



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



Term 6 Week 7 2026

Friday 17th July 2026

Being the best we can be in a thriving community, following the example of Jesus.

Headlines from the Head

Dear St Mary's Families,

As the year draws to a close, we want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we have shared. It has been a year filled with laughter, determination, curiosity, and immense growth. There were two huge productions, a fabulous Nativity, May Day, Sport's Day, Residential, whole school visit to The Science Centre, Healthy Eating Day and many other memorable moments, including a very successful SIAMS inspection.

Pupil's Highlights:

"I have loved making stone-age necklaces. I like maths and really enjoyed doing co-ordinates." George

"I liked visiting the reservoir and learning about how water is made clean for us to drink." Jay-J

Reception Reflections on their first year of school:

"I like my new friends." Connie

"I love choosing time, I loved creating Dino Land." William

"I like the Ice-cream shop!" Bertie

"I like being outside on the playground. Bike week was the best." Harry

Staff Highlights

Mrs Whyte says, "Maple Class learning to skip for Maypole." "Maple trip to Hodore farm 'driving' the tractors.

Mrs Fry says, "Taking the school choir to **Young Voices**."

Mrs Thurman says, "**Explorer Day** was so much fun. Children had to solve clues and do challenges to collect special golden keys to unlock the treasure box. The Treasure was more marbles for our class jar! The children's attitude, joy and enthusiasm added to the experience and made it the best moment of the year!"

Mrs Hill says, "The **Summer production**."

Mrs Miller says, "Taking some children to **Pooh Bridge** to meet The Queen!"

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.



Lilac performance





Sports Day 2026



The children had a brilliant time taking part in Sports Day last Wednesday. We were so proud to see all children participating with great enthusiasm despite the hot weather. Thank you to everyone who came to support the event.

A special thank you to Mr. Brunsdon (Albie's Dad), for taking the time the previous day to paint the lines for us. The event would not have been able to happen without these and we are very grateful.



Race the Train – Year 6 leaver's race.



Bean Bag Throwing



Running Races



Water Race

The day the Queen came to Pooh Bridge.



On Tuesday 7th July, pupils from our school popped down to Pooh Bridge, whilst there, they were fortunate enough to meet The Queen Consort. The Queen was visiting Ashdown Forest as part of the 100-year celebrations of the first publication of Winnie the Pooh. First, the children watched The Queen play Pooh sticks against Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. Very excitingly, the children were then invited to join in a game with The Queen themselves. We think the Queen will never forget the day she beat the children of St Mary's at Pooh Sticks!



"She was really nice; she commented how nice it was to play Pooh sticks with children from the local school." Abbie.

"I was so surprised to see her." Tuppence



A Fisherman's Tail.



Last Friday we welcomed 4Front Theatre to our school for the performance of *A Fisherman's Tail*. The show explored the life and miracles of Jesus through the eyes of his first disciples—Simon, Andrew, James, and John—and featured sea shanties, comedy, and original songs





Cherry's Art Gallery



Active Education Fun Run



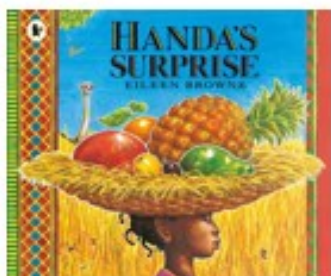
Phunky Foods



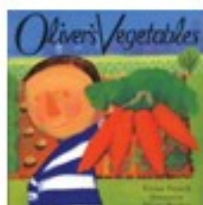
June and July 2026

Maple Class and Cherry Class have been very lucky this term to enjoy and learn through a series of healthy eating workshops through the Phunky Foods initiative.

On day one, we enjoyed listening to the story 'Handa's Surprise' and thinking about all of the delicious fruits she packed in her basket for her friend Akeyo. The children loved making fruit rainbows'. They learned how to cut fruit safely, using the bridge and the claw methods. They had an opportunity to prepare and taste the fruit. They learned that it is really important to eat fruits and vegetables of lots of different colours.



On day two, Caroline read the book 'The Pineapple Parade.' In the story, the fresh pineapple met tinned pineapple, dried pineapple, frozen pineapple and pineapple juice and thought she was better than all of them. Caroline explained that fruit is good for us in lots of different forms, although we do need to be careful that we don't drink too much juice or eat too much dried fruit, because of the sugar content. We found out that we needed to eat at least five types of fruit and vegetable a day, in any form and remembered that we should eat as many different colours as possible. The children worked in small groups to make yoghurt, granola and fruit pots and loved tasting them at the end.



The
Pineapple
Parade



Phunky Foods continued



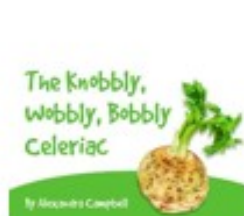
June and July 2026

On day three, Caroline began with a reminder of last week's session. She asked the children why she had chosen to use natural yoghurt, rather than a yoghurt with fruit in. The children remembered that fruity yoghurt has more sugar in it.

Before reading the book 'Oliver's Vegetables' Caroline asked the children why it is really important to eat a range of vegetables, as well as fruit. She asked 'what do vegetables have in them that we need?' The importance of minerals, vitamins and fibre and how they lead to healthier hearts, blood, skin and eyes was discussed. After reading the book, in which Oliver tries lots and lots of different, delicious vegetables, the children worked in groups to make rainbow vegetable salad. They were reminded of the importance of eating lots of differently coloured vegetables.



On day four, Caroline introduced us to the book 'Avocado Asks.' Avocado isn't sure if she is a fruit or a vegetable and she chats to lots of other fruits and vegetables in the supermarket to find out. Caroline explained that avocados are really good for us, not least because they are a really good source of 'good fat.' The children enjoyed making guacamole together and then spreading it on pitta breads to see if they liked it. It was incredibly popular!



On day five, our final session, we listened to the book 'The Knobbly, Wobbly, Bobbly Celeriac.' The story features a family that visits the green grocers every day to choose a different vegetable for their dinner. They choose leeks, betroot, squash and beans but the celeriac is desperate to be picked! Finally they do pick the celeriac and they absolutely love it. After having a close look at a celeriac and thinking about what it might resemble, the children worked with Caroline to make a celeriac and carrot remolade. Because it is tricky to grate very hard vegetables, they observed this process but they then combined these with a special dressing and had an opportunity to try the remolade.

Coming soon...



You are invited to celebrate your
child's progress each term.

WHEN

Thursday
22nd
October

WHERE

Your Child's
Classroom

TIME

3.15-3.45



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— Help Inform Childcare in East Sussex - Parent Survey

School class group photographs

Pupil Reports

An enormous thank you—12 Clumps Challenge

Lilac— (Y5) Swimming forms/payments outstanding

Willow— Update on Postponed Y3/4 Football Tournament

(Y4) Swimming forms/payments outstanding



Dates for your Diary

July:

21st: Leavers Service at St Mary's Church 9.30am

21st: End of Term 6 for children

22nd: INSET Day



September

1st: Last day of the holidays

2nd: INSET Day no. 1

3rd: INSET Day no. 2

4th: Children Y1-Y6 return to school

7th: Reception children start

October

20th: Individual and sibling photos

November

27th: Flu spray immunisations (pm)



Pioneer Governors Update

On 31st August 2026, the three existing governing boards for Pioneer, Framfield CEP and Stonegate CEP will dissolve and from 1st September 2026, there will be one governing board covering the eight Pioneer Schools.

Parents have voted in their governors for next year; Jessica Tabbah and Gavin Harrison will be appointed from 1st September but have already received mountains of information and training details to keep them busy over the summer holidays!

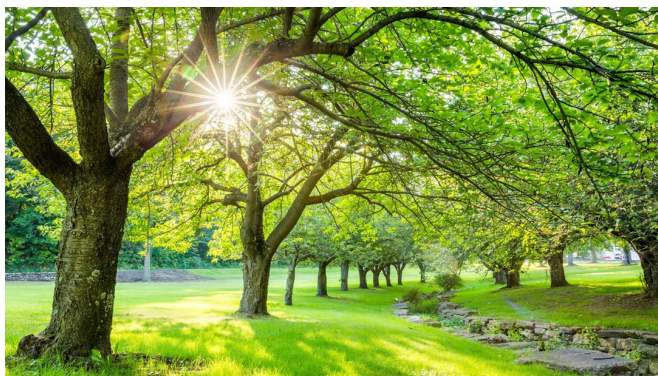
To keep a sense of 'familiarity' between schools and governors, there will be three cluster committees working with select schools:

Ashdown Cluster working with Groombridge St Thomas, St Mary the Virgin and Stonegate CEP

Downs Cluster working with Chiddingly, Park Mead and Framfield CEP

Weald Cluster working with East Hoathly and Nutley CEP
Through future Newsletters, it is hoped to introduce the schools to their cluster committees, so faces can be recognised

If contact needs to be made with the governors, please email the Clerk on clerk@pioneerfederation.co.uk who will ensure messages reach the right people.



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.

Uniform and PE Kit Orders for September 2026

The correct ordering link for uniform from Price and Buckland is available on our school website.

Please note an update on delivery charges: the correct home delivery cost is £4.50 via Royal Mail. Price and Buckland also offer free delivery on orders over £65 and Klarna on orders over £75.

Orders to home should be placed before the cut-off date of 1st August.

N.B Last year 53% of parent orders placed after the cut-off date.

Final delivery into school, if you have ordered before 28th June, is the week commencing 13 July 2026, then it pauses until week commencing 14 September 2026.

Please order PE Kit from
<https://www.signosaurus.co.uk/stmarythevirginschool>

price-buckland.co.uk
Price & Buckland
SCHOOLWEAR SINCE 1988

ORDER YOUR UNIFORM ONLINE
 QUICK, EASY, FAST



**ORDER BY
1ST AUGUST**
for pre-September delivery.

Orders placed after this date risk arriving after the start of term due to peak demand.



"Great quality. Fast and friendly service"

Scan Me!



SIGN UP FOR EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS AND OFFERS!

SUMMER SET	WINTER SET		PE T-SHIRT
			
St Mary The Virgin School - SUMMER KIT From £14.00 Excluding Sales Tax Postage	ST Mary The Virgin School - WINTER From £27.00 Excluding Sales Tax Postage	St Mary The Virgin PE Bag £5.50 Excluding Sales Tax Postage	St Mary The Virgin School-PE T-shirt From £6.00 Excluding Sales Tax Postage
			
St Mary The Virgin School - FULL Zip From £18.00 Excluding Sales Tax Postage	St Mary The Virgin School - 1/4 Zip Tracksuit Top From £16.50 Excluding Sales Tax Postage	Navy PE Shorts £9.00 Excluding Sales Tax Postage	St Mary The Virgin School - Tracksuit Pants £15.00 Excluding Sales Tax Postage

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 Website: www.pioneerfederation.co.uk

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

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 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.

PTFA Newsletter

January 2026

Upcoming Events

- Maple class bake sale - 10th Feb
- School Disco - 13th Feb
- Someone special gifting - 11th March
- Community Bake Sale - TBC
- School Disco - 24th April
- Mayfair - 22nd May
- Someone special gifting - 19th June
- Sports Day & PTFA BBQ - 26th June
- School Disco - 17th July

We Need You!

After an incredible 6 years of dedication, our wonderful Chairperson Kerry Powell has stepped down for a well earned rest!

We're excited to be looking for someone new to step into this role. If you're interested in becoming the PTFA Chairperson, or would like to find out more, please have a chat with Katie or Helen.

If the Chairperson role is not for you, but you'd still like to get involved, we'd love to expand our team. Please let us know if you would like to be added to our 'Regular Helpers' list - Thank you!

Fundraising Focus

This year, our focus is supporting the school with the replacement of the playground trim trail. We are delighted to be involved in this exciting addition to the children's daily routine.

We will continue to raise vital funds through the remainder of this academic year through a range of regular activities, including class bake sales, discos, special person gifting and our Sports Day BBQ. You can support these fundraising efforts by taking part in our events, using Easyfundraising when you shop, or purchasing second-hand uniform.

Thank you for your fantastic support!

Contacts

- Vice-Chair - Helen Law
- Secretary - Katie Schreiber
- Treasurer - Beth Hart
- Regular Helpers:
 - Caroline Halawa & Claire Levis
- E-mail: PTFAhartfield@gmail.com

St Mary's Church Information



For young people aged 10+

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

Sunday dates are: 19th July

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

There will be no Sunday Connect in August

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

A magnifying glass with a black handle and frame, focusing on a yellow background.

Sunday Discoverers

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

Upcoming dates: 19th July

There will be no Sunday Discoverers in August

For more information please contact Lisa Gibbs-Murray at admsmht@gmail.com or 07927 939116

LITTLE STARS

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

A colorful illustration of five children holding hands in a circle, with a large yellow star in the center.

Upcoming dates

There will be no Little Stars on 20th July, 27th July or in August due to school holidays

9.15 to 10.45am
Tea and Coffee Provided admsmht@gmail.com

The CONNECT logo, featuring a stylized 'C' and the word 'CONNECT' in a bold, blocky font.

CONNECT

For young people aged 10+

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

Thursday dates are:

There will be no Connect in August

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

A photograph of four pets sitting together: a golden retriever puppy, a tabby cat, a white rabbit, and a guinea pig.

We would love to see you and your pets for a

Pet Service of Thanksgiving and Blessing

taking place in the grounds of
Holy Trinity Church, Colemans Hatch
on

Sunday 30th August at 11am

To ensure that no pets are harmed,
we politely request that dogs are on leads and
small pets are safely in baskets.

If your pet can't come,
you are welcome to bring a photo or
your cuddly pet toy with you instead.
Horses and sheep welcome too.

To find out more,
please contact Donna Dewar: 01342 326424

Refreshments afterwards for both pets and humans.

St Mary's Church Information

WE WANT YOUR BOTTLES

At this year's Hartfield Fete, St Mary's Church will once again be running the bottle tombola



Show your support by donating your choice of a bottle to raise money for our church

HOW TO SUPPORT

WHAT:

Ale, Wine, Lager, Cider, Stout, Soft Drink or anything in a bottle

WHERE:

Until 31st August:
The Hay Waggon Granary
High Street,
Hartfield TN7 4AB

From 1st September:
3 Stairs Barn
High Street,
Hartfield TN7 4AB

WHEN:

Donations to be made from 15th July to 10th September 2026

Hartfield Fete

September 12th 2026
12pm - 4.30pm

Tuesday Evening Picnics!

On the Croft in Hartfield
Throughout the School Summer Holidays

Time to catch up with friends
Games for the children

Every Tuesday
From 28th July - 1st September
5.30pm - 8pm

Please bring a picnic with you

We look forward
to seeing you there!



FREE events at your local library during the
summer holidays.

Details at the link below

[Summer Reading Challenge | East Sussex Libraries](#)

Great British Summer Savings

Rising prices can make life's little treats harder to afford, especially during the school holidays when costs build up for families. This Government is determined to help, and that is why last month the Chancellor announced the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme.

From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom.

The public are ready to get behind the scheme and are keen to take advantage of the discounts available. As trusted pillars of their communities, schools play a vital role in connecting families with important information.

We need you to help spread the word. So please share details of the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme through your newsletters, school apps, and other communications to parents and carers, so that the families in your school community know about the experiences they can enjoy this summer for less.

This forms part of a broader effort by the Government to ease financial pressures on families. From ending the two-child limit and expanding free school meals, to rolling out free breakfast clubs and delivering 30 hours of free childcare, this Government is taking action to put more money back into parents' pockets and give every child the best possible start in life.

As part of this campaign, we have launched an **attraction finder** website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings. To use the attraction finder, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.

Businesses can find out more about the VAT reduction by visiting [GOV.UK](https://gov.uk) and searching 'Temporary reduced rate of VAT for family attractions'.

(From the Department for Education)

VIM Camps Ltd, our new Wrap Around Care (WAC) provider is looking for staff for
their WAC at GROOMBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL



JOIN US!

Looking for a CREATIVE, ACTIVE & REWARDING role that fits around family life? V.I.M Camps need enthusiastic, caring and energetic people to join our breakfast and/or after school club team from September 2026.

We offer:

- **FREE** sessions for your own child when you work
- Competitive pay with holiday paid as accrued
- Opportunity for overtime during school holidays
- Full training and ongoing support

How to Apply:

- Email your CV and cover letter to info@vimcamps.com

Find out More:





NewsletterJune 2026



1st August Parent Order Deadline

As in previous years, if your parents use our online service, we would appreciate your support in promoting the 1st August order deadline.

While parent orders placed after this date will still be processed promptly, encouraging families to order early helps spread demand during our busiest period and provides sufficient time for replacements if required.

If you require any marketing materials to help communicate this deadline, please get in touch. We will also be contacting parents directly, but your support is always greatly appreciated.

Price Freeze for 2026

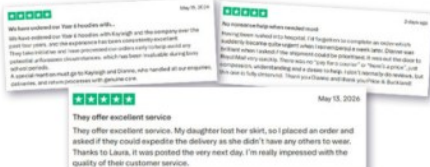
Great news, our standard brochure prices will remain unchanged throughout 2026. We understand the financial pressures many parents and carers continue to face, and despite rising costs associated with the Living Wage, National Insurance contributions, fuel, and transport, we have chosen to absorb these increases while maintaining the high-quality standards you expect.

We also continue to offer parents:

- **FREE** returns
- **FREE** delivery to school (where available)
- **FREE** home delivery on orders over £65

How being a family company makes a difference

We are incredibly proud to be a family-run business, but sometimes we find ourselves wondering what difference that really makes. The answer often comes through the feedback we receive from our customers. We regularly receive reviews and comments on social media, and it is these heartfelt messages that remind us how much our values, culture, and personal approach mean to the people we work with every day.





Forever Chemicals Back in the News

Recent media coverage has highlighted concerns surrounding the use of PFAS, often referred to as "forever chemicals", in school uniform products. With increasing scrutiny from policymakers and growing awareness of their potential environmental and health impacts, the issue continues to attract attention.

We believe these chemicals have no place in school uniforms. As a result, we are fully compliant with UK & EU regulations relating to PFAS.

Read our [PFAS Free School Uniform blog](#) for more information and find out what we do differently.

Children's Wellbeing & Schools Act Now in Force

With the Children's Wellbeing & Schools Act now officially in force, we have seen many schools reviewing and adapting their uniform policies to align with the new regulations.

Many schools have reduced the number of compulsory branded items, helping to keep costs down for families.

Optional branded items such as hats, bags, coats, and sports overgarments can still be offered, provided that an equivalent unbranded alternative is also permitted.

It is also worth noting that items such as tartan skirts or embroidered skirts are not considered compulsory so long as pupils have the option of wearing plain garments instead.

- Why is the government introducing uniform changes?
- What is the new limit on branded items?
- What counts as a branded item?

Learn the answer to all these questions and more in our blog - [The New Schools Bill: What the upcoming Uniform Changes Mean for Schools.](#)



£1-£3 donation, if you can.
Free if you can't!

Community BREAKFAST

DROP IN BETWEEN 10AM - 12PM

Enjoy food, teas, coffees and chat with other locals

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH MAY, AUGUST, NOVEMBER

Advisors who will be around to get support:
CAB (legal advice) May
CMA (debt advice) August
Energise Sussex (household bills advice) November

at Hailsham Parish Church (side room)

Everyone welcome!

 www.localchange.uk 

Community Breakfasts in Hailsham continue this year on Friday 7 August (CMA will be present for debt advice), and Friday 6 November (Sussex Energise will be present for fuel bills advice). These will be at the Hailsham Parish Church (town centre near Costa Coffee) in the side room (go through the glass door).

The breakfasts are on a drop-in basis and people can come in anytime between 10am-12pm to enjoy tea, coffee and breakfast, and advice if you want. We have some funding for the breakfasts, we ask people to contribute £1-£3 if they can, but if they can't then it's totally free.

For the August Community Breakfast children are also welcome to join with parent supervision.

FAMILY FISHING WEEKEND

Have a go at fishing with us,
all are welcome & it's free.

To book your place contact
Janet Funnell on 01892 663512 or
07910 712937 or email
janet.funnell@btinternet.com

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th August

Coaching sessions throughout the day

Pennybridge Lake
Dovedale Farm, London Road, Crowborough, TN6 1UT



FREE

Getting ready for school

with **peep**



Is your child due to start school in September?
Why not join us for a fun getting ready for school session!

- Discover simple ways to support your child's friendships and family connections
- Learn how everyday moments together help your child develop confidence
- Take away easy ideas to strengthen your child's development at home

Grove House,
Crowborough

Tuesday 28th July
Tuesday 25th August
10am to 12pm

Heathfield
Youth Hub

Monday 17th August
Monday 24th August
12pm - 2pm

Uckfield
Family Hub

Friday 21st August
Friday 28th August
10am to 12pm

4 - 5
year olds



Contact Family Hubs to book your place

01273336970 | EHHighWeald@eastsussex.gov.uk