

News from St Mary's School, Hadleigh



The summer term has been very busy so far at St Mary's! What a fantastic day Year 3 and Year 4 had visiting the Suffolk Farm and Country Fair at Trinity park. We had a chance to see the animals from the show and the live stocks, which was very cute. We looked around the wildlife and food tents...and so much more! We were lucky to have sunshine on our side. All our children were inquisitive, respectful and engaged; representing St Marys School brilliantly.



After our trip to the Schools farm and country fair Year 3 and 4 were given 5 trees. 1 Maple, 2 Birch and 2 Alder. The school council helped to plant them in the corner of the school field. They did a brilliant job and we're really looking forward to watching them grow!



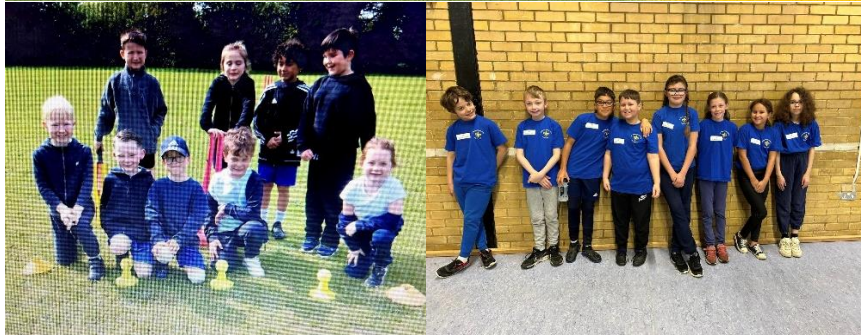
St. Mary's school received an Olympic torch as part of a relay between schools in the St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Diocesan Multi Academy Trust. The children had the opportunity to look at the torch close-up and hold it. They completed lots of work on understanding the values of the Olympic games and Olympian role models. In art lessons, children created their own Olympic torches and painted the Olympic rings. It was an exciting opportunity that inspired us ready for this year's Olympic Games before we passed the torch onto Elmsett School.



Children across the school have had opportunities to take part in various sporting events. We had a great morning at Hadleigh High School for the multi skills event. Year 2 showed super teamwork working in groups with children from other schools. There was a great afternoon at Ipswich sports centre for an U11 netball tournament! We saw lots of encouragement, superb teamwork and, most of all, smiles. The team were awesome! Year 3 took part in a super sunny morning of spectacular tennis skills at the High School. Well done team St Mary's you were a pleasure on and off court.

Well done to Year 5, who showed off their athletic skills at Hadleigh High School. Some of our Year 1 and Year 2 children attended an 'All Stars' cricket event at Ransomes Sports ground. The sun came out for us and they played 7 rounds of rapid-fire cricket. There was a lot of fun, teamwork, great batting and super fielding! Well done team St Mary's!





Year 4 made some delicious pizzas in Design and Technology. Their brief was to create healthy versions of this popular food that would tempt people to eat more vegetables. They did such a good job that not all of the pizzas made it home! They had made their own tomato sauce (no salt or sugar but lots of garlic, basil and marjoram) and the scent of that was so delicious it set everyone's tummies rumbling. The children also made one Mr Frolish and Mr Hall!





Year 3 have had great fun designing, making and eating healthy sandwiches. We have tasted different ingredients, after this research the children designed a healthy and delicious sandwich. The children used knives to cut and spread, and they chose their own fillings. We had some very interesting combinations!!

Year 5 had a very different experience in their English lessons this term. The children have been working on a piece of poetry for a national competition and it also included two art projects to help inspire them. The theme was 'Once upon a dream...'
So, we closed the blinds, turned off the lights, put on some dreamy music and used the dream jars they had made to light up the classroom and inspire their writing.



A few months ago, awful flooding destroyed the Deanery Forest School site but Tranquil Tooke and River Rose have worked hard to re-establish the boundaries, tidy the area, making it easy to get around and set up a brand new, purpose-built tool area so we can teach the children more practical skills at Forest School. Running two forest school sites is a huge amount of work, but when you see what the children get out of it, you know it's worth it!



Recently, at Forest School, we have been learning about oak galls and how they are used to make ink. We used hammers to crush them into small pieces, ready for ink production! As always, we have had huge amounts of fun, developing our physical skills, whilst balancing and swinging with our friends too!



Year 1 are looking forward to their trip to Hedingham Castle. They have been very enterprising and have been thinking of ideas to raise money towards the trip. The children decided to have their very own Bazaar after School! They sold handmade arts and crafts and bracelets and donated their own teddies to sell for bargain prices! Lovely teams of Year 6 children generously gave up their lunchtimes to help our younger children make the bracelets to sell. Also, with some fantastic Forest School creativity, the Year 1 children created beautiful real flower/leaf printed pencil cases. The children also did counting activities in maths with coins that were donated. Thanks to everyone's amazing generosity they had to count up very BIG numbers indeed. Well done to our Year 1 Maths teams, fantastic "real life" mathematical discussions and counting in 2s 5s and 10s. Well over £40 was raised towards our school trip – thank you to all those who donated.



We are so proud of the Year 6 children who approached their SATs with determination and courage. We have enjoyed the return of SATs breakfast club. The rain stopped some of the outdoor activities, but we relaxed in the nursery setting, playing card games and screwball scramble and busily making clay bead bracelets. Thank you to all the staff who helped out and popped along before school to encourage and support. Also, a huge thank you to Friends of St Mary's for funding the breakfast treats.



Year 6 are learning about 'The Art of Being Human' in science this term. They began their learning by investigating the components of blood, spending the afternoon producing a bottle of blood using various food items. They have also painted blood cells and produced model clay hearts to support their learning about the human heart in science.



We were delighted to offer arts and crafts at the Hadleigh Show again in May. It was great to see so many familiar faces as well as some new faces in the tent. Thank you to those who popped by. Children had the chance to make wildlife masks and special Forest School medals. Luckily, we had the sunshine on our side too!



We have been very lucky to welcome a visit from Naomi Munuo, an artist who met the children to launch an art competition. She shared some of her fantastic artwork with us and talked about how important creating art is for all of us for so many different reasons. The children all listened brilliantly and asked some excellent questions. Later this term, there will be an Art Exhibition where all the children's work will be displayed. A huge thank you to Naomi for talking to us and inspiring our art work.



All the pupils in KS2 participated in the Annual Spring Slam event over the course of April/May. This involved 4 knock-out rounds of increasingly difficult times tables questions leading to Round 1 of the Grand Final for 14 children from Year 3 to Year 6. Round 2 of the Grand Final resulted in 6 runners up and the lower KS2 and upper KS2 Grand Slam Champions for 2024! The children were all magnificent and many congratulations to our winners – you are terrific times tables champions!

