

Term 2 Week 4 2025
Friday 28th November 2025

**Headlines from the Head** 

# 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



# This week's Focus: Music at St Mary's

We are so privileged to have a school where pupils have a natural love and interest in music. A priority for us as a school this year is to grow and nurture this within our school as well as give all children an opportunity to explore music beyond the classroom.



This week a group of children had their first drumming circle. The sessions are delivered by an experienced drum teacher, and children are taught to play Djembe drums. The session helps to develop children's understanding of pattern and rhythm as well as enhance their musical listening skills. The children had a great time, and we look forward to hearing more next week.

Choir practices are well under way. Friday lunchtimes are a joyous time, when choir gather in the hall to learn songs towards The Young Voices concert. We are looking forward to January, when a specialist vocal singing teacher will join us to help enhance our singing techniques.

Private music lessons continue to take place throughout the school day; these include piano, drumming, singing and guitar.

As well as all the above, there has been so much singing across the school as all the children get ready to perform in either the KS1 Nativity or KS2 Christmas Performance. We can't wait to watch them.

In March we will be hosting our first Musical concert. An opportunity for all our musicians across the school to perform for families. More information will be shared soon.

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN

# CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Pupils delight in attending this welcoming school' OFSTED 2025

'The school is ambitious for its pupils. Pupils achieve well across a broad range of subjects '

'I am so pleased that my child is lucky enough to attend a school that is so supportive, kind and inclusive.'

'The excellent
behaviour of pupils,
demonstrating respect
and care for one
another across all year
groups, reflects the
distinctively Christian
values and ethos of the
school.'

'Teachers provide all kinds of interesting opportunities for pupils to learn in different ways.' We would love you to come and see our fantastic school! Open events are on:

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 9.15-11am Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 1.30-2.30pm Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 1.30-2.30pm

Book a space by calling the school office on 01892 770221

Achievement for All Learning Together Learning for Life

























## **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**—Celebration Assembly Certificates

**Christmas Praise Service** 

Christmas lunch—bookings now closed

Winter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) available for children receiving FSM

**Lilac**— NCMP results access

<u>Willow</u>— update on Miss Hawkins/ Willow staffing

<u>Cherry—</u>EY/KS1 Nativity time confirmed

<u>Maple</u> - Homework books, WOW slips & tubes EY/KS1 Nativity time confirmed

# **Christmas Cards**



From Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December children are welcome to bring in Christmas cards for their friends. We will have a Christmas post box outside Mrs. Fry's office and children will be asked to post their cards there. The Lilac children will then help to distribute them throughout the week.

Please make sure that cards have first and surnames clearly written ,with the children's classes also written on the front.

## **Oranges for Christingles**

Reminder.

Please could your child come to school with an orange ready to make their Christingle on Monday morning.

Thank you!

# **Dates for your Diary**

### November

27th: Forest School - Willow

28th: Own Clothes Day (for a donation of tombola

sweets and/or teddies to the PTFA)

28th: PTFA Wreath Making 7pm in school hall

## **December**

1st: Children to bring in an orange for Christingles

2nd: Decorations Morning

3rd: Christingle Service at Church 9.30am

4th: Willow class to Hever Castle

4th: Forest School—Lilac

4th: Prospective Parents Open Event 1.30-2.30pm

5th: Lilac Class WW2 Day

6th: PTFA Christmas Fair, noon to 3pm

9th: KS1 & EYFS Nativity teas/coffee from 9am,

Nativity from 9.20am approx. 11th: Forest School—Maple

11th: KS2 Christmas Show 6pm (Children to be at

school by 5.30pm)

12th: Lilac Class Pyjama Day

12th: Willow Class Assembly- 2.45pm

17th: Christmas lunch/Jumper day & Elfridges 19th: Christmas Service in Church 9.30am

19th: End of Term 2

### January 2026

5th: Start of term 3

9th: Prospective Parents Open Event 1.30-2.30pm



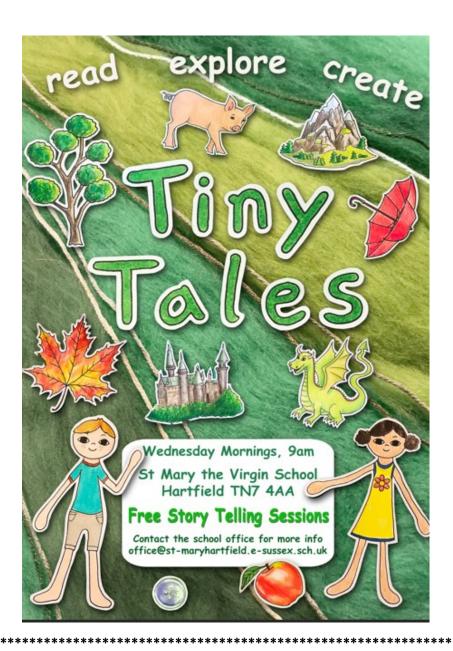
Grounds Tidying/Clearing Sessions at St Mary's - can you help?

Thursday 4th December

Thursday 18th December

All dates 3.30-4.30pm—Adults only, bring a broom!

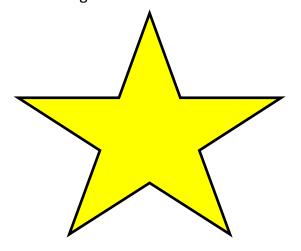
# **Story Time!**



# **Headteacher Awards**

Head teacher awards since our last newsletter have been given to:

- Abbie
- Finn
- Willow
- Tuppence
- Evie
- Amelie
- Bella
- Amélie



### **School Values**

**Love:** love and respect yourself and all others, treating them as you would like to be treated.

Luke 10: 25-37

Strength: recognise people's strength and use your own to be resilient and the best you can be in all that you do.

John 6: 1-14

Faith: have faith in yourself and others, and be honest and truthful. Believe that

truthful. Believe that you never know what you can achieve until you try.

Our Vision Being the best we can be, in a thriving community, following the example of Jesus Strength Love Faith Love and respect Recognise people's Have faith in yourself and others and be honest yourself and all others, strengths and use your and truthful. Believe treating them as you own to be resilient that you never know would like to be and the best you can what you can achieve treated. be in all you do. until you try. Luke 10: 25-37 John 6: 1-14 Luke 5: 1-11

Luke 5: 1-11

Each week, one pupil from each class is recognised for their engagement within our school values which underpin our vision of 'being the best we can be, in a thriving community, following the example of Jesus'. Again, these are recognised in our Celebration Assembly on Fridays but we want also to celebrate them with you. Since the last newsletter:

Evie—Faith— Evie showed great faith when creating her own grace to go on a gift for Christians, going above and beyond by designing 3 different presents, each with it's own thoughtful grace on the front, all carefully focused on sharing kindness and gratitude towards God! Well done Evie!:)

Willow—Love— Thank you Willow for being such a kind friend and helpful member of our class. You try your hardest and show us lots of ways to be a brilliant member of the class.

Joe—Strength—Joe has been super impressive in Maths this week with our work on fractions. He has shown determination and resilience. Well done, Joe!

Lois—Strength—Lois, we are so impressed with the effort you have put into the production. You have worked so hard in learning your lines and you speak so well and clearly. Well done Lois!

Ivie-Sue—Strength— Well done Ivie, for digging deep and showing enormous strength this week. School is sometimes really tough and sometimes amazing fun. You've been so strong and resilient when it's been tricky. We're so proud of you—keep up the epic work!:)



# St Mary's Star Skills



"Skills for learning, skills for life"



# **Star Skills**

Each week, one pupil from each class is recognised for their 'star skills' development. This year, to ensure we celebrate with clarity, certificates are given when a child has shown amazing growth in a particular area, which is then recognised in Celebration Assembly on Fridays.

Celebrations since the last newsletter:

George—Creativity—you showed great creativity and skill when exploring light and dark tones, and your confident use of different shading techniques really shone through on your still life drawing. Fantastic work George!

Barney—Teamwork—Wow Barney! What a positive attitude you've got towards your work—especially in Maths. You work as a team by helping your friends and encouraging them to do their best. Well done Barney!

Zach—Leadership— Thank you Zach for your enthusiasm for your learning. You showed everyone around you how to do the Maths yesterday—I was so impressed with your leadership. :) Well done, Zach!

Bertie—Listening—We are so impressed with how well you have listened this week. You showed curiosity by asking interesting questions.

Immy - Speaking— Immy always puts 100% effort into our Christmas show rehearsals and speaks loudly and clearly when she's on stage.

'The school and Governing body allow external clubs to advertise on our newsletter but are not responsible for them."



# **Price & Buckland Stock Take 2025**

This involves a temporary 8-day closure of their uniform warehouse. This process is not only a legal requirement but, by maintaining accurate stock figures, it also ensures they can provide accurate information to both schools and parents/carers.

Stock Take will take place from Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

During this period, they will continue to accept orders, but they will not be processed or dispatched until after the stock take is complete. If you'd like to place any orders in advance, feel free to do so and they will do their very best to dispatch them before the closure.

Thank you for your understanding.

# Norovirus - This is for information only—we do NOT have Norovirus in school now!

We have been asked by our colleagues in Public Health to circulate the information below regarding Norovirus...

Norovirus is the most common cause of infectious gastroenteritis (diarrhoea & vomiting) in England and Wales and is easily spread from one person to another. If norovirus was to affect pupils and/or staff in your school/Nursey it may lead to the school's closure. A school closure has a knock on effect on the parents/carers.

Norovirus is characterised by episodes of diarrhoea and vomiting— the national guidance is How to stop norovirus spreading - GOV.UK

- Stay home for 48 hours after symptoms clear
- Do not visit hospitals and care homes
- Wash hands with soap and warm water
- Do not use hand sanitiser/alcohol gel
- Clean surfaces with bleach-based products
- Don't prepare food for others



# Vacancies at St Mary the Virgin Primary School

Caretaker – We are looking for a dedicated Caretaker to help keep our St Mary's site looking its best.

Previous caretaking experience within a school environment is desirable - although training via ESCC will be given.

Previous experience of building maintenance / basic DIY and an understanding of health & safety regulations will be useful. Good interpersonal skills to protect the school's interests in dealing with contractors and other visitors to the site. Good literacy and numeracy skills are required.

Must be willing to undergo an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check prior to commencing work.

<u>Wrap Around Care Play Worker</u> - We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, self-motivated, friendly and creative After School Play Worker, ideally with experience working in schools, and a willingness to undertake Level 3 qualification in Childcare, Play-work or equivalent.

They will assist in the day to day organisation of the out of school clubs and assist in the provision of quality play opportunities.

### Key tasks:

Provide safe, creative play opportunities, preparing activities, organising the programme etc.

Provide full care for the children. This may include providing refreshments.

Ensure that any injury or sickness of pupils is reported immediately to the First Aider or headteacher and the office. (Where appropriate, administer basic first aid and record all details in the first aid book.) To clean up after sickness of children

Mop up and wipe spillage from the floor surfaces or meal tables, and ensure that the eating area is left in a tidy condition.

Take part in the day to day administration, record keeping, ordering and purchasing materials and equipment.

Liaise closely with parents, school representatives and other childcare and play related agencies.

<u>Individual Needs Assistant</u> - We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, self-motivated and creative INA to join our supportive and friendly team, to assist with the implementation of an EHCP in support of a pupil with complex medical needs.

This position is to support SAL and medical needs and it is vital to fully read the job description and supporting documents before applying – these are available on the school website.

The candidate must be flexible, a good manager of time, able to keep good records and make keen observations in order to support next steps of learning. The successful candidate will be able to communicate effectively with pupils, staff and visiting professionals.

We warmly welcome visits to our school, please contact the school office on 01892 770221

We are keen to increase visits to our school, and have spaces in many year groups, so please spread the word about our open events, and share and like our Social Media posts!



# **PTFA**





## **PTFA**





- \* CHRISTMAS GAMES AND CRAFTS
- \* LOCAL BUSINESS STALLS
- \* SECOND HAND TOY SALE
- \* CAFE WITH FOOD SERVED BY PROFESSIONAL CHEF
- \* RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE WITH SOME GREAT PRIZES

All money raised will benefit our fabulous Village school

# **PTFA Christmas Raffle!**

The PTFA will soon be sending raffle tickets home for you to purchase. We have some fantastic prizes on offer which we will share with you soon.

The raffle will be drawn on the playground during the last week of term (date to follow.)

Thank you for your support!





# Fun Football Camp

Join us for a fun filled day of football! Loads of fun activities to explore and enjoy such as:

- · Football Matches
- · Football Skill Drills
- Goalkeeping Drills
   Shooting Drills
   Foot Golf

- · Football Tennis
- · Football Rounders
- · World Cup/Wembles
- · Tournaments and Competitions

Fun for all no matter of your age or ability!

### What to bring

- · Packed Lunch
- Breaktime Snacks
   Refillable Water Bottle
- Change of clothing (expect to get muddy!)
   Football Boots and Astro Turf Trainers Advised

## Locations

· Hailsham Primary Academy, Bulrush Lane, Hellingly, BN27 4FB

#### Dates

Monday 22 December & Tuesday 23 December 2025

## **Options & Prices**

reakfast Club (Open to all aged 4-11) - 07:45-08:45 - £4.50

alf Camp Day (Aged 4 Only) - 08:45-12:00 - £15.00

in Camp Day (Aged 5-11 Only) - 08:45-15:15 - £27.50

After Camp Club (Aged 5-11 Only) - 15:15-16:15 - £6.50



# Multi Activity Camp

Come and join us for our Multi Activity Holiday Camp, with plenty of activities including:

- · A Wide Selection of Sports
- · Fencing
- Gymnastics
- Dance
- · Painting · Art and Craft Activities
- Movies
- · Party & Circle Games Team Games

Don't forget to visit our gift shop filled with loads of fun toys and items for you to enjoy (card payments only)

### What to bring

- · Packed Lunch
- Breaktime Snacks
   Refillable Water Bottle
- Spare Clothes

# Locations

Hailsham Primary Academy, Bulrush Lane, Hellingly, 8N27 4FB

#### Dates

Monday 22 December & Tuesday 23 December 2025

### **Options & Prices**

reakfast Club (Open to all aged 4-11) - 07:45-08:45 - £6.50

Half Camp Day (Aged 4 Only) - 08:45-12:00 - £15.00

ain Camp Day (Aged 5-11 Only) - 08:45-15:15 - £27.50

After Camp Club (Aged 5-11 Only) - 15:15-16:15 - £6.50



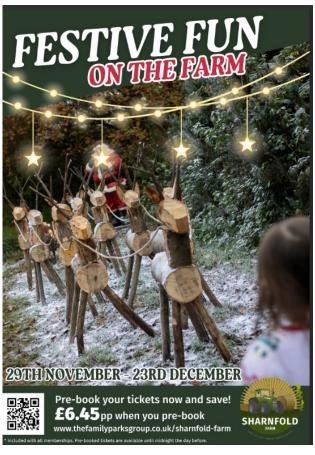


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## YOUTH WILDLIFE AND NATURE PHOTO COMPETITION

Show us what Wealden looks like through your eyes!

#### Who can enter:

Young photographers aged 4 to 17

#### Categories:

Ages 4-11 or 12-17

## What we're looking for:

Photos of local animals or plants in their natural habitats. (No people's faces, please!)



Take your photo on any device and upload it to: letstalk.wealden.gov.uk/nature-photo-competition Or scan this QR code.



Winner: Membership to Sussex Wildlife Trust + your photo framed















#### Lunch and Chat Online Group and In-person Family Hub Workshops with 'Me & My Mind'

Do you want to learn about children's mental health and how you can support your child with their wellbeing? If you do, these FREE online or in-person small group workshops may be for you!

#### Lunch and Chat Small Group

17<sup>th</sup> September, 1pm to 2:30pm

21st January, 1pm to 2:30pm

These will take place on Microsoft Teams and there will be some "taught" content followed by group discussions.

#### Small group in-person sessions

#### Taming the Worries

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September, 10am to 12pm @ St Leonards Family Hub

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October, 1:30pm to 2:30pm @ Shinewater Family Hub

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 10am to 12pm @ Lewes Family Hub

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 10am to 12pm @ Hailsham Family Hub

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November, 10am to 12pm @ Uckfield Family Hub

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November, 12pm to 2pm @ Sidley Family Hub

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 12:30pm to 2:30pm @ Peacehaven Family Hub

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 12pm to 2pm @ Uckfield Family Hub

Tricky Mornings - Friday 7th November @ Devonshire Family Hub

The Impact of Neurodiversity on anxiety, sleep and tricky mornings - Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 9:30am to 11:00am

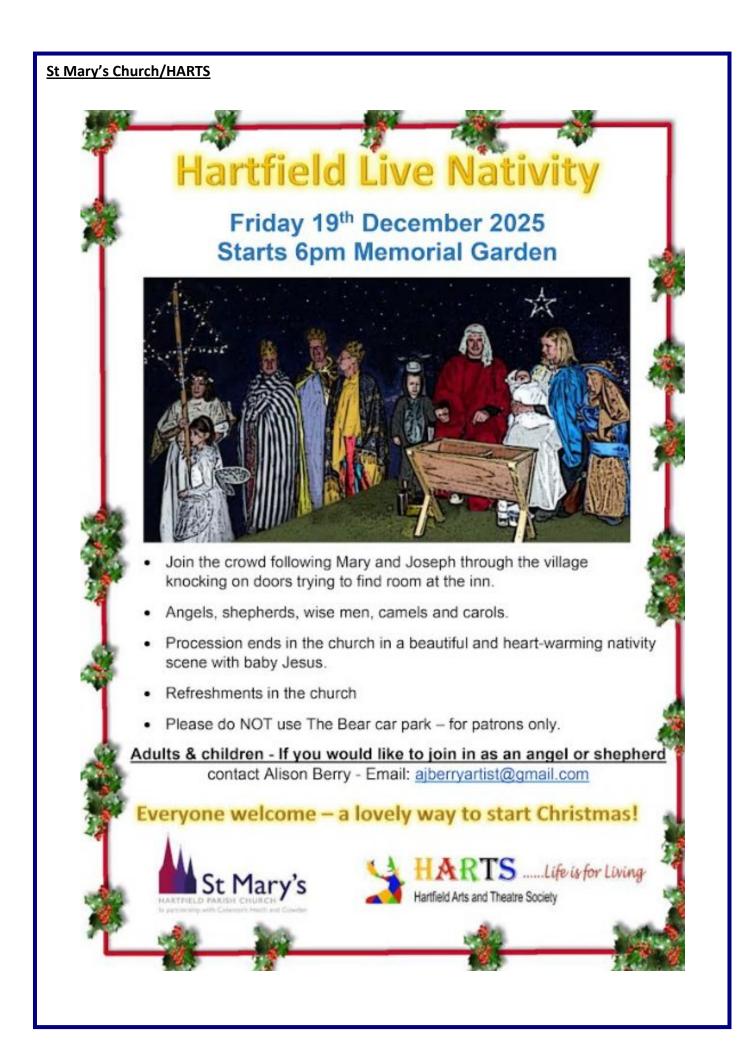
Tea/Coffee and biscuits will be available, and we will be providing activities to make some items to take home with you to do with your child/ren

For more info and to book scan the QR code or visit:



www.tickettailor.com/events/mentalhealthand

If you have any questions, please email <a href="mhst.info@eastsussex.gov.uk">mhst.info@eastsussex.gov.uk</a>



# St Mary's Church Information



Held in The Oast from 9.30am, for breakfast and chats, before heading back to church for communion. Sunday dates are: 7<sup>th</sup> December 18<sup>th</sup> January

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

There will be no sessions on 21<sup>st</sup> December or 4<sup>th</sup> January due to the school holidays

For more information please contact Matt Marriott at m.marriott@btconnect.com









# St Mary's ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

# Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am - Holy Communion Quiet Service

(with Advent reflections)

# Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

9.30am - School Christingle Service

# Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December

9.30am - Holy Communion with Sunday Discoverers

# Tuesday 9th December

Time tbc - School Nativity Play

# Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December

9.30am - Christmas Praise with St Mary's School

# Friday 19th December

9.30am - End of Term School Christmas Service 6pm Live Nativity

# Sunday 21st December

6.30pm - Nine Lessons and Carols - Holy Trinity

# Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 4pm - Crib Service

11.15pm - Midnight Communion

# Thursday 25th December

8am - Holy Communion BCP

9.30am All Age Christmas Service

11am - Christmas Communion - Holy Trin