World Book Day

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of March, is **World Book Day**. Children are invited to come to school **dressed up as a word**. Children should select an adjective or noun, and wear something to represent the word as well as display the word on the costume. There will be prizes for the **'Best Dressed'** from each year group after a parade in the hall in the morning.

We would also like to invite you to our **'Reading Café'** at the end of the day. The school gates will open at 2.50p.m and children will be dismissed at 3p.m. Parents are then invited to walk round to the main hall and join us at the reading café. There, you will be able to enjoy a story and hot chocolate with your children, as well as



choose and keep a maximum of 4 books each from our surplus stocks. There will also be a **cake sale** and **second-hand uniform sale** in the hall at the same time. The reading café will be open until 3.45/4p.m.

Please don't forget your child will also be given a **£1 book voucher** to exchange for a range of terrific books, available in supermarkets and book shops all over the country.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/books/> .



## Collective Worship

This week we were delighted to welcome Michael Andrews, musical director for Prom Praise 4 Schools, to St Mary's. This year is the first year that St Mary's school choir will be joining

thousands of other children from across London to perform at the Prom Praise at the Royal Albert Hall. This year, the theme is 'What Were You Made For?' Michale explained that Christians believe that the answer to this question can be found in the Bible and Michael asked some children to help him tell the story of the Bible in seven steps. We finished by singing one of the Prom Praise songs as a whole school and the choir are now even more excited about going to the Albert Hall in March!

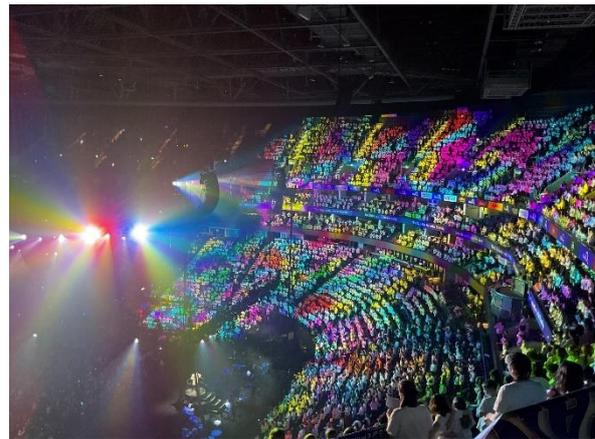


## St Mary's School Choir

On 24th February, our choir had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Young Voices Festival at the O2, and we could not be prouder of them. The children were fantastic ambassadors for St Mary's, singing their hearts out and representing our school with such enthusiasm and confidence. Huge thanks to Mrs Rose, Mrs Hadley, Miss Eustace and Miss Dunne for giving up their time to take the children, and to all the families who came along to



support. We were so proud of every single one of them and many are already talking excitedly about next year!



As we have previously shared previously, St Mary's Choir have the great privilege of collaborating with composers, James and Anne, to produce a song that all the borough schools will sing at this year's Kingston Music Festival in June. They have already worked together on the lyrics and have now started working on the melody. We have another workshop coming up to finish things off, but have achieved a lot already. It was truly a terrific experience. We are incredibly proud of the children's contribution to this piece of work and we are all looking forward to hearing the final version and performing it at the Rose theatre.



# Reminders!

We're part of the



**SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD  
Schools Network**

Along with an increasing number of schools, we have pledged to be a smartphone free school. Pupils are not permitted to bring a smartphone to school. You can find out more about the Smartphone free childhood campaign [here](#). We thank you for supporting our school to be smartphone free.

## Spring Term Dates

Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 Trip to Horniman Museum
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3 PTA cake sale
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	PSHE Parent Workshop KS1 8.45-9.30am
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	PSHE Parent Workshop KS2 8.45-9.30am
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 2 PTA cake sale
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Book Look 3.20-4pm
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	HALF TERM BREAK – SCHOOL IS CLOSED
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Year 3 Fox Class Assembly 2.45pm
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 Trip to London Docklands Museum
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 PTA cake sale
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Squirrel Class Assembly 2.45pm
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	School Choir attending Prom Praise at The Royal Albert Hall
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Whole School Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole School Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Term Ends at 1.15pm
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	EASTER BREAK
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET staff training day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return to school