



## St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School

Hartfield East Sussex TN7 4AA

Executive Headteacher: Mr James Procter

Head of School: Mrs Naomi Fry

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



Term 1 Week 1 2025

Friday 12th Sept 2025

### Headlines from the head

I would like to take this opportunity in our very first newsletter of the year to wish you a very warm welcome back and to say a special welcome to all of our new Reception starters and their families. Although I have taught at St Mary's for many years, this is my first official week as your new Head of School and it has been a brilliant start.

The children have come back to school re-energized and with a fantastic attitude and positivity to their learning and their friendships. Our reception children have been absolutely brilliant. They have loved exploring the book 'The Colour Monster comes to school', and their classroom is becoming full of self portraits and gorgeous hand prints.

We have loved sharing with the children the various changes that have happened in our school over the summer. Over the next couple of weeks we will be choosing our new 'Pupils as Leaders'. This gives an opportunity for children to have their own impact on our school development, by offering their own suggestions and ideas.

We have an exciting start to the week next week as, on Monday, we take part in Spirituality Day. A day for children to develop their understanding of : ***'That which inspires us, moves us, makes us wonder, makes us feel small, makes us loved.'***

I do hope you are able to have a lovely restful weekend. We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday.

Mrs Fry

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

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

### Top Tips

Letters, emails and WhatsApp's home this fortnight. Please check below and let the office know if you have missed any:

**Whole School— Parking at the Bear Pub**

**Welcome back**

**Building works**

**Young Voices**

**Spirituality Day**

**Lilac— class newsletter**

**Residential 2026**

**Cherry— class newsletter**

**Maple— Class newsletter**

**Willow— Class newsletter**



### Dates for your Diary

#### September

15th: Spirituality Day—remember your wellies!

#### October

1st: Harvest Festival

7th: School Photographers here for individual and sibling photos

10th: School Disco 3.15-4.30pm

13th: Healthy Eating Day

17th: Flu Vaccinations YR-Y6 1-3.15pm

24th: Lilac Class Assembly - 2.45pm

24th: End of Term 1

#### November

3rd: Start of Term 2

5th: Bonfire Forest School Morning

11th: Remembrance Service at Church

21st: Own Clothes Day (for a donation of bottles to the PTFA)

28th: Own Clothes Day (for a donation of sweets to the PTFA)

#### December

1st: Children to bring in an orange for Christingles

3rd: Christingle Service at Church 9.30am

6th: PTFA Christmas Fair, time TBC

9th: KS1 & EYFS Nativity, time TBC

12th: Willow Class Assembly— 2.45pm

17th: Christmas lunch/Jumper day & Elfridges

19th: Christmas Service in Church 9.30am

19th: End of Term 2



### Arbor



Please may we ask all parents to log on to Arbor at some point in the next couple of weeks to check that the information we hold for your child is still correct, especially contact, going home, and medical information.

If anything needs amending, please change it (if the system allows) and let the office know by email.

It is important that school holds at least three emergency contacts for each child please.

Many thanks  
The School Office



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## From the Class Reps and the PTFA

As we begin a new school year, we'd like to kindly share a few reminders about the purpose of the class WhatsApp groups.

These groups are run by parents (class reps) and the PTFA, and are not officially affiliated with the school.

The aim of the groups is to provide helpful information and reminders to support the whole school community.

Let's keep the chats positive, inclusive, and focused on sharing useful updates that benefit everyone.

We would encourage everyone to use the class chats as often as necessary, but please remember to:

- \* Keep it school-focused: Please only post messages that are relevant to school activities, events, and general class information.
- \* Be respectful: Let's all remember to be friendly, polite, and courteous
- \* Take private chats elsewhere: If you need to have a one-on-one conversation with someone, please send them a private message instead of using the group chat.

Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping this a positive and supportive forum for everyone!

The Class Reps & PTFA

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### Yoga Club Update

*Do you know your 'Downward Dog' from your 'Lord of the Fishes'?*

*Are you interested in learning to use your body in new and imaginative ways?*

*Did you know that simply bringing your attention to your breath can immediately calm your nervous system, improving focus and reducing stress?*

We are thrilled to announce that St Mary's Yoga Club will be returning after the half term break and will run until Christmas throughout **Term 2**. The club will take the same format as before and be run by Mr. Whittaker on **Tuesdays between 3.15 and 4.15pm**, beginning on **4<sup>th</sup> November**.

The sessions will include an introduction to basic poses (asana), breathing techniques, fun yoga games as well as music, sound baths and much more.

All ages and abilities are welcome, and the club is free to attend. However, spaces are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Please contact the school office to reserve a space.

*Namaste!*



## Job Opportunity at St Mary's Primary School



# St Mary the Virgin CE (Voluntary Aided) Primary School



*Part of The Pioneer Federation*

## **After School Club Play Worker (single status pay scale 2)**

*Initially 12months fixed term (term-time only) with potential to extend*

**Monday to Friday afternoons when required, dependent on bookings,  
3.15-6pm each day, (immediate start once appointed)**

St Mary the Virgin CE Primary School is a small, thriving, friendly, village school, with a dedicated and enthusiastic staff and happy children. We have mixed-age classes for KS1 and KS2 with Reception on its own.

Our latest Ofsted Report (April 2025) said 'Pupils delight in attending this welcoming school', and 'the school's vision of pupils 'being the best that they can be in a thriving community' is evident throughout the school'. We are committed to providing a learning environment where all our children feel happy, valued, motivated, included and strive to do their best.

The Governors are seeking to appoint an outstanding, self-motivated and creative After School Club support assistant. Are you enthusiastic, motivated and friendly ideally with experience working in schools, and a willingness to undertake Level 3 qualification in Childcare, Playwork or equivalent.

Please see the detailed job description attached to understand what is required in this role. The job description is also available from the school office and on our website.

Visits to the school are welcomed and encouraged so please call 01892 770221 to make an appointment, email [office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk) for an application form or see our website: [www.pioneerfederation.co.uk/stmarys](http://www.pioneerfederation.co.uk/stmarys).

Closing date: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025  
Interview date: to be confirmed

***The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All staff will be expected to hold or be willing to obtain an enhanced DBS check or Enhanced check for Regulated Activity with the Disclosure & Barring Services and complete a Childcare Disqualification Application form.***

**easyfundraising**

**Support your child's future**

Sign up to online cashback site, easyfundraising, and select your child's school as your chosen good cause.

Then, when you shop online with over 8,000 retailers, the retailer will give the school a free donation as a thank you for shopping with them.

It's as simple as that. No matter what you buy, from food shops to holidays and everything in between - it's a free and easy way to support your school.





**How to get started**

Head to [easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause](https://easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause) and search for your child's school, or scan the QR code.

Registration is free and will take you less than two minutes to sign up!



17,000 schools and PTAs have raised over £12.5 million using easyfundraising.

**Sign up and support your child's future today.**

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**We are keen to increase visits to our school, and have spaces in many year groups, so please spread the word!**





**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**TOURS WELCOME!**

**FOREST SCHOOL**

**COME & VISIT OUR NEW & IMPROVED AREAS**

**WRAPAROUND CARE LAUNCHING FEB 2025!**  
 BREAKFAST CLUB - 7.40-8.40AM  
 AFTER SCHOOL - 3.15-6.00PM

**CONTACT US ON**  
 **01892 770221**  
 FOR MORE INFO VISIT  
[PIONEERFEDERATION.CO.UK/STMARYS](https://pioneerfederation.co.uk/stmarys)

**IN YEAR SPACES AVAILABLE**





## Opportunities



### September Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

**£24 each or FREE with School Membership**

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Understanding Addictive Behaviour	15 Sep 10am
Supporting A Child With ADHD	15 Sep 7pm
Improving Family Communication	16 Sep 10am
Autism Improving Communication	16 Sep 7pm
Facing Defiance	22 Sep 10am
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	22 Sep 7pm
Understanding Anger	23 Sep 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	23 Sep 7pm
<b>FREE Facing Defiance</b>	<b>25 Sep 7-8pm</b>
Introduction To OCD	29 Sep 10am
What Is ACT?	29 Sep 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	30 Sep 10am
Anxiety Explained	30 Sep 7pm
Understanding The Teenage Brain	6 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	6 Oct 7pm



## The Parenting Team

We have changed the names of some of our courses and workshops.

Here is a useful guide to use..

Old Names  New Names

### Groups

New Forest Parenting Programme → **Parenting Children with ADHD 4-11**  
 STOP → **Supporting Parents of Teenagers 10+**  
 Triple P Fearless → **Parenting Children With Anxiety 4 +**  
 Triple P 2-12 → **Positive Parenting Programme 2-12**  
 Triple P Stepping Stones → **Parenting Children with Disabilities 2+**

### Workshops

Encouraging Positive Choices and Managing Conflict → **Triggers Tantrums and Teaching Moments**  
 The Power of Positive Parenting → **Becoming a Positive Parent**  
 Managing Anxiety and Raising Resilient Children → **Managing Anxiety and Avoidance in Children**  
 Understanding Your Teenager → **Understanding Teen Behaviour**  
 \* **New Teen webinar** \* → **Responding to Teen Emotions**

Any questions please email us at  
[EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk)



## The Parenting Team

Being a parent is a journey...

Let's make it a positive one!



For more information about our free courses, groups webinars and events. Scan the QR code



St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School, Hartfield, East Sussex, TN7 4AA

Tel: 01892 770221 Email: [office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-maryhartfield.e-sussex.sch.uk) Website: [www.pioneerfederation.co.uk](http://www.pioneerfederation.co.uk)

**OPPORTUNITY**



*Energising Yoga Flow*

Mondays 9.15-10.15am, Hartfield Village Hall  
Awaken your body and mind with a refreshing flow.  
Building strength and flexibility through mindful movement and breath awareness.

*Balanced Yoga Flow*

Thursdays 7-8pm, Withyham Village Hall  
End your day with a balanced flow of gentle strength-building and grounding stretches to leave you feeling refreshed, calm and centered.

*Ready to find your flow?*

07860 336853

flowbycaroline@gmail.com @flowbycaroline

East Grinstead  
**Foodbank**  
Together with Trussell  
**Harvest**  
**appeal**



**Help support your food bank this Harvest**

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 100 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

**Donate food**

Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community. Donate online - [givetoday.co.uk/egfoodbank/](http://givetoday.co.uk/egfoodbank/)

**Donate money**

Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects. Donate online - [eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk/harvest-appeal/](http://eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk/harvest-appeal/)

**Shopping list**

- Tinned meat \_\_\_\_\_
- Tinned veg \_\_\_\_\_
- Tinned fish \_\_\_\_\_
- Tinned custard/rice pud \_\_\_\_\_
- Tinned fruit \_\_\_\_\_
- Coffee \_\_\_\_\_
- Long Life Milk (UHT) \_\_\_\_\_
- Fruit juice (long-life) \_\_\_\_\_
- Instant mashed potato \_\_\_\_\_
- Microwave rice \_\_\_\_\_

[EastGrinstead.foodbank.org.uk](http://EastGrinstead.foodbank.org.uk)

Registered Charity in England & Wales 1208343



**Fully Funded School Support Course**



**STUDY SMART**  
Free Online Courses



[www.studysmartuk.online](http://www.studysmartuk.online)

We are looking to fill 150+ School Support vacancies in local schools (e.g. SEN Support, Behaviour Mentors, 1-1 Classroom Support, Cover Supervisors etc). These roles are available in both full time and part time positions.

Please go to our website address given above, or scan the QR code for more information.

This is a 6 week course, full time, intensive course, with online guided learning sessions within school hours.  
If you are earning less than £23,500 per annum or are in receipt of any benefits, you will be eligible for a fully funded place with us.



**Raring2go! Autumn Magazine**

Please click on the link below for the latest edition, with lots of things for families to do this autumn.

[CLICK HERE FOR LINK](#)

## Opportunity



### □ October Half Term Mindfulness Pony Day for Kids! □

**Date:** Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2025

**Time:** 9am- 2pm

**Location:** Ponies 'n' Kids, Eaton Thorne Stables, Woodmancote, Nr Henfield, W.Sussex, BN5 9AG

*Join us for a magical day designed especially for children ages 5-11! Dive into a world of peace, friendship, and mindfulness, all while experiencing the calming presence of our adorable ponies.*

#### ✦ What to Expect:

- **Mindfulness Time with Ponies:** Learn calming techniques and emotional regulation skills while spending quality time with our gentle ponies.
- **Pony Care:** Discover the joys of caring for ponies through grooming, feeding, and building a bond.
- **Riding and Mounted Games:** Experience the joy of pony rides and engage in fun, team-based games that promote confidence and cooperation.
- **Connect with Nature:** Immerse yourself in the tranquility of our beautiful, quiet stables and serene surroundings.
- **Make New Friends:** Build connections and friendships with other children in a supportive, nurturing environment.

**Scan the QR code or click this link to book:** [Mindfulness Pony Day 29th October 2025](#)



**Cost: £140 per child**

**Spaces limited to 15 children**

**We are an inclusive team and warmly welcome children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We celebrate diversity and are committed to providing a supportive environment where every child can thrive.**





## This Harvest, you are invited to...



### Harvest Supper

Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> October,  
6.30pm-8.30pm

for all 3 churches, hosted at St Mary's Church, Hartfield.

Please bring your own plate, bowl, cutlery, and drink of your own choice.  
Glasses and jugs of water will be provided.

Including a guest speaker from Jigsaw South East, a short talk and activities, and a main course.

Please bring a pudding or a salad to share (NO NUTS). Sign up sheet in church

RSVP to Lisa Gibbs-Murray,  
admsmht@gmail.com or 07927 939116

### Harvest Festival

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October

St Mary's Hartfield - 9.30am, Holy Communion (all age)

Holy Trinity - 11am, Morning Worship &

6.30pm, Harvest Choral Evensong

An opportunity to give thanks to God for all we have this harvest time.  
Food donations will go to Foodbank.

### Harvest Festival Service at Cowden

is on 28<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am

All financial contributions this year will be going to:  
Jigsaw South East, charity no: 1147696, which provides information  
and guidance to help support children and young people facing or  
coping with the death of a loved one.

## St Mary's Church Information

### **Sunday CONNECT** For young people aged 10+

Held in The Oast from 9.30am,  
for breakfast and chats,  
before heading back to  
church for communion.

Come, relax and chat as we  
build relationship with Jesus  
and each other!!

For more information please contact Matt Marriott at  
[m.marriott@btconnect.com](mailto:m.marriott@btconnect.com)

**Sunday dates are:**  
7<sup>th</sup> September  
21<sup>st</sup> September  
**There will be no Sunday  
Connect on 5<sup>th</sup> Oct  
due to Harvest Festival**

### **Sunday Discoverers**

Discover us every 1st & 3rd Sunday  
morning at 9.30am, as we find  
out more about our Creator

Upcoming dates: 7<sup>th</sup> Sept, 21<sup>st</sup> Sept  
There will be no Sunday Discoverers on  
5<sup>th</sup> October due to Harvest Festival

For more information please  
contact Rev Julie Sear at  
[revjuliesear1@gmail.com](mailto:revjuliesear1@gmail.com) or 01892770436



### **LITTLE STARS**

Parent & toddler group  
Mondays @ St Mary's Church, Hartfield

Upcoming dates

8 <sup>th</sup> September	22 <sup>nd</sup> September
15 <sup>th</sup> September	29 <sup>th</sup> September
	6 <sup>th</sup> October

9.15 to 10.45am  
Tea and Coffee Provided [revjuliesear1@gmail.com](mailto:revjuliesear1@gmail.com)



### **CONNECT**

For young people aged 10+

Thursday dates are:

18 <sup>th</sup> September
2 <sup>nd</sup> October
16 <sup>th</sup> October

Join us for games,  
food and fun  
From 5-6.15pm in  
the Village Hall

For more information  
please contact Matt Marriott at  
[m.marriott@btconnect.com](mailto:m.marriott@btconnect.com)



### **Church Street Community Cafe**

1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 2pm - 4pm.

Homemade cake, tea, and coffee.  
Everyone welcome.

Table with crafts and games for children.

upcoming dates

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October

Find us at St Mary's Church at the top of  
Church Street in Hartfield

For more information contact Joanne Griffin on  
07941 856715 or [msjoannegriffin@gmail.com](mailto:msjoannegriffin@gmail.com)

