

St Mary's C E Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs Victoria Woods

Summer 2 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled back into school routines after the break. They have returned with positive attitudes and enthusiasm, and it has been lovely to see them showing their best selves! We are now beginning our final term of Year 3, and we are looking forward to a busy and exciting few weeks ahead. This term, our new topic is *Healthy Me*, where we will be learning all about healthy lifestyles, wellbeing, exercise, nutrition, and ways to keep our minds and bodies healthy. We have lots of engaging activities, special visitors and learning opportunities planned, including welcoming you to come in for our Healthy Café on the 3rd of July. Thank you, as always, for your continued support throughout the year.

Curriculum – 'Healthy Me!'

This term, our topic is Healthy Me. In Science, we will be learning about animals including humans. The children will explore nutrition, healthy diets and the important jobs different nutrients do in our bodies. We will also be learning about skeletons and muscles, discovering how they help our bodies move and stay supported. In DT, we will be focusing on Food Technology. The children will learn about healthy eating while preparing and making delicious healthy foods such as fruit skewers and healthy wraps. In Maths, we will be developing our understanding of money and time before moving on to learning about shape and angles through practical and engaging lessons. Our English work will be based on the book *The Zebra's Great Escape* by Katherine Rundell. The children will explore the story before planning and writing their own exciting escape narratives full of adventure and creativity. In Computing, we will be learning about branching databases and discovering how information can be sorted and organised using questions. This term in PE, the children will be taking part in rounders, where they will develop their throwing, catching and batting skills through team games and activities. They will also be focusing on athletics running, improving their speed, stamina and running technique through a range of fun challenges and races. In PSHE, we will be focusing on the Safer Together Project, helping the children learn more about staying safe, making sensible choices and supporting one another. Please see the attached cog document for further information and details about each subject area.



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Class rewards

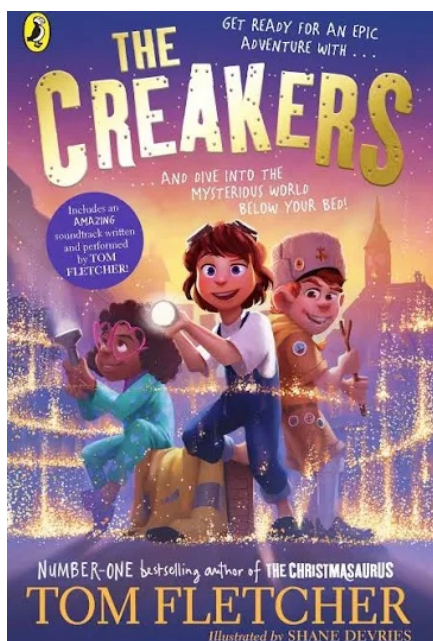
The class have voted to choose their marble rewards and are working towards these:

150 marbles	300 marbles	450 marbles	600 marbles
Bring our favourite toy in	Non-school uniform day	Extra OPAL playtime	Art afternoon

Reading

We love story time in Year 3!

We will be continuing 'The Creakers' by Tom Fletcher as our class story.



There is an expectation children read as much as possible. It will allow them to understand and use a wide range of vocabulary, which will support them in every aspect of their day. We ask for you to listen to your child read as much as possible during the week to support their reading progression. Please encourage your child to record their reading activity in their reading record. I guarantee it will make a difference to their progress across the curriculum.

If you are unsure of texts for your child, please speak to myself about recommendations. I am more than happy to help.

Children must bring their reading record in school everyday.

A new recommended reading list has just been published by Books for Topics. I would recommend looking through it to discover age-appropriate reading books for your child.

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/year-3/>

Homework

Our homework enables all pupils to make sure they have chance to practise and recall things like spellings and their times tables, to read regularly and also complete a weekly piece linked to our project. Our homework books will be **sent home every Thursday and should be returned to school on the following Tuesday**. Good pieces of homework and great effort will be rewarded through the school reward systems.

PE Kit

All children should have indoor and outdoor kit e.g. shorts, house coloured t-shirt and plimsolls for indoors and trainers for outdoor sessions. **PE kits should be brought into school every Monday and taken home on a Friday to be washed for the following week.** PE is a valuable part of their education and the curriculum, therefore please ensure all pupils have their PE kits as they will not be allowed to participate in the lesson without them. You are able to purchase the uniform from here: <https://myclothing.com/collections/st-marys-church-of-england-primary-school-banbury-pupil-29271>

The Kit:	
A coloured top – the colour of their house.	
Red – Sulgrave Navy Blue – Broughton Green – Compton Sky Blue – Upton	
Black shorts or long trousers	
Trainers or plimsolls to comfortably do PE in.	

Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)

As you are aware, the staff and children are continuing to develop their play through OPAL. As part of this, the children are encouraged to have fun in our outside areas throughout the year and in all types of weather

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therefore it is important that the children have outdoor learning clothing in school every day. They need a pair of welly boots to use so that their school shoes remain dry and clean. Please name your child's boots - as it can be hard to reunite lost clothing and equipment to the right child if it is not named. If you have any old welly boots that your child has grown out of, we would really appreciate you sending them in so we can pass them on to someone who needs them.

When the weather is particularly wet, children will need a waterproof coat and waterproof trousers. Again, please ensure these are named to avoid them going missing.

Reminders

- **Water Bottles** – please make sure children have a water bottle with them every day (separate from any drink in their lunch box) as this allows them to access water as and when they require it. To improve the oral health of children, only water is permitted in class. If your child brings in a bottle filled with something other than water, we will provide them with a cup so that they can access water during the day.
- **Snacks** – Children may bring in a **healthy snack** for mid-morning break. Suitable choices include fruit, cheese, yogurt and vegetable sticks. Do let us know if your child has any food allergies or intolerances.
- **Absence and sickness** – please let the office know if your child is not attending because they are ill. Also please note that Health Protection Agency guidance states that children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last episode of either sickness or diarrhea.

My Child at School (MCAS)

We are now using the My Child at School App to send information to you and to allow you to easily make online payments. If you have not done so already, please sign up by visiting the following website: <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin>

School code: 15144

Contact

Should you need to contact me about any matters arising, you may email direct using the following address:

e.nijhuis@banburystmarysschool.co.uk

Please be aware that any messages sent may not be seen until later in the school day or after school as I may be busy with classroom duties and teaching earlier in the day. In all cases I will endeavour to reply to you within 2 working days. Obviously if the matter is more urgent, for example about attendance or changes to the routine of collecting your child then you should contact the school office.

We look forward to this final term together and continuing to work with and help your children achieve our vision; Learning, Transforming and Growing.

Kind Regards,

Miss Nijhuis

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