



## St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

Head of School: Mrs Jane Robinson

Email: [office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk)



Term 6 Week 1

Friday 7th June 2024

### Headlines from our Head of School

#### Focus on 'Supporting Families under Financial Pressure'.

I am mindful that there are times when families feel under extra financial strain. Often, schools asking families to pay for additional opportunities such as trips and PTFA events can feel unmanageable and while we all want the children to be able to attend any of the events they want to, we are aware that families can find it hard to pay for a range of reasons.



Wonderfully, as a school community we have a 'family fund' set up some years ago by a current parent as part of the PTFA support for school. The fund can be accessed by all and any family can approach us to use it. This resource has already proven to be vital for many and yet we have become aware that some of you may not yet know of its existence.

The family fund offers support in paying for any school event or experience including trips. To make use of it, anyone can approach Mrs Funnell confidentially, with no questions asked.

Please keep this in mind if you are worrying about how to pay for a trip or wondering how you can cover attendance at a PTFA event.

St Mary's 

As well as direct donations made directly to this fund, the amount of money available is obviously reliant on the PTFA raising money at events throughout the year.

If you are in the position to donate directly, you can do so by contacting the PTFA chair. Alternatively, of course, you can support the PTFA in raising money for this fund and all the other school endeavours it supports, by attending the wonderful big social events such as last term's May Fair when we were able to enjoy a wonderful sunny celebration on the Croft with the fabulous May Pole dancing, cake and refreshments!



Jane Robinson

**Head of School**

If you need the newsletter, or any other school letter, to be in a different format, please speak with Mrs Funnell in the school office.

If you need help or support with access to any information, please also contact Mrs Funnell.

## Dates for your Diary



### June

12th: Collective Worship - church 9:30am  
13th: Hands on History - Willow Class Trip  
13th: Safety in Action - Year 6  
13th: Forest School - Cherry Class  
14th: Celebration Assembly - 9:15am  
19th: Collective Worship - church 9:30am  
20th: Forest School - Willow Class  
20th: Community Café - 2pm - 4pm in church  
21st: Celebration Assembly - 9:15am  
25th: Lewes Castle - Cherry Class  
25th: Briars - Maple Class  
26th: Collective Worship - church 9:30am  
27th: Forest School - Maple Class  
27th: Leaver's Service, All Saints Church - Year 6  
28th: Celebration Assembly - 9:15am

### July

2nd: Transition Day - Oxted  
3rd: Transition Day - Imberhorne  
3rd: Collective Worship - church 9:30am  
4th: Transition Day - Beacon  
4th: Transition Day - Bennett  
4th: Community Café - 2pm - 4pm in church  
5th: Transition Day - Beacon  
5th: Celebration Assembly - 9:15am  
9th: Non- Uniform Day - Tombola Bottles  
10th: Collective Worship - church 9:30am  
10th: FGB Meeting  
11th: Forest School - Lilac Class  
12th: Sports Day - the Croft 12noon  
12th: Reports Out  
16th: Report Queries  
17th: Collective Worship - church 9:30am  
18th: Community Café - 2pm - 4pm in church  
19th: Back up Sport's Day  
19th: Non School Uniform Day  
19th: Leaver's Service 9:15am in church  
19th: PTFA Disco - 3:15pm  
22nd: Last Day Term 6

# EVERY DAY COUNTS!

## Attendance

The Pioneer Federation goal is an average attendance rate of 97%, recognizing that each school day provides opportunities for learning, as well as social and emotional development.

It is noticeable when students miss school as it impacts on their progress, so we ask that you **please support us and your child by ensuring their attendance is a priority.**

Attendance this year:

96.5 to 99.9% - Green

Less than 94.9% - Red

95 to 96.4% - Amber

**Whole school: 94.6%**

**Maple: 93.8%**

**Willow: 94.5%**

**Cherry: 94.4%**

**Lilac: 95.6%**

**Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind, both academically and socially which impacts on their emotional wellbeing and creates further barriers to learning. Please bear this in mind when deciding whether to keep your child from school.**

## Top Tips

Letters, emails, WhatsApp:

### All

- MAT Consultation x2
- Lunch
- Pioneer Fundraising
- Group Photos
- Staffing - September

### Willow Class

- Hands on History - trip
- TA Information

### Cherry Class:

- Lewes Castle Trip

### ParentPay

There are outstanding balances on ParentPay. Please check and update you accounts.



## Star Skills

Each week, one pupil from each class is identified for their 'star skills' development. Staff and other pupils share their observations of the week, which are then recognised in Celebration Assembly on Fridays. With so many developing, we choose one star skill each week for the Newsletter.

From last week of term:

**Noah:** is developing natural **leadership skills**, working hard with his group to produce a fun, energetic and interesting mood booster for Mental Health Awareness week.

**Aidan:** is developing fantastic **teamwork**. He is a wonderful member of Willow Class; is always ready, respectful and safe, encourages others to be the same, as well as always being kind and generous towards them

**Jay-J:** has remarkable **problem solving skills** when working with fractions, quickly understanding how to find a third of a number.

Well done to you all!



# St Mary's Star Skills



"Skills for learning, skills for life"



Skills Builder PARTNERSHIP



# CELEBRATE!



## Sports Award

The PE specialty being covered this term is 'sports' day' and Miss Ambrose has awarded the following children Sports Awards for the last week:



**Isla:** for motivating her team in recent sports day practice and doing excellent race preparation.

**Charlie:** for doing some excellent hurdles and helping his class set up and pack away.

**Lottie:** for always asking for help when she needs it, being curious about how she can improve in lessons!

**Jonty:** for giving his absolute best in lessons, always being excited to complete and try new challenges!

Well done to you all!



## Maple Class Trip to Hodore Farm

As part of our topic, 'How does it grow?' Maple Class were lucky enough to visit Hodore Farm in Upper Hartfield, close to our school. They began by sharing ideas about what happens on a farm and had pictures of crops, animals and machinery, talking to their learning partners about the different purposes of each.

They went to see some of the different machines that can be found at the farm, having an opportunity to sit on a 'Gator' and a loader and taking it in turns to sit behind the wheels!

Behind the vehicles, they noticed a huge pile of woodchips and found out that these are taken to Pembury Hospital (where lots of the children in Maple Class were born!) to be used to keep the hospital warm.



The children walked to the fields to see a variety of crops growing. Emma, our visit leader and farmer, dug up a bean plant and a wheat plant giving an opportunity to see how different the leaves, stems and roots are. The wheat stem is much longer and stronger but the roots are much shallower,

despite the fact that it was planted much earlier than the beans. Whilst looking at the crops, they talked about what they had eaten for breakfast and thought about the crops that might have been used to make this. The children had eaten toast, hoops, croissants and porridge, as well as lots of different types of fruit.



Next, Maple Class started a fantastic experiment. They planted some pants! The pants are made of cotton and they decided to plant one pair in a field and another in the woods, carefully placing them in holes and covering them over. After a few weeks they will then dig them up and see what has happened. Emma taught the children a new word, 'decompose' and they are going to see if the pants begin to decompose over time and compare the rate of decomposition in the field and the woods.



As part of our learning about soil, the children had an opportunity to look very closely at what was in the soil using magnifying glasses. They found so many different creatures!

The children also had a chance to look closely at pond water in shallow white trays so that it was easy to spot things, identifying mayfly nymphs and water boatman amongst others. They also noticed that the leaves in the pond had darkened and begun to decompose and that there was lots of algae and pondweed to look at.



The children had the opportunity to play fantastic games too! They had pollen cards and had to travel to human trees and circle them, wagging their bodies, just as bees do when they have pollen to spread. They learned that this passes on messages between bees! They also played 'you know you are wild if' and had to listen carefully to the instructions that Emma gave as they travelled down to the woods for our picnic. Finally, Maple Class walked back to school along the Forest Way where it was wonderful to see the lambs and sheep grazing, and to find lots of puddles to jump in!



## **Forest School - Thursday 23rd May**

Maple Class set off on a beautiful sunny afternoon to Forest School and as they made their way across the fields and along the Forest Way were really observant to everything around them. They found some feathers, and when asked what bird the feather had come from they shouted:

*"a pigeon"*

One child then noticed and pointed out a couple of pigeons in the field.

A little further they came across some more feathers that were very different, black with white spots and worked out that they were from a Woodpecker. The class also found some insects on their journey:

- a caterpillar on a bench and
- a piece of wood covered in woodlice and an earwig.

Once at Forest School, one child chose to help put up the hammock, wrapping the straps around the tree and working hard to stretch the hammock across and clip it to the straps. Opening the clips and attaching them was a little tricky but they did not give up until it was up. Great perseverance!

When it was up the children took it in turns to climb inside, wrapping themselves up with the hammock like a chrysalis and then emerging as a butterfly - wonderful examples of their learning journey this term.

Some of the class chose to create printed leaf pictures, applying a small amount of paint to the underside of a leaf and then printing it onto paper. They discovered that they could use different leaves to get different shaped prints.



There was some amazing balancing on the slack line today from members of the class who normally choose not to have a go at the slack line. This can be hard to do as it can be a little wobbly moving along it. Again, very impressive perseverance from these children to make it to the end without falling off, (and when they did fall off they got straight back on and had another go).



Maple Class helped to carry on with the making of the new Forest School Fairy Garden. They moved all the old dead taken from around the edge and piled it up in the middle to create a habitat pile which they talked about, establishing they were creating a good home for any bugs that may choose to live in the woods. They also helped to move the large tree root into place that had initially been moved by Lilac Class last week - well done Maple Class as it was rather heavy!



## May Festival

On Friday 24th May we held our May Festival on The Croft. Thank you to everyone who supported this event and well done to all of our classes for their fabulous dancing:



## Sports Day and PTFA Summer Social

Sports Day is planned for Friday 12th July starting at 12noon on the Croft (back up date Friday 19th July)

The children will all of activities on here, including their carousel of events and the running. Each will need to wear their PE kit for the day with a T-Shirt in their House colours.

Please speak with your child's class teacher or the school office if you need a reminder of your house colour.

Parents are invited to the afternoon when races will start at 12:00pm.

**GET  
INVOLVED!**

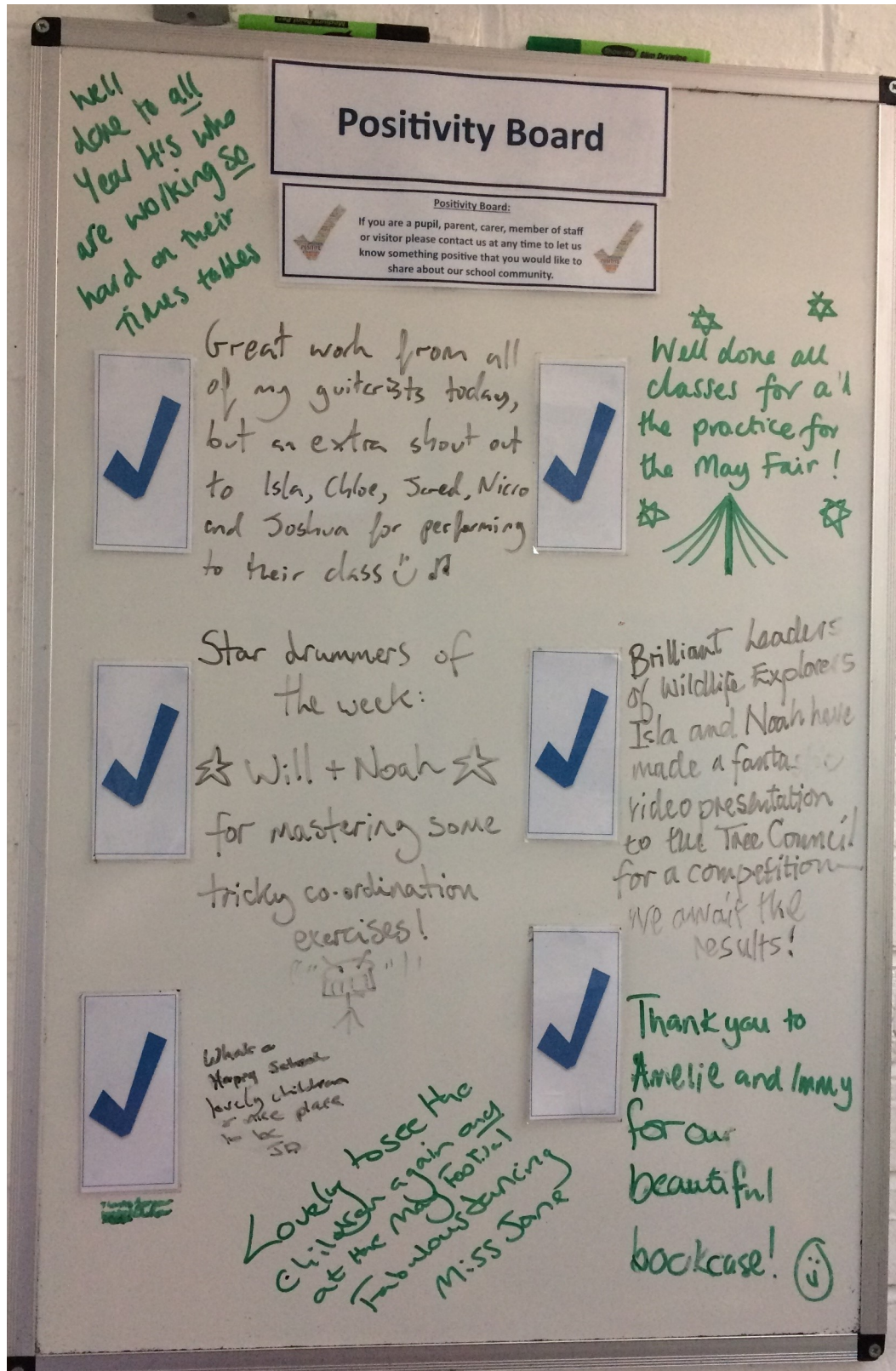
The PTFA will be organising their summer social to coincide with Sports Day with refreshments and stalls through the afternoon. Help is always needed to set this up so please let the PTFA know if you are free. Thursday 11th July will be a non-uniform day, with bottle donations for the tombola please.



## Positivity Board (last week of term)

This board enables all to write positive comments, or thoughts. From parents, carers, staff, and children to all school visitors, who would like to share with others something positive about the school, their classes, the children or events.

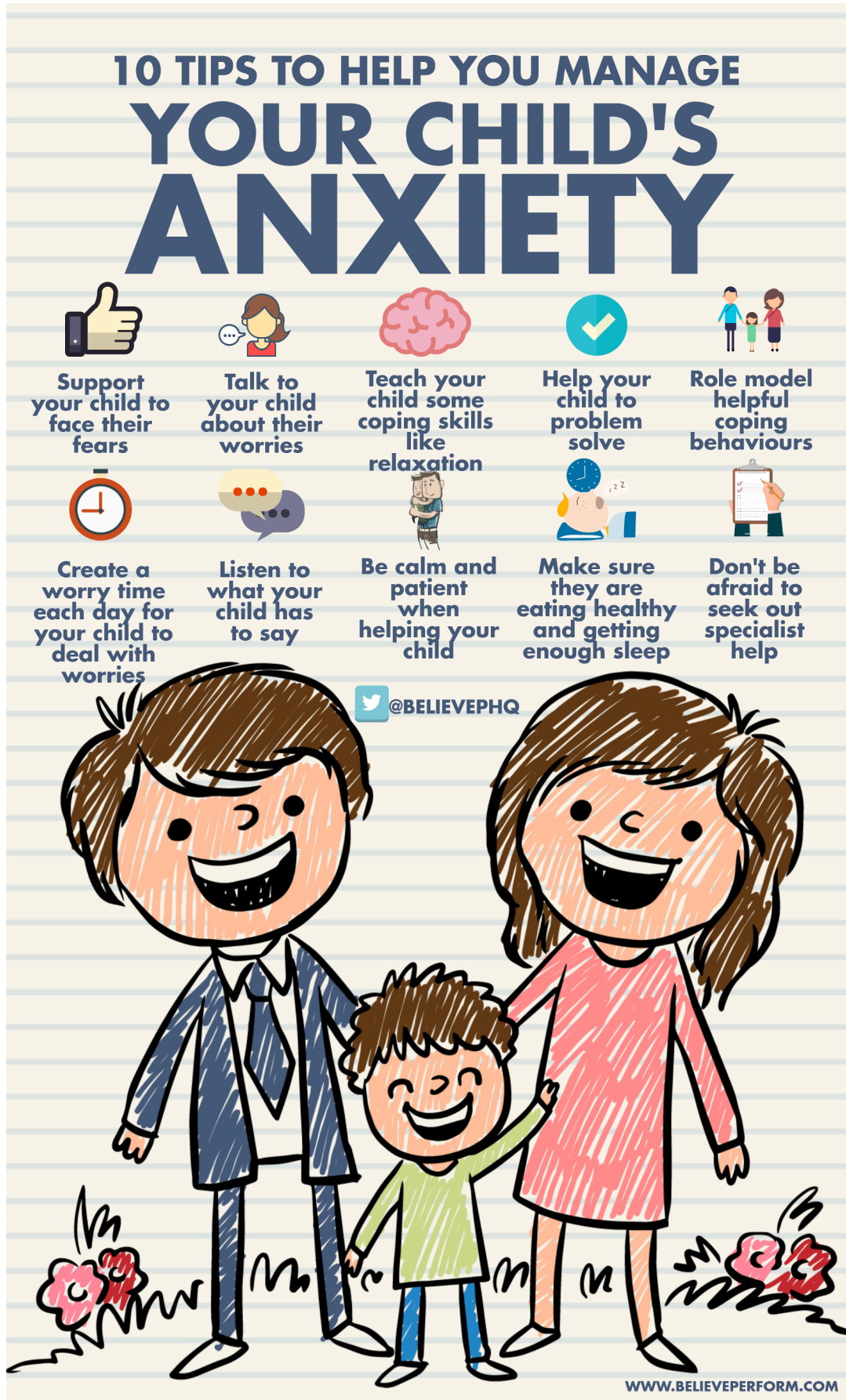
Please contact us or come into school at any time to let us know something that you would like to add. In the newsletter every week, there will be a picture to share and celebrate the positivity within our school.



## Wellbeing

As we move into the last week of Term 6, and changes for everyone looming, our wellbeing poster looks at '10 Tips to Help manage your Child's Anxiety'

# 10 TIPS TO HELP YOU MANAGE YOUR CHILD'S ANXIETY



The poster features ten tips arranged in two rows of five. Each tip is accompanied by a small icon: a thumbs up, a person talking, a brain, a checkmark, a family, a clock, speech bubbles, a person holding their head, a person sleeping, and a clipboard. At the bottom, there is a large illustration of a smiling family (father, mother, and child) holding hands, with a Twitter handle @BELIEVEPHQ and the website URL WWW.BELIEVEPERFORM.COM.

- Support your child to face their fears**
- Talk to your child about their worries**
- Teach your child some coping skills like relaxation**
- Help your child to problem solve**
- Role model helpful coping behaviours**
- Create a worry time each day for your child to deal with worries**
- Listen to what your child has to say**
- Be calm and patient when helping your child**
- Make sure they are eating healthy and getting enough sleep**
- Don't be afraid to seek out specialist help**

[@BELIEVEPHQ](https://twitter.com/BELIEVEPHQ)

[WWW.BELIEVEPERFORM.COM](http://WWW.BELIEVEPERFORM.COM)



## Volleyball

To book please go to the Active Education Sussex website.



# Club Flyer

Type of Club:

**After School Club**

Activity:

**Volleyball**

Where:

**St Mary Primary School**

Date:

**Monday**

10 June - 8 July 2024  
(5 Sessions)

Time:

**15:15-16:15**

Year Group:

**Reception - Year 6**

Price:

£6.00 Per Session

£30.00 For the term, paid fully in advance

Online Payments Only



## Tennis








Head Coach: Jon Prenelle


07495 368571

[kentandsussextennis@outlook.com](mailto:kentandsussextennis@outlook.com)

### St. Mary's Summer Tennis Club



Join us for an exciting summer of tennis at St. Mary's School! 

 **When:** Wednesdays at 3:20 PM 12<sup>th</sup> June  **Program:** Fun-filled tennis sessions for all ages  
 **Highlights:** Trophies, skill development, and lots of laughter  **Sign Up:** Form is attached or email us at [kent@sussextennis@outlook.com](mailto:kent@sussextennis@outlook.com)

Don't miss out! Let's ace this summer together! 

Happy tennis!  

Dear Parents,

We're thrilled to have you back on the courts for another exciting season of tennis at St Marys Hartfield. Whether you're a returning player or a newcomer, our coaching program is designed to enhance your skills, foster camaraderie, and ignite your passion for the game. From beginners to advanced players, our experienced coaches are committed to helping you reach your full potential. Join us as we serve up fun, fitness, and friendly competition. Let's ace this season together!  

I can confirm the details for the summer term 2024 term below, but if you have any queries, please contact me

#### **Squad Dates for Summer Term 2024**

<b>Squad</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Member Price</b>
<b>Wednesday 3.20-4.20</b>	<b>June 12th</b> <b>June 19th</b> <b>June 26th</b> <b>July 3rd</b> <b>July 10th</b> <b>July 17th</b> <b>July 24th</b>	<b>£60.00</b>

## **Badminton**

To book please go to the Active Education Sussex website.



# Club Flyer

Type of Club:

**After School Club**

Activity:

**Badminton**

Where:

**St Mary Primary School**

Date:

**Friday**

7 June - 5 July 2024  
(5 Sessions)

Time:

**15:15-16:15**

Year Group:

**Reception - Year 6**

Price:

£6.00 Per Session

£30.00 For the term, paid fully in advance

Online Payments Only

