

Message from the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to begin by wishing all of our families a happy Easter, and thank all of the children for the enthusiasm that they have shown this term in their learning and our many events and trips. As well as the physical effort last week in our PE day, the children have laughed together and admired each other's world book day outfits. We have seen wonderful reading and singing in assemblies; Mrs Sesli recently visited and was impressed with the children's knowledge in PSHE lessons and their engagement in music lessons. We will have to create more opportunity for them to sing and play!

Our children love coming to school, and attendance has been improving across all year groups. Children need to be at school to learn; some are not able to maintain 100% attendance but many of our children are close to it. **Parents must contact the school every day that their child is absent.**

Summer Uniform

The days are starting to get warmer; time to get the Summer uniform out of storage! Just a reminder please, **no open-toed shoes, sliders or sandals are permitted to be worn in school.** Full details of our uniform requirements can be found

here: <https://www.st-marycray.bromley.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=109>

Hardship Fund

In light of the ongoing challenge across all local communities, Headteachers and the Trust leadership have agreed to set up a **Hardship Fund**. The aim of this is that parents and staff may volunteer to pay one off or regular amounts in to build up a hardship fund to support parents in times of need, such as help in paying for school trips. I have had this set up in several schools previously and it has proved to be of great value to the community. I still pay a small direct debit into my previous school as it helps families in challenging circumstances. This will now be visible on ParentPay as a payment item, parents can pay anything between £1 and £50.

And finally...

Finally, I would like to wish Mr Frost the best of luck for the marathon that he is running this Sunday in Brighton, I am sure that he will run well.

Enjoy your break, and we will see you again on **Monday 17th April.**

Mr Jamieson

Arbor – Data Check Request



Arbor

contact details.

Please could we kindly request that all parents log on to their child's profile to check both consents (in particular photo consents) and your emergency

The link to log in is <https://st-mary-cray-primary.uk.arbor.sc/?/home-ui/index>.

Details on how to set up can be found on the School Website here: <https://www.st-marycray.bromley.sch.uk/page/?title=Arbor+Parent+App&pid=568>

If you have not yet logged in to ARBOR, or are having any issues doing so, please contact Mrs Holmes in the School Office.



St Mary Cray Primary Academy

Spring Term 2

31st March 2023



Excellence Award Winners – Spring Term 2

Well done and congratulations to all of our Excellence Award winners this half term!



Dates for your Diaries

Please note that these dates may be subject to change

April		
Easter Holidays: 1st – 14th April		
Mon	17	Summer Term Begins – Children Return to School
Mon	24	Themed School Lunch – St Georges Day
May		
Mon	1	Early May Bank Holiday <i>Children not in School</i>
Thu	4	PTA Event - King Charles' Coronation Celebration <i>Details TBC</i>
Mon	8	Bank Holiday – King Charles III Coronation <i>Children not in school</i>
Half Term Holidays 29th May – 2nd June		
June		
Mon	5	Class Group Photos
July		
Fri	14	PTA Summer Fair <i>Details TBC</i>
Summer Holidays 24th July – 30th August		
31 August & 1 September – INSET Days – Children not in school		



HOBLINGWELL

Woodland trail
Hunt activities

Learn about wildlife
Nature stalls

3pm Raffle
prize draw

EASTER EGG HUNT

Friday
7 April 2023
Start 1 to 2pm
Finish 3.00pm

FRIENDS OF HOBLINGWELL
CARING FOR THE FUTURE

Just come along to register at Orpington Rugby Clubhouse
Entry £2 per child - Chocolate Easter egg for every participant!
All children must be accompanied by an adult
Hoblingwell Wood Recreation Ground
Leasons Way BR5 2QB

With thanks to our sponsors and supporters:






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Attendance Update

Attendance this Half Term:

Well done to Emerald Class, who achieved an amazing **97%** attendance for this half term!

1 st Place	YR5 Emerald	97.0%
2 nd	YR2 Onyx	96.1%
3 rd	YR3 Pearl	95.7%
4 th	YR4 Diamond	94.5%
5 th	YR6 Ruby	94.3%
6 th	YR3 Opal	93.9%
7 th	YR1 Topaz	93.5%
8 th	YR0 Sapphire	90.0%

Attendance Reminder:

Please ensure that you call the school **every day** of absence. As a school, part of our safeguarding procedures are around monitoring

attendance. School attendance is a legal requirement and children under 90% are classed as 'persistent absentees'. I will be sending out letters every half term to make you aware of your child's attendance.

We know that good attendance means good academic progress and makes following routines, maintaining friendships and feeling confident all so much easier. This half term, attendance at St Mary Cray has improved, but we can still do better!

Please feel free to contact me via the school phone line or Dojo if you have any questions or concerns.

Miss Coupe - Pupil Support Lead

Pastoral News - Colin

We are very excited to introduce a new member of staff to the team at St Mary Cray Primary School - **Colin, our certified therapy dog!** Colin is a 2-year-old Golden Retriever.

School dogs have been proven to help develop Pupils' reading skills, improve behaviour, attendance and academic confidence, as well as increasing student understanding of responsibility and in the development of empathy and nurturing skills. We hope that a school dog will be a beneficial addition to the pastoral support we offer here at St Mary Cray Primary School.

As part of the process of becoming a certified therapy dog, Colin visits the vet regularly for general health check-ups and for regular and required vaccinations. As part of the process of

introducing a therapy dog in school we have risk assessments in place and relevant insurance.

All families will be asked to notify the school of any allergies or fears.

Please note that our certified therapy dog is the only dog allowed on the school site. We politely ask that you ensure that you do not enter the site at any time with a dog.

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We hope you will join us in welcoming Colin to St Mary Cray Primary School, and embrace all that he has to offer the school.



Breakfast and

After School Club

Please be advised that the booking window for sessions *next half term* (17th April to 26th May) HAS NOW CLOSED.

Any sessions required during this time will be charged as adhoc.

Contracted Booking Deadlines

Please find below details of booking deadlines for contracted sessions:

Term	Term Dates	Booking Window	
		Open	Closed
Autumn Term 1	Mon, 5th September to Fri, 14th October	24/06/2022	08/07/2022
Autumn Term 2	Tues, 1st November to Weds, 21st December	05/09/2022	07/10/2022
Spring Term 1	Weds, 4th January to Fri, 10th February	01/11/2022	14/12/2022
Spring Term 2	Mon, 20th February to Fri, 31st March	04/01/2023	03/02/2023
Summer Term 1	Mon, 17th April to Fri, 26th May	20/02/2023	24/03/2023
Summer Term 2	Mon, 5th June to Fri, 21st July	17/04/2023	19/05/2023

Arbor



Thanks to the introduction of our ARBOR Parent App, parents now have the ability to access to their child's school profile (to amend contact details etc.). This has therefore removed the need for termly data

we kindly request that all parents log on to their child's profile to check both consents (in particular photo consents) and your emergency contact details.

If you have not yet logged in to ARBOR, or are having any issues doing so, please contact Mrs Holmes in the School Office.

collection sheets. With this in mind, please could



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PTA News

Thank you

We would like to thank all of the children, parents, carers and staff that have attended events and donated towards the PTA funds. So far this year, the money raised has been used to fund new school equipment such as atlases and globes for Geography & Science equipment, a visit from Living Eggs, and coach travel to various school trips which have enabled children to go further afield for educational visits.

We would also like to thank Tesco Foots Cray, Tesco Orpington, Morrisons Petts Wood and Sainsburys Locksbottom for their very generous

donations of Easter Egg prizes for the Egg Decorating Competition!

Upcoming Events

We are currently planning a brand new event for next term; Quiz Night! This one is for the adults and looks to be a fun night; keep your eyes peeled for more information!

We are also in the middle of planning our annual **Summer Fair**, this year it will take place on **Friday 14th July**.



PE Immersion Day

On Friday 24th March, we had our PE and Sport Day! We participated in many different activities including: indoor table tennis, cricket, seated volleyball, gymnastics dance and many more, with the day also including a sponsored 30 minutes activity session on St Mary Cray Recreation Ground.

The children (and adults) showed amazing perseverance, fitness and courage to travel around their track in a variety of different ways, and I'm delighted to say (at time of writing/counting), that you as a school have raised over **£2000** for charity! Details of plans for

that donation will be shared in due course, but congratulations to everybody!!

Our winners on the day for guesses closest to my distance travelled were:

Year 1: A swimming session at Midfield
Lizzie: A sports voucher
Scott: A sports voucher
Sukith: A dart board!

Many thanks for your continued support!



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Mr Frost

Sapphire Class



We have had another lovely half term of learning in Sapphire class. Our focus has been on life-cycles, including frogs, ladybirds, caterpillars, spiders and humans! We got to see some twin baby boys and ask their mother lots of questions about what babies want and need. In our classroom, we now have a tank full of tadpoles, which we are regularly observing to see when they turn into froglets and finally frogs.

In Maths, we have looked at mass and capacity, patterns, numbers 9 and 10, 3D shapes and

number bonds to 5 and 10. It has been a lot of fun using games, numicon, unifix cubes, and ICT games to help us understand Maths in real life. One of our highlights, has been our local river walk which we did as part of forest school. After carefully walking to the local park, we observed the river and wildlife, ticking off what we saw on a checklist. We also had some great fun playing in the playground!

Happy Easter all from Sapphire class!



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On the look-out for some delicious breakfast granolas and protein balls? New local business, Anastasia's Pantry, has recently moved to the area and looking to get the word out about her healthy handmade, award-winning products. The sole female founder started the business after she shed 28kgs on a weight loss journey and wants to clear the bad reputation that granola has. You might notice them at Orpington market, samplings in the local train stations and gyms. To get yourself some 5-star vegan, gluten-free and nutty granola use code MARYCRAY for 15% off your first purchase on

www.anastasiaspantry.co.uk. Be sure to check out their live Crowdfunder if you want to support a local venture! <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/expansion-of-anastasias-pantry-granola-company>

Topaz Class



Spring 2 has been another busy half term in Topaz class. The children have been working hard in phonics,

ST GEORGE'S DAY

St George's Day
24th April 2023

Sausage & Mash
Quorn Sausage & Mash
Peas & Carrots
Treacle Sponge & Custard

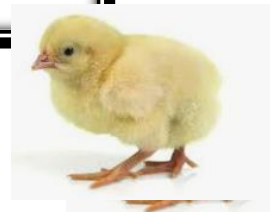


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in preparation for their screening check in June. They performed their first assembly to parents that was all about phonics and they all did an amazing job. In English there has been a big focus on handwriting and writing sentences with conjunctions. In maths the children have been using a range of manipulatives to solve problems with numbers to 50. In PSHE and DT the children have been learning about being healthy and staying safe whilst preparing food. The children had fun learning how to peel and grate carrots in preparation for making a carrot and sultana salad.

All the children had a taste and most of them liked it! In science we have been learning about deciduous and evergreen trees, their functions and what happens to deciduous trees without their leaves. The children have continued to enjoy going to Forest school and having the freedom to explore.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter break, have fun and be safe!

Miss Mills and the Y1 team

Onyx Class

Year 2 have been learning about a range of interesting topics this half term, in and outside of the classroom! We had the amazing opportunity to use our Forest School every Tuesday again this term and even got to go on a trip to the Hemsley Conservation Centre. In English we have been focusing on poetry and our latest story *The Pirates Next Door*, using our imagination to change features of the story to make it our own. In Maths we have been focusing on different forms of measure and looking at how we compare these. Backtracking to last

term's History topic 'The Great Fire of London', we had the opportunity to burn our houses down in a safe environment. Moving on from History, this term we focused on Geography; looking at settlements and comparing the differences between villages, towns and cities. In Science we explored different plants, researched what each part of the plant does and even got to dissect a bean seed and bulb to see what goes on inside them. We all worked together to make our new sunflower display and even got to plant our own sunflowers to take home. In Religious Education



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we focused on the Christian story of Easter and understood why we celebrate it with hot-cross buns and Easter eggs. PSHE allowed us to discuss why it is important to be healthy and got us thinking what can we change in our lifestyle to make sure we are being healthy. Finally in DT we got to understand how moving pictures are made

and why they may be used in specific stories, we even got to make our own moving picture book. We had the greatest opportunity in Onyx class to watch over 8 little eggs and see how they grew into healthy fluffy chicks and of course we had many cuddles!

Opal and Pearl Class

This half term we have welcomed Miss Rae to Pearl Class who has settled in wonderfully and has already a great rapport with the children of both classes. We have had so much fun with our learning this half-term from learning cricket with a coach, who taught us the key skills for our PE Immersion Day Match, to our trip to the Natural

History Museum which was so much fun. The Summer Term will be filled with more fun learning activities and we cannot wait to get started. However, in the meantime, please enjoy a well-deserved break.

Ms Martins and Miss Rae



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Diamond Class

In English, the children have been reading 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane.' This story had a great impact on the children, and it is a book they will remember for a long time. They wrote letters and newspapers, which helped them to develop their writing skills. In Maths, the children have been learning about measurements, particularly perimeter. We then moved on to fractions, where we used the bar model to help find fractions of amounts. Geography has made a return to our learning. We have been learning about erosions and the coast. To demonstrate how erosion affects the coasts, the children created their own islands using corn starch. In Music, we focused on pulse and rhythm. The children were able to develop their understanding of musical concepts while having fun. In Computing, we have been using Edublogs and learning some touch typing. This has helped to develop the children's

computer skills. In PE, the children enjoyed learning about cricket. They were able to learn new skills and develop their teamwork. In RE, we have been learning about the Christian faith, particularly Easter. This has helped the children to understand the importance of this religious celebration. Lastly, children are being encouraged to practice their times tables, as Year 4 is the Multiplication tables check year. This will help to develop their maths skills and prepare them for the upcoming test.



Emerald Class

Emerald class have worked incredibly hard this half term. In maths, children have embraced the challenge of fractions, demonstrating our school values of resilience and collaboration daily in working together to solve complex problems. We have been reading *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz in English, a spy thriller that has kept us on the edge of our seats! We have been inspired to write a diary entry in character, a non-chronological report explaining the use of different spy gadgets, and a balanced argument about whether or not children should be allowed to work as MI6 spies. In their science lessons, children have been testing the viscosity of various

condiments, investigating which solids will dissolve in water, and exploring methods of purifying flood water. To coincide with Easter, children have explored the events of Holy Week in detail, eventually engaging in a respectful debate discussing whether the events of Holy Week were predestined. Emerald class have also embraced cricket in their PE lessons this half term, demonstrating fabulous teamwork and sportsmanship on a weekly basis. We would like to wish everyone a very relaxing half term break and a very happy Easter to those who celebrate! Miss Hillier, Mrs DeCastro and Miss Hawkins.



Ruby Class

In our final half term before SATs, the children have been continuing their outstanding effort in their learning. In Science we have been conducting experiments involving light, with the children having the opportunity to create their own experiments. In Music we took inspiration from Brazil as all children learned how to play instruments seen in a Samba band. In computing we have looked at the power of the search engine

as well as some tricks that we can do on them to help with any research projects. One of the highlights of this last half term was our trip to The Imperial War Museum, it was a great day in which the children learned about many aspects of war throughout British History and into the modern day. All of us in Year 6 wish you a wonderful break and we will see you in the Summer term.



Limited time offer – get FREE lifetime membership to FiveDinners.com!

We know how hard times are at the moment so the folks at FiveDinners.com – online meal planning service - have decided to give away FREE lifetime memberships to try and help you save money on food shopping and reduce the mental load of deciding what to eat every night. There's no catch or restrictions, simply full access to our meal plans to make your dinnertimes a little easier and cheaper. FiveDinners.com is an online meal planning service co-founded by author and TV chef Theo Michaels.

To help with the cost of living crisis so many families and individuals are facing Theo has decided to offer their meal planning service for **FREE** (usually £49.99 per year); every week they publish a new meal plan with an automatically generated shopping list; set to your serving size so you know exactly what you need for the week ahead. It saves you time, money on food shopping and ultimately takes away the headache of deciding what to cook every night. You can even create and save your own meal plans choosing from hundreds of recipes.

Simply head to <https://FiveDinners.com> and click green Join button now

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Omega Sportz Easter Activity Camp

@ Leeson's Primary School,
Leeson's Hill, Orpington,
Kent, BR5 2GA



Ages 5-12

9.00 – 13.00

3rd April - 6th April

Activities include:

- Ball Sports
- Bouncy Castle
- Team Games
- Dance
- Science Experiments
- Arts & Craft
- Circus Workshops

And sooo MUCH MORE!!!

Free Activities

Free Lunch (Lunch served at
12.00pm daily)

Paid Places Available

**FREE FOR FREE
SCHOOL MEAL
CHILDREN BOOKING
CODE: FSM2023**



Book Here:

Site Phone: (Camp only)

Head Office: 07444592073

www.omegasportz.com

info@omegasportz.com



BYMT EASTER SOUNDS HOLIDAY COURSE

Monday 3rd – Thursday 6th April 9.30am – 1.30pm

Does your child want to learn a musical instrument?

Bromley Youth Music Trust can offer your child a **FREE**
place at its Easter Sounds Holiday Course,
which also includes a hot meal.

Choose from:

BAND ON THE RUN

BEGINNERS COURSE – LEARN TO PLAY THE CLARINET, SAXOPHONE,
TRUMPET OR TROMBONE IN A BAND

STRINGS ON THE RUN

BEGINNERS COURSE – LEARN TO PLAY THE VIOLIN OR CELLO IN AN ORCHESTRA

PERCUSSION ON THE RUN

BEGINNERS COURSE – LEARN TO PLAY DJEMBE DRUMS & ORCHESTRAL PERCUSSION

KEYBOARD & UKULELE ON THE RUN

BEGINNERS COURSE – LEARN TO PLAY THE KEYBOARD AND UKULELE

To apply, please use this link or QR Code
<https://tinyurl.com/96h6txa9>



If you have any questions, or would
like to apply over the phone, please
ring 020 8467 1566 between
9am-8pm, Monday-Friday.

This extended holiday course offer is open to children Y3-Y7 who
receive Pupil Premium Funding or have refugee status. For further
advise about eligibility please check with your child's school or ring
Bromley Youth Music Trust.



bymt.co.uk
BROMLEY YOUTH MUSIC TRUST,
SOUTHBOROUGH LANE BROMLEY, BR2 8AA
0208 467 1566



A Spring

020 3

A Company



St Mary Cray Primary Academy

Spring Term 2

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Clubs for Next Term

Please see below the most up-to-date list of clubs available to book for next term:

CLUBS FOR SUMMER TERM 2023					
CLUB		WHEN?	OPEN TO	PRICE	BOOK VIA
MONDAY					
DANCE CLUB From 24 April		LUNCHTIME	ALL	FREE	PARENTPAY
LEGO CLUB From 17 April		AFTER SCHOOL	ALL	£3.99 PER SESSION	WEBSITE KIDSWITHBRICKS.COM
TUESDAY					
ART CLUB From 18 April		AFTER SCHOOL	YEARS 1 - 5	£3.99 PER SESSION	WEBSITE ARTIKIDS.CO.UK
11+ CLUB From 25 April		AFTER SCHOOL	YEAR 5	FREE	PARENTPAY
SCRATCH CODING CLUB From 25 April		AFTER SCHOOL	YEARS 3 - 6	FREE	PARENTPAY
CHOIR CLUB From 25 April		AFTER SCHOOL	YEARS 2 - 6	FREE	PARENTPAY
WEDNESDAY					
CHESS CLUB From 26 April		LUNCHTIME	YEARS 3 - 6	FREE	PARENTPAY
MINECRAFT CLUB From 19 April		AFTER SCHOOL	YEARS 3 - 6	£3.99 PER SESSION	WEBSITE MILITTLEPAD.COM
THURSDAY					
SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB From 27 April		LUNCHTIME	YEARS 3 - 6	FREE	PARENTPAY
GIRLS' FOOTBALL CLUB From 27 April		AFTER SCHOOL	YEARS 3 - 6	FREE	PARENTPAY
ROUNDERS CLUB From 27 April		AFTER SCHOOL	YEARS 3 - 6	FREE	PARENTPAY
FRIDAY					
BOOK CLUB From 28 April		LUNCHTIME	YEARS 1 - 4	FREE	PARENTPAY
DEBATE CLUB From 28 April		AFTER SCHOOL	YEARS 3 - 6	FREE	PARENTPAY

