



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the autumn term! We trust that your children settled into their new classes well and that they have come home eager to share the exciting facts they have been learning in their first full week at school. The children look smart and ready for action, and it has been lovely to see their sunny smiles.

Thank you to parents who attended '**Meet the Phase Lead and Class teacher**' last week.

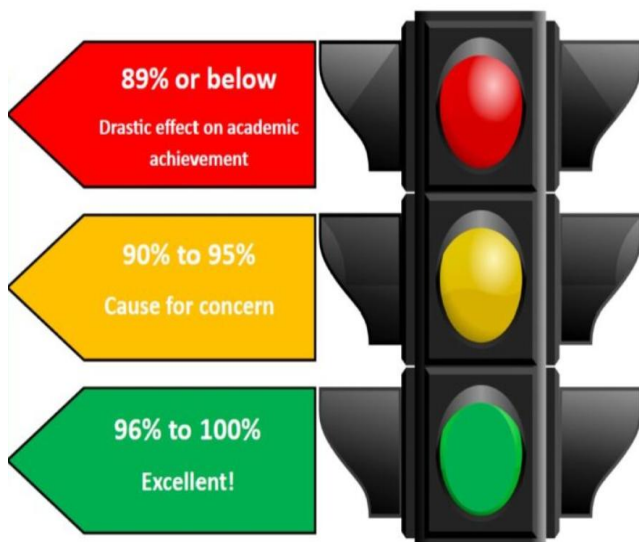
2025-2026 academic year is a busy one, so look out for news about upcoming events!

Values

- St Mary's Christian Values for the **autumn term** are **Love, respect and peace**.
- Our school Bible quote which we aspire for all children and adults to achieve is '**I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths.**' (Proverbs 4:11)

Absence

- Attending school every day is important for children to learn well.
- On the rare occasion children are absent, please report this on our **Study Bugs** system.
- If reporting your child's absence, clearly state your child's **name, year group, class** and the **reason why** your child is absent. We ask that you are **specific about your child's illness** so we can recognise trends and local outbreaks.
- We do not authorise holidays during term time, and you may be fined through the authority.
- Please try to arrange appointments out of school hours. If this is not possible, please email the school office with confirmation of the appointment:
officestaff@stmarys.slough.sch.uk



GATES OPEN: 08:20 am

GATES CLOSE: 08:30 am

Children **must** be in class, registered and ready for learning at **08.30am**.

Please avoid lateness as this impacts on the front office and a calm start to your child's day.

Attendance Competition



We are repeating our attendance competition again this year. It is open to everyone who attends St Mary's school.

All children who achieve **100%** and flourish in their school attendance will be receiving a **special certificate** to thank them for coming to school every day for a **whole term**.

Those who achieve **100% for the whole year** will receive a special celebration and receive some prizes.

They will automatically be entered into a draw where one lucky family will win a summer **family day** out for **four** to **Legoland**.

Good luck everyone!



Attendance for last week

Nursery AM	77.8%
Nursery PM	81.8%
0Poppy	95.2%
0Bluebell	87.9%
0Daffodil	90.0%
1Damson	96.7%
1Cherry	98.3%
1Apple	92.7%
2Pear	92.4%
2Plum	90.7%
2Peach	98.7%
3Ash	89.0%
3Sycamore	93.0%
3Juniper	91.7%
4Larch	97.4%
4Beech	94.5%
4Oak	94.8%
5Hazel	96.7%
5Alder	90.0%
5Elm	96.1%
6Willow	88.3%
6Maple	87.7%
6Rowan	77.7%

Average across the school: 91.9%

Overall, St Mary's children are not attending school enough. This can affect learning, teaching, social skills and an OFSTED grading.

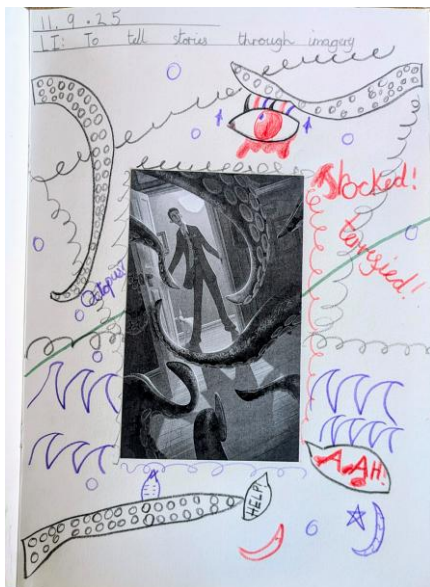
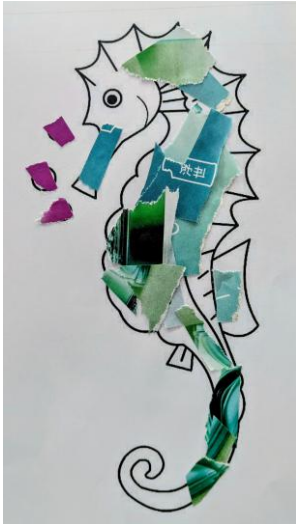
96% or more is the target.

Please bring your child to school every day. Thank you 😊

Art and Craft Club

'In our club this week we created colourful animal collages. We used magazines, tissue paper and faux feathers to create a patchwork design within an outline. We cut, tore and stuck until we were left with some vibrant pieces of artwork!'

Miss Cresto, Art & DT Co-Lead, Y4 Beech Class teacher



Art Lesson Year 4

'In Art this week year 4 explored how images can tell a story. We created a visual journal to express the colours, lines, shapes and feelings that we felt were portrayed in the image. We are embracing that in art there is no such thing as mistakes - only opportunities to adapt and transform!'

Miss Cresto (Art & DT Co-Lead and Y4 Beech Class teacher)

Awards and Recognition at St Mary's

Our subject leads work extremely hard to ensure that your children receive a rich and varied curriculum at St Mary's.

Geography at St Mary's

We are excited to share that we start 2025/26 with the good news that following our assessment in July 2025, we have been awarded the **gold Primary Geography Quality Mark** in recognition of the excellent geography curriculum at St Mary's!

Well done **Mr Ali** (Geography Lead, Y5 Lead and Hazel Class teacher) for securing this wonderful achievement.



Music Mark of Recognition

We are equally excited to share that we start 2025/26 with the good news that following our assessment in July 2025, we have been awarded the **Music Mark of Recognition** for dedication and improvement in music education at St Mary's!

Well done **Miss Holder** (Music Lead and Y3 Juniper Class teacher) for securing this equally wonderful achievement.



Events at St Mary's

The term has got off to a busy start with Y6 participating in a **Road Safety workshop** led by the Konflux Company in the first week of term, organised by **Mrs Fogarty** (PSHE Lead and Y6 HLTA). Thank you.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



We are hosting a **Macmillan coffee morning** and cordially invite you to join us for a cup of refreshing tea and slice of delicious cake!

- Date: Friday 26th September 2025
- Time: 8.50am-10am
- Venue: Yew Hall

Donations of cakes and biscuits are more than welcome!

Thank you to **Mrs Brown** (HR Manager) and **Mrs Grange** (School Business Manager) who are hosting the event, ably supported by St Mary's staff.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Diary Dates

03.09.2025

INSET for Staff

04.09.2025

First Day of the Autumn Term 1 for Children

08.09.2025

Meet the Phase & Teacher: UKS2 at 2.45pm

09.09.2025

Meet the Phase & Teacher: LKS2 at 2.45pm

10.09.2025

Meet the Phase & Teacher: KS1 at 2.45pm

18.09.2025

Y6 Trip to Henly River and Rowing Museum (45 children)

22.09.2025

Phonics Parent Workshop for KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Parents at 8.50am

25.09.2025

Y6 Trip to Henly River and Rowing Museum (45 children)

26.09.2025

Macmillan Coffee Morning at 8.50am

01.10.2025

Rocksteady 1:1 private music lesson commences for pupils signed up for this

03.10.2025

Online Safety and Homework Expectations Parent Meeting at 8.50am

09.10.2025

Reception Harvest Festival Performance at St Mary's Church at 9.30am

10.10.2025

Maths Parent Workshop for KS2 (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) Parents at 8.50am

15.10.2025

KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Harvest Festival Performance at St Mary's Church at 9.30am

20.10.2025

Annual Optional Flu Vaccine Delivered by Berkshire Immunisation Team for YR-Y6

23.10.2025

Spanish Celebration Day for KS2 (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6)

24.10.2025

Last Day of Autumn 1 Term

Half Term Holiday

03.11.2025

First Day of Autumn Term 2 for Children

10.11.2025

Parent-Teacher-Pupil Meetings for EYFS (Nursery & Reception) and KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Parents

11.11.2025

Parent-Teacher-Pupil Meetings for KS2 (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) Parents

12.11.2025

Parent-Teacher-Pupil Meetings for EYFS (Nursery & Reception) and KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Parents

14.11.2025

Parent-Teacher-Pupil Meetings for KS2 (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) Parents

17.11.2025

Phonics Parent Workshop for KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Parents at 8.50am

19.11.2025

Phonics Parent Workshop for Reception Parents at 2.45pm

20.11.2025

Reading Parent Workshop for LKS2 (Y3 & Y4) Parents at 8.50am

09.12.2025

Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day for Reception and KS1 (Y1 & Y2)

10.12.2025

Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day for KS2 (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6)

11.12.2025

Christmas Concert for Reception Parents at 2.30pm

12.12.2025

Christmas Jumper Day for Nursery

16.12.2025

Christmas Concert for UKS2 (Y5 & Y6) Parents at St Mary's Church at 9.30am

16.12.2025

Christmas Party for LKS2 (Y3 & Y4)

17.12.2025

Christmas Concert for Y2 Parents at 9am

17.12.2025

Christmas Concert for Y3 Parents at 2.30pm

17.12.2025

Christmas Party for Y1 and Y2

18.12.2025

Christmas Concert for Y1 Parents at 9am

18.12.2025

Christmas Concert for Y4 Parents at 2.30pm

18.12.2025

Christmas Party for Nursery, Reception, Y5 and Y6

19.12.2025

Last Day of Autumn Term 2

Christmas Holiday

05.01.2026

INSET for Staff

06.01.2026

First Day of Spring Term 1 for Children