St Mary & St John CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Rebekah Stott

Friday 3rd July 2026

Dear St Mary & St John Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy — and very warm! — fortnight in school, with so much fantastic learning, teamwork and creativity taking place across SSMJ.

In this newsletter, we wanted to celebrate our wonderful Dance Festival one last time, as well as share some of the many other things that have been happening over the past few weeks. From Shuffle Up Day and transition activities, to Eco Council preparations, Wimbledon-inspired tennis, keeping cool in the heat and much more, it has certainly been a full and memorable couple of weeks. We hope you enjoy reading about just some of the experiences, achievements and joyful moments from across school.

Creative Classrooms and Outdoor Adventures

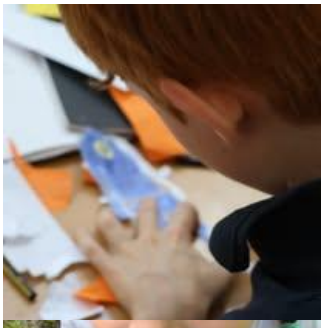
There has been plenty of hands-on learning across school over the last week. Year 4 made delicious Greek honey cookies as part of their topic work, and the smell around school was amazing! The children thoroughly enjoyed baking, and they even made enough to share with some very grateful grown-ups.

Year 5 also let their creativity take off as they designed their own space-themed costumes. To the untrained eye, it may have looked a little like a bomb had gone off in the classrooms, but we preferred to think of it as creative chaos! It was wonderful to see the children's ideas come to life with such imagination and enthusiasm.

Year 1 enjoyed their Outdoor Learning sessions, making the most of the school grounds and exploring learning beyond the classroom. It was lovely to see the children working together, getting stuck in and enjoying time outside.

Year 2 had a brilliant time visiting the Story Museum, where their imaginations were well and truly captured. It was a fantastic opportunity to build on the skills they have been developing in school, and the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring such an inspiring setting.

We also marked the start of Wimbledon with tennis taster sessions led by Mr Guy. The children had great fun developing their skills and, who knows, perhaps we have inspired the next generation of tennis stars!



What a Dance Festival!

A huge thank you to all the families who came along to support our Dance Festival. It was such a joy to see the field packed with parents, carers, grandparents and friends, all cheering the children on and celebrating their hard work. The children were absolutely brilliant, performing with confidence, energy and huge smiles. A very special thank you goes to Dr Clark for teaching all the dances, from Reception right through to Year 6, and to Mrs Rani for another beautiful Bollywood dance.

Of course, the children were not the only ones getting involved. It was wonderful to see both staff and parents and carers taking to the stage — proving that our adults are never too busy to join in, have fun and get stuck in. What brilliant role models for our children: showing them that courage, teamwork and joy are not just things we talk about, but things we live out together.

One Dad summed it up beautifully, saying that they had loved being part of it because we need to show the children that we are willing to do the things we ask them to do. What a powerful message for our children to see. Thank you to everyone who danced, cheered, encouraged, packed away gazebos, clapped along and made the event feel so special. What a great community we are part of!

Keeping Cool in the Heat

Thank you for your support and understanding as we managed the very hot weather in school last week. We know the heat can be challenging, and were mindful that, for many children, school may feel cooler than home during the day.

We worked hard to keep the children as comfortable as possible by using cooler spaces, adapting activities, encouraging shade and making sure everyone stayed hydrated. Lunchtimes included calm indoor options such as Lego, jigsaws, colouring and film rooms, alongside shaded outdoor play. Water sprays were also available in classrooms for children who wanted them. The children adapted brilliantly, and we are very grateful to families for working with us — particularly on Friday, when we made the decision to close school early. We know this will not have been easy for everyone, and we really appreciated the calm and understanding response from our school community.

Shuffle Up Day

Shuffle Up Day went very well, and it was lovely to see the children settling into their new classrooms with their new teachers. Everyone was very keen to make a great first impression… and somehow the children looked a little taller and a little older! Although transition for Year 6 was postponed, the children were still in and rehearsing their end of year play, showing great focus, confidence and excitement as we move towards the end of term.

It was lovely to welcome our new Reception children for a Stay and Play session with their parents and carers this week. Lots of the children already have big brothers and sisters in school, so they came in with great confidence and excitement. We cannot wait to welcome them properly when they start "big school"!

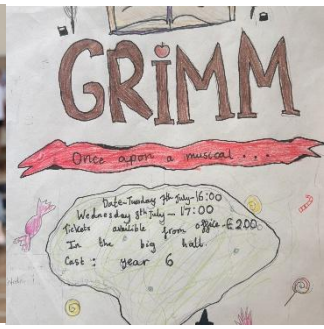
Eco Council Summer Fair Stall

Eco Council have been busy preparing for the Summer Fair, getting their Bee Revival seed packs ready to sell after school today. The children meticulously weighed out each pack, designed the labels and created quite the production line!

They will be selling the seed packs for the bargain price of £1 each, so please do come along and support them. A lovely way to support the children, help our Eco Council work, and encourage a few more bee-friendly flowers to grow in our gardens. A big thank you to Mrs Baez, who has helped the children coordinate their stall and prepare everything so carefully.

Year 5/6 Performance: *Grimm: Once Upon a Musical*

Rehearsals are now full steam ahead for our Year 5/6 performance of *Grimm: Once Upon a Musical* — thankfully with a little less steam now the weather has cooled! The singing from both Year 6 and Year 5 is sounding fantastic, and our Year 6 children are really enjoying being part of the tech team too, supporting with sound and lighting.



Please read the performance details carefully, as arrangements are different depending on your child's year group:

Tuesday 7th July, 4:00pm — Year 5 and Year 6 Performance

All Year 5 and Year 6 children will stay at school between the end of the day and the performance. All parents and carers are invited to attend.

Wednesday 8th July, 5:00pm — Year 6 Only Performance

Year 6 children will go home as usual and return to school at 4:20pm to get ready for a 5:00pm start. Year 6 families will be given priority for this performance.

The children are working so hard, and we can't wait for you to see the show!

Farewell and Thank You to Ms O'Flanagan

Ms Sarah O'Flanagan will be moving on from St Mary & St John at the end of this academic year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all she has contributed to SSMJ since September 2023, and to Comper for many years before that. We wish her well for the future.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend and hoping to see you at the summer fair later today.

With best wishes,

Rex Stott and the St Mary & St John Team

Headteacher

Let all that you do be done in love... 1 Corinthians 16:14

Internet Safety

Screens are now part of everyday family life, but for very young children, clear and predictable boundaries can help screen time feel calm rather than constant.

The latest #WakeUpWednesday guide shares practical advice for families, nurseries and early years settings on supporting healthier digital habits for under-fives. With supportive tips and realistic routines, this guide helps adults manage screen time with greater confidence. Read the guide here.

Jump Back Up July Wellbeing Segment

Our July Wellbeing Calendar is all about building resilience. Today's suggestion is to be willing to ask for help when you need it. Is this something you could model to your children? For more suggestions and to see how others are enagaging with the calendar, click on the individual days here!

St Mary and St John
Church of England Primary School

'Let all that you do be done in love'
1 Corinthians 16:14

Calendar 25-26

2025					2026						
August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
1 Fr	1 Mo INSET 36	1 We	1 Sa	1 Mo 49	1 Th New Year's Day	1 Su	1 Su	1 We	1 Fr	1 Mo INSET 23	1 We
2 Sa	2 Tu INSET	2 Th	2 Su	2 Tu	2 Fr	2 Mo 6	2 Mo 10	2 Th	2 Sa	2 Tu Term 6 Starts	2 Th
3 Su	3 We Term 1 Starts	3 Fr	3 Mo Term 2 Starts 45	3 We	3 Sa	3 Tu	3 Tu	3 Fr Good Friday	3 Su	3 We	3 Fr SUMMER FAIR
4 Mo 32	4 Th	4 Sa	4 Tu Harvest Festival	4 Th	4 Su	4 We	4 We	4 Sa	4 Mo Early May Bk. Hol. 19	4 Th	4 Sa
5 Tu	5 Fr	5 Su	5 We Assessment week	5 Fr	5 Mo INSET 2	5 Th	5 Th World Book Day	5 Su	5 Tu	5 Fr PTA EID EVENT	5 Su
6 We	6 Sa	6 Mo 41	6 Th	6 Sa	6 Tu Term 3 Starts	6 Fr	6 Fr	6 Mo Easter Monday 15	6 We	6 Sa	6 Mo 28
7 Th	7 Su	7 Tu	7 Fr	7 Su	7 We	7 Sa	7 Sa	7 Tu	7 Th	7 Su	7 Tu Y5/6 PLAY
8 Fr	8 Mo 37	8 We	8 Sa	8 Mo 50	8 Th	8 Su	8 Su	8 We	8 Fr PTA CEILIDH	8 Mo Sports Day 24	8 We Y5/6 PLAY
9 Sa	9 Tu	9 Th	9 Su	9 Tu	9 Fr	9 Mo 7	9 Mo 11	9 Th	9 Sa	9 Tu	9 Th
10 Su	10 We	10 Fr	10 Mo 46	10 We Panto Reception	10 Sa	10 Tu	10 Tu	10 Fr	10 Su	10 We	10 Fr
11 Mo 33	11 Th	11 Sa	11 Tu	11 Th Pantos Y5/6 3/4 1/2	11 Su	11 We	11 We	11 Sa	11 Mo Y6 SATs 20	11 Th	11 Sa
12 Tu	12 Fr	12 Su	12 We	12 Fr KS1 Nativity @ SSMJ Church	12 Mo 3	12 Th	12 Th	12 Su	12 Tu	12 Fr	12 Su
13 We	13 Sa	13 Mo Parent Consultatio 42	13 Th	13 Sa	13 Tu	13 Fr Term 3 Ends	13 Fr	13 Mo Term 5 Starts 16	13 We	13 Sa	13 Mo 29
14 Th	14 Su	14 Tu Y5 Bikeability week	14 Fr	14 Su	14 We	14 Sa	14 Sa	14 Tu	14 Th Y5 HILL END	14 Su	14 Tu
15 Fr	15 Mo 38	15 We Parent Consultation	15 Sa	15 Mo Reception Nativity 51	15 Th	15 Su	15 Su	15 We	15 Fr	15 Mo 25	15 We Y6 Leavers
16 Sa	16 Tu	16 Th	16 Su	16 Tu	16 Fr	16 Mo 8	16 Mo Parent Consults 12	16 Th	16 Sa	16 Tu	16 Th
17 Su	17 We	17 Fr	17 Mo 47	17 We	17 Sa	17 Tu	17 Tu	17 Fr	17 Su	17 We	17 Fr Term 6 Ends
18 Mo 34	18 Th	18 Sa	18 Tu	18 Th	18 Su	18 We	18 We Parent Consults	18 Sa	18 Mo Y6 WOODLAN 21	18 Th	18 Sa
19 Tu	19 Fr	19 Su	19 We	19 Fr Term 2 Ends	19 Mo 4	19 Th	19 Th	19 Su	19 Tu	19 Fr	19 Su
20 We	20 Sa	20 Mo Assess ment 43	20 Th	20 Sa	20 Tu	20 Fr	20 Fr	20 Mo 17	20 We	20 Sa	20 Mo INSET 30
21 Th	21 Su	21 Tu Flu immunisations	21 Fr	21 Su	21 We	21 Sa	21 Sa	21 Tu	21 Th	21 Su	21 Tu
22 Fr	22 Mo 39	22 We Individual Photos	22 Sa	22 Mo 52	22 Th	22 Su	22 Su	22 We	22 Fr Term 5 Ends	22 Mo 26	22 We
23 Sa	23 Tu	23 Th	23 Su	23 Tu	23 Fr	23 Mo Term 4 Starts 9	23 Mo 13	23 Th	23 Sa	23 Tu	23 Th
24 Su	24 We	24 Fr Term 1 Ends	24 Mo 48	24 We	24 Sa	24 Tu Assessment week	24 Tu	24 Fr	24 Su	24 We	24 Fr
25 Mo August Bk. Hol. 35	25 Th	25 Sa	25 Tu	25 Th Christmas Day	25 Su	25 We	25 We	25 Sa	25 Mo Spring Bk. Hol. 22	25 Th	25 Sa
26 Tu	26 Fr	26 Su	26 We	26 Fr Boxing Day	26 Mo 5	26 Th	26 Th	26 Su	26 Tu	26 Fr	26 Su
27 We	27 Sa	27 Mo 44	27 Th	27 Sa	27 Tu	27 Fr	27 Fr Term 4 Ends	27 Mo 18	27 We	27 Sa	27 Mo 31
28 Th	28 Su	28 Tu	28 Fr	28 Su	28 We	28 Sa	28 Sa	28 Tu	28 Th	28 Su	28 Tu
29 Fr	29 Mo 40	29 We	29 Sa WINTER FAIR	29 Mo 1	29 Th		29 Su	29 We	29 Fr	29 Mo 27	29 We
30 Sa	30 Tu	30 Th	30 Su	30 Tu	30 Fr SCHOOL DISCO		30 Mo 14	30 Th	30 Sa	30 Tu	30 Th
31 Su		31 Fr		31 We	31 Sa		31 Tu		31 Su		31 Fr

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'Let all that you do be done in love'
1 Corinthians 16:14

Calendar 26-27

2026				
August	September	October	November	December
1 Sa	1 Tu INSET	1 Th	1 Su	1 Tu
2 Su	2 We INSET	2 Fr	2 Mo Term 2 starts 45	2 We
3 Mo 32	3 Th Term 1 starts	3 Sa	3 Tu	3 Th
4 Tu	4 Fr	4 Su	4 We	4 Fr
5 We	5 Sa	5 Mo 41	5 Th	5 Sa
6 Th	6 Su	6 Tu	6 Fr	6 Su
7 Fr	7 Mo 37	7 We	7 Sa	7 Mo 50
8 Sa	8 Tu	8 Th	8 Su	8 Tu
9 Su	9 We	9 Fr INSET	9 Mo 46	9 We
10 Mo 33	10 Th	10 Sa	10 Tu	10 Th
11 Tu	11 Fr	11 Su	11 We	11 Fr
12 We	12 Sa	12 Mo Parent Consultation 42	12 Th	12 Sa
13 Th	13 Su	13 Tu	13 Fr	13 Su
14 Fr	14 Mo 38	14 We Parent Consultation	14 Sa	14 Mo 51
15 Sa	15 Tu	15 Th	15 Su	15 Tu
16 Su	16 We	16 Fr	16 Mo 47	16 We
17 Mo 34	17 Th	17 Sa	17 Tu	17 Th
18 Tu	18 Fr	18 Su	18 We	18 Fr Term 2 ends
19 We	19 Sa	19 Mo 43	19 Th	19 Sa
20 Th	20 Su	20 Tu	20 Fr	20 Su
21 Fr	21 Mo 39	21 We	21 Sa	21 Mo 52
22 Sa	22 Tu	22 Th	22 Su	22 Tu
23 Su	23 We	23 Fr Term 1 ends	23 Mo 48	23 We
24 Mo 35	24 Th	24 Sa	24 Tu	24 Th
25 Tu	25 Fr	25 Su	25 We	25 Fr Christmas Day
26 We	26 Sa	26 Mo 44	26 Th	26 Sa Boxing Day
27 Th	27 Su	27 Tu	27 Fr	27 Su
28 Fr	28 Mo 40	28 We	28 Sa	28 Mo Substi-tute day 53
29 Sa	29 Tu	29 Th	29 Su	29 Tu
30 Su	30 We	30 Fr	30 Mo 49	30 We
31 Mo August Bk. Hol. 36		31 Sa		31 Th

2027						
January	February	March	April	May	June	July
1 Fr New Year's Day	1 Mo 5	1 Mo 9	1 Th	1 Sa	1 Tu	1 Th
2 Sa	2 Tu	2 Tu	2 Fr	2 Su	2 We	2 Fr
3 Su	3 We	3 We	3 Sa	3 Mo Early May Bk. Hol. 18	3 Th	3 Sa
4 Mo INSET 1	4 Th	4 Th	4 Su	4 Tu	4 Fr	4 Su
5 Tu Term 3 starts	5 Fr	5 Fr	5 Mo 14	5 We	5 Sa	5 Mo 27
6 We	6 Sa	6 Sa	6 Tu	6 Th	6 Su	6 Tu
7 Th	7 Su	7 Su	7 We	7 Fr	7 Mo INSET 23	7 We
8 Fr	8 Mo 6	8 Mo 10	8 Th	8 Sa	8 Tu Term 6 starts	8 Th
9 Sa	9 Tu	9 Tu	9 Fr	9 Su	9 We	9 Fr
10 Su	10 We	10 We	10 Sa	10 Mo KS2 SATS Week 19	10 Th	10 Sa
11 Mo 2	11 Th	11 Th	11 Su	11 Tu	11 Fr	11 Su
12 Tu	12 Fr Term 3 ends	12 Fr	12 Mo Term 5 starts 15	12 We	12 Sa	12 Mo 28
13 We	13 Sa	13 Sa	13 Tu	13 Th	13 Su	13 Tu
14 Th	14 Su	14 Su	14 We	14 Fr	14 Mo SPORTS DAY 24	14 We
15 Fr	15 Mo 7	15 Mo Parent Consultatio 11	15 Th	15 Sa	15 Tu	15 Th
16 Sa	16 Tu	16 Tu	16 Fr	16 Su	16 We	16 Fr
17 Su	17 We	17 We Parent Consultation	17 Sa	17 Mo WOODLANDS	17 Th	17 Sa
18 Mo 3	18 Th	18 Th	18 Su	18 Tu	18 Fr	18 Su
19 Tu	19 Fr	19 Fr	19 Mo 16	19 We	19 Sa	19 Mo 29
20 We	20 Sa	20 Sa	20 Tu	20 Th	20 Su	20 Tu
21 Th	21 Su	21 Su	21 We	21 Fr	21 Mo 25	21 We Terms 6 ends
22 Fr	22 Mo Term 4 starts 8	22 Mo 12	22 Th	22 Sa	22 Tu	22 Th
23 Sa	23 Tu	23 Tu	23 Fr	23 Su	23 We	23 Fr
24 Su	24 We	24 We	24 Sa	24 Mo	24 Th	24 Sa
25 Mo 4	25 Th	25 Th Term 4 ends	25 Su	25 Tu	25 Fr	25 Su
26 Tu	26 Fr	26 Fr Good Friday	26 Mo 17	26 We	26 Sa	26 Mo 30
27 We	27 Sa	27 Sa	27 Tu	27 Th	27 Su	27 Tu
28 Th	28 Su	28 Su	28 We	28 Fr Term 5 ends	28 Mo 26	28 We
29 Fr		29 Mo Easter Monday 13	29 Th	29 Sa	29 Tu	29 Th
30 Sa		30 Tu	30 Fr	30 Su	30 We	30 Fr
31 Su		31 We		31 Mo Spring Bk. Hol.		31 Sa

St Mary and St John CE Primary School: Big Dates*

Term 6

Date	What's on
Monday 6th July	KS2 Camp Out Day
Tuesday 7th July	Key Stage 1 & Reception Camp Out Day Y4 Trip to Ashmolean Museum Y6 and Y5 Performance 4pm All children are expected to attend.
Wednesday 8th July	Y6 and Y5 Performance 5pm All children are expected to attend.
Wednesday 15th July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly
Friday 17th July	Last day of school year School closes at 1.30pm.

Term 1 2026-2027

Date	What's on
Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September	INSET for school staff Training days for school staff – school is not open to children
Thursday 3rd September	WELCOME BACK! The 2026-2027 Academic Year begins for the children
Friday 23rd October	Term 1 ends for October half term: 3:20pm

*All dates are subject to change – we will update as soon as possible if dates must be altered.