

Welcome

from your Co Headteachers,

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last eight weeks have certainly flown by and here are now at the end of what has been an incredibly busy half term. We have already fitted in so much, from welcoming our new reception children to school trips, guest visitors, iShare themes and sporting fixtures.

This week has been no exception, Year 4 have been busy writing heartfelt poems titled "I Miss You," practising their timetables, and preparing for end-of-term topic quizzes. Meanwhile, Year 3 has been exploring plants in science, crafting clay birds in art, mastering column addition and subtraction in maths, as well as writing persuasive letters to Prince William about protecting the environment. Year 2 have created informative leaflets about why to visit Windsor Castle, as well as learning to add three one-digit numbers together in maths. Over in Year 1, children have enjoyed writing postcards, inspired by their class text "Get Off That Camel."

Some classes have celebrated the fantastic achievement of earning 50 class treat tokens! Collecting these tokens is all about the children working together as a team to show kindness, follow class rules, and help each other. Every time the class reaches a new goal, they get a special reward to enjoy together. Some of the fun treats have included free play, film afternoon and coming to school in their cosy pyjamas for a PJ day. Children are really motivated and encouraged to celebrate their hard work and see how teamwork really pays off!

Excellence Award:

One Monday we had the privilege of inviting Mr Aldridge, CEO of Instanter Learning Trust, to join us to present seven students with the Excellence Award for this half of term. This special award is given to children who always try their best, show a great attitude, and work hard in everything they do. It could be for making big improvements in their work, being kind and helpful to others, or showing strength and determination when things are tough. The award celebrates those who always aim to be the best version of themselves.

It's not just about getting top marks, but about showing a positive attitude, working hard, and being a great friend and classmate. The Excellence Award encourages all children to do their best and be proud of their achievements!

Our excellence award winners were:

Reception: Bay
Year 1: Tyler
Year 2: Patrick
Year 3: Evie
Year 4: Malachi
Year 5: Mila
Year 6: Fleur



Welcome

from your co Headteachers,

Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby competition:

In other news, the Year 6 tag rugby team competed in the borough tag rugby tournament. Defensively the team were fantastic they didn't offer much up to the opposition. Our running game was very effective and they scored some great team and individual tries on the day. The team won two games, drew two and lost two, resulting in us not progressing, however there were lots of fun to be had and some great learning opportunities. Well done team!



Fencing:

We wanted to inform you about some important improvements we are making to the school's privacy fencing. Recently, we noticed that the existing fencing had become quite tired and run down, with some gaps forming over time. After careful consideration, we recognised these gaps as a potential safeguarding risk and decided to remove the fence.

As a result, we are taking proactive steps to replace and improve the fencing to ensure the safety and privacy of all our children. The new fencing will help maintain a secure environment and protect the children while they are at school. In the meantime, we think it's important of teaching our children about stranger danger and we have encouraged them not to talk to pedestrians. All staff are proactive on duty and the site is surrounded by CCTV which adds additional security to the playground.

When we return after half term the clocks will have gone back, the nights will be darker earlier and that means that Fireworks and Christmas are on their way! The next half term is always busy and exciting (especially as we get closer to Christmas and the children get so excited). Please make sure you keep a close eye on our calendar of events as there is so much happening, from the Year 6 Christmas Fair, Christmas Jumper Day, Nativity performances, Christmas lunches, Christmas parties and our Christmas Service in Church.



From both of us, enjoy this next week - I know the staff and children are ready for some downtime and living life at a slower pace whilst they recharge their batteries.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 4th November at 8.35am.

Every blessing,

Mrs. Woodier and Mrs. Wayland



NEWS from year 6

Mrs Rowlandson writes..

As usual, it's been a busy few weeks for Year 6! In English, we created word clouds to convey the mood of a setting (Little Weirwood or London) from the book: 'Goodnight Mr Tom'. We then used this vocabulary to write descriptive sentences including figurative language. Additionally, we watched the film, which we found quite emotional, and wrote a comparison between this and the book. In maths, we have been revising factors, multiples, prime numbers and square/cube numbers, applying this knowledge to reason mathematically as well as learning about working in a systematic order.



In science, we learnt all about the structure of the heart and how this enables blood to be directed to the lungs or the rest of the body. We learnt that arteries carry blood away from the heart and veins carry blood into the heart. We were interested to find out why scientific diagrams depict blood as red and blue in diagrams, and now know that this is to show the oxygenated/deoxygenated blood. An experiment was conducted to discover how exercise affects our pulse rate; we calculated the mean average before plotting our results on a scatter graph and identifying any anomalies. Finally, we created posters depicting the short and long term affects of harmful drugs to discourage teenagers from using them, as well as recognising that there are some beneficial drugs (such as medicine) which can help us, and some drugs (such as caffeine) that are okay in moderation. This lesson brought up some very good discussion points in relation to energy drinks and vaping, equipping us with the knowledge to make good choices to keep ourselves healthy in the future. We ended our science topic with a 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire?' style quiz but unfortunately only made it to Q12 before losing all of our money on a tricky question!

To continue with our WW2 theme in history, we learnt what rationing was and compared wartime food to today's. We found it surprising that children had to swap ice-lollies for frozen carrot sticks, as sugar was in short supply, and that some children grew up in the 1940s never having seen a banana! Whilst completing our work, Mrs Rowlandson gave us carrots on sticks to eat (see photo)! In music, we learnt why wartime songs were so important during WW2 and can now name three different songs that were used to boost morale. We focused on the nation's sweetheart, Vera Lynn, and her two iconic songs: "We'll Meet Again" and "White Cliffs of Dover". Thursday last week was a particularly exciting day for us as we had a whole day of DT! All of our planning and preparation paid off resulting in high-quality educational models being made of our Victory Gardens that we are extremely proud of (see photos). Please do pop into the Year 6 classroom, at the end of the day, to see them! In dance, we continued to be inspired by the techniques of the dance company: 'Balletboyz'. We put all of our newly-learnt skills into practice by putting together a showcase dance piece depicting a war scene.

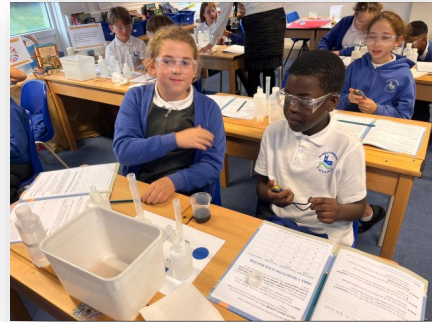


In computing, we learnt how to work collaboratively on a shared document and deciding what should/should not be shared online in relation to public and private communication. In RE, we learnt what Christians believe happens to us when we die whilst also expressing our own beliefs about this. Some of us chose to create a piece of artwork, whilst others chose to write poems or letters to loved ones describing what was happening. We had fun in our French lessons learning how to express actions that we might do around the town, such as praying in a church or mosque, or taking a train at a train station. We devised fun actions to help us remember the key vocabulary - ask us at home what 'taking a walk in the park' and 'buying' is in French (these were our favourite actions to do!).



NEWS from year 5

Mr Burkey Writes...



This half term, our writing topic focused on the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons, with *How to Train Your Dragon* as our Power of Reading novel. The children produced three impressive pieces of writing: a vivid description of a Viking Island, detailed instructions on how to catch a dragon, and informative booklets about dragons. Their writing was thoughtful, creative, and demonstrated a strong understanding of the themes we covered. Many children really excelled in using descriptive language and structuring their work effectively.

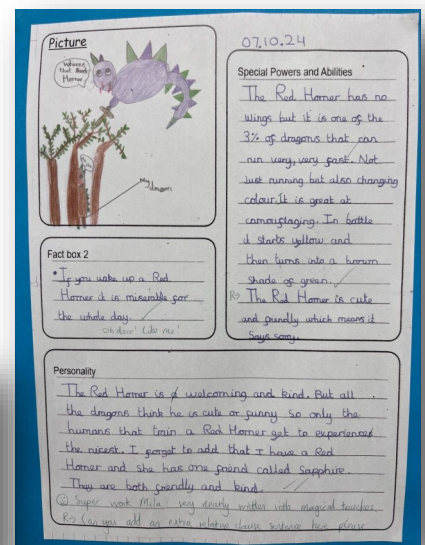
In maths, the children explored place value, different ways to partition numbers, rounding, Roman numerals, and both mental and column methods for addition and subtraction. They applied these skills to tackle tricky, multi-step word problems. The class showed excellent progress, with many confidently solving complex problems and demonstrating a solid understanding of how to apply what they had learned in a range of real-life contexts.

In topic, we've been very busy. Our history lessons explored the fascinating period after the Romans left Britain, when the Anglo-Saxons took control and established seven different kingdoms. We also studied the Viking invasions, focusing on the famous raid at Lindisfarne and the subsequent battles between the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons, and learned about key historical figures, such as Alfred the Great and King Cnut.

In science, we learned about sexual and asexual reproduction in plants, studied metamorphosis, compared the life cycles of different animals and found out about the work of Jane Goodall and her ground-breaking research on primates. We also enjoyed two visits from Dr Puljic and Mr Jimenez from Hampton School which focused on chemical reactions and observing change.

In RE, we explored the miracles of Jesus and how they revealed both his human and divine nature. The children discussed the stories of Jesus feeding the 5,000, raising Lazarus from the dead, the wedding at Cana, the healing of the woman who touched his garment, and the miraculous healing of the paralyzed man.

French revolved around conversations on the topic of 'getting to know you': introducing ourselves, our hobbies, families etc. Our computing topic was search engines and how they rank results. Music focussed on melody and harmony whilst PSHE looked at rules in society and helping each other to achieve. Finally, in DT we designed our longships ready to make next half term and PE the children enjoyed their first few weeks of swimming lessons. All in all, a very busy time!



whole school iShare Buddy activity:

This half term our collective worship has been based on 'Belonging together' .

- We are all part of different communities – school, church, clubs, our family – and God gives us each other to support and look after
- We can help shape our communities by encouraging each other, being kind and helpful
- God has given us people in our lives to be together with and is good to build friendships with each other
- Togetherness is shown with shared expectations and routines, which are like the glue that holds us together.



it

Our bible verse is: Let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds. **Let us encourage one another.** Hebrews 10 vv24-25

On Tuesday we partnered older and younger year groups together to complete an iShare buddy activity. Children were reminded that they are all part of our school community. We encourage children to decorate their domino to show what our school community means to them, and what special things they bring to it.

Children should retain the same buddy as they journey through school. Going forward the paired classes will meet together each half term to enjoy an iShare Buddies activity, based on our iShare Learning worship themes. This is an excellent opportunity for the older children to act as mentors and teachers to the younger ones.



Healthy eating

Morning Snacks

We would like to remind you that children may only bring healthy snacks in for breaktime. Ideally this would be unprocessed food e.g. fresh fruit, sultanas, vegetables - no nuts please due to allergies. If this is not possible simple premade snacks such as plain breadsticks, plain rice cakes, small portion of plain cereal (not chocolate, sugar or honey based/coated) would be acceptable.

Please remind any children who bring packed lunches that food packed for lunch cannot be eaten at breaktime They can take their healthy morning snack from their lunchbox, if that is where you pack it, but please make sure that they are clear which items are for snack and which are lunch.

Packed Lunches

We would like packed lunches to be healthy too, whenever possible. Most of our children have a well-balanced packed lunch. Some cause us concern when they have too many items that are high in fats, sugars and salts. If we are aware that a child is often bringing a poorly balanced lunchbox we may speak to you to discuss the matter. A healthy lunch sets children up for their afternoon of learning and play and provides a slow release of energy throughout the afternoon that aids concentration.



School Dinners

All children at St Mary's Hampton are entitled to free school meals from reception to year 6 all made fresh each day, from our kitchen.

Useful Links

Here is a link to the [NHS Healthier Families - Lunchboxes](#) that may give you some ideas for 'swaps' you may be able to make. This website will also tell you the recommended daily intakes for nutrition and has a link to the NHS Food Scanner app that you can use in the supermarket [Food Scanner](#). This link will take you to [BBC Tiny Happy People - Ultra Processed Food](#) which will give you a bit more information on current thinking on ultra processed foods for children.

Library reopening

Our Librarians Write..

We are thrilled to be reopening our library after half term. We have been fortunate in receiving lovely new books from parents and friends including fiction books. The library contains a whole range of exciting information books.

Here is our list of volunteers:

Tuesday: Maureen Bulford and Mary Collins

Wednesday: Francesca Bello

Thursday : Vera Macrae

We look forward to meeting all the children.



Reminders...



Date	Event
28th October—1st November	Half Term
Tuesday 12th November at 2.30pm	Year 6 Class Assembly
Wednesday 20th and 21st November	Whole school Parents Evenings
Friday 22nd November	Inset Day
Tuesday 12th November at 2.30pm	Year 6 Class Assembly
Friday 15th November	Children in need (wear something spotty)
Tuesday 26th November at 9.15am—10am	New Reception 2025 Stay and Play
Thursday 28th and Friday 29th November at 9am	New Reception open morning (2025 intake)
Saturday 30th November	St Mary's Christmas Fair 2pm—5pm
Thursday 5th December at 9.10am	EYFS, Year 1 and 2 Nativity
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day
Friday 13th December at 2.30pm	Rock steady concert
Friday 20th December	Christmas Church Service
Each Friday morning at 8.45am (MTV Hampton)	Parents prayer group



Safeguarding

The safety and well-being of our pupils is the responsibility of every staff member at St Mary's. Regular training is provided to all of our staff to ensure they are able to act swiftly, effectively and compassionately should they be made aware of a safeguarding concern. This academic year, the safeguarding team is:



Online Safety Updates:

eSafety Updates for Parents

We want to share some key eSafety reminders to help keep our children safe while they enjoy the online world over half term:



Safe Social Media Use: While most social media platforms are designed for older children, we know some primary children might still be curious. Please remind your child not to share personal information or talk to people they don't know online, and make sure they use age-appropriate apps.

Balanced Screen Time: It's important for children to balance screen time with other activities like reading, playing outside, and spending time with family. Setting screen time limits can help keep their online use in check.

Gaming Safety: Many children love online games! Please ensure your child is only playing games suitable for their age and remind them not to share personal information while gaming. If they ever see or hear something that worries them, encourage them to tell an adult.

Passwords and Security: Help your child create strong, secure passwords and remind them not to share their passwords, even with friends. Using safety features like two-factor authentication can provide extra protection.

Talk About Online Experiences: Keep the conversation open about your child's time online. Let them know they can always talk to you if they see or hear something online that makes them feel uncomfortable or confused.

By staying involved and having regular chats with our children, we can help make sure they stay safe and happy online. Thank you for your continued support!



Writer's Corner

Final reminder

We have already had so many entries for the BBC 500 word competition, which we have loved reading. It's still not too late to enter.

Arts Richmond young Writers

This competition is a chance for our pupils to demonstrate their writing skills. **This year the festival will be based on the theme of "Changes"** Entries are judged in four age groups with prizes for all winning entries. All shortlisted entrants will be invited to a gala awards event at prestigious venue.

We will spend some time writing our pieces in class. However, if you would like to plan some ideas with your children to scaffold their thoughts ready for writing, this is warmly welcomed.

Entries will be judged in the following categories:

- School Years 4 and under
- School Years 5 and 6

BBC 500 Words

For this competition there are two age categories: **5-7 and 8-11 year-olds**. All children need to do is write a story they would love to read in 500 Words or less.

We would love children of all abilities to enter therefore, **spelling, punctuation and grammar** are not marked - it's all about creativity!

50 finalists will be invited to go to a glamorous grand final at Buckingham Palace in February next year, where the bronze, silver and gold winners in each category will have their stories read out by celebrities.

There are also lots of prizes to be won - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners also win 500 books for their school library.

If the children would like to submit a story, they can either hand write it and bring it in to school or type it and email it to admin@stmaryshampton.school.org.uk, marked for the attention of Mrs. Wayland. The deadline is **Monday 4th November**.

Please take a look at the website if you need any further information: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/articles/zctk7v4>



Half term Autumn family fun:

National Trust things to do before you're 11¾

Autumn is full of opportunities for outdoor adventures, such as splashing in puddles and collecting champion conkers. Here are the top challenges in our '50 things to do before you're 11¾' list to tick off this season. Take a look at the National Trust website for some brilliant family autumn activities that you can do for free this half term.

We can't help to hear all about your adventures.

Website: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/50-things>



50
things to do
before you're
11¾

How many have you done?

We've been working closely with kids just like you to put together this list of the best things to do before you're 11¾. (Although lots of them are still great fun even when you're 81¾.) You'll find fun things to do for every kind of outside place, from mountains to sea, forests to fields. So what are you waiting for? Get out there and see how many you can do!



1. Get to know a tree



2. Roll down a really big hill



3. Camp outdoors



4. Build a den



5. Skim a stone



6. Go welly wandering



7. Fly a kite



8. Spot a fish



9. Eat a picnic in the wild



10. Play conkers



11. Explore on wheels



12. Have fun with sticks



13. Make a mud creation



14. Dam a stream



15. Go on a wintry adventure



16. Wear a wild crown



17. Set up a snail race



18. Create some wild art



19. Play pooh sticks



20. Go paddling



21. Forage for wild food



22. Find some funky fungi



23. Get up for the sunrise



24. Go barefoot



25. Join nature's band



26. Hunt for fossils and bones



27. Go stargazing



28. Climb a huge hill



29. Explore a cave



30. Go on a scavenger hunt



31. Make friends with a bug



32. Float in a boat



33. Go cloud watching



34. Discover wild animal clues



35. Discover what's in a pond



36. Make a home for wildlife



37. Explore the wonders of a rock pool



38. Bring up a butterfly



39. Catch a crab



40. Go on a nature walk at night



41. Help a plant grow



42. Go swimming in the sea



43. Help a wild animal



44. Watch a bird



45. Find your way with a map



46. Clamber over rocks



47. Cook on a camp fire



48. Keep a nature diary



49. Watch the sunset



50. Take a friend on a nature adventure



Adverts



LIGHT PARTY

A positive alternative to Halloween

FOR CHILDREN
AGED 4-11

**Thursday
31 October
4pm - 5.30pm**

**St Mary's Church
Thames Street
Hampton
TW12 2EB**

For more information contact Sahar:
sahar@hampton-church.org.uk

Book your child's place at
hampton-church.org.uk/lightparty

Come wearing your brightest clothes!
Join us for games, crafts, songs, story and snacks.



Adverts



ST MARY'S HAMPTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

RECEPTION 2025 OPEN MORNINGS

Thursday 10th October
Friday 11th October

Thursday 24th October
Friday 25th October

Thursday 28th November
Friday 29th November

Join us from **9am** for a talk and tour

Please contact the school office to book your place

Flourishing through faith, hope and love

 admin@stmaryshampton.school.org.uk  020 8979 5102



Adverts



Halliford School
SHEPPERTON

Independent Senior Day School
Boys 11–18 years • Girls 16–18 years

Visitor Mornings
Thursday 7th November 2024 9am–11am
Tuesday 12th November 2024 9am–11am

Personal Tours
Available throughout the year

- Small class sizes for personalised attention
- Dedicated teaching staff committed to each student's success
- Wide range of co-curricular activities to suit all skills and interests
- Extensive coach service and short walk from Shepperton Station
- Shuttle services from Walton-on-Thames and Staines Stations



Book your visit here:
THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE



Come as you are. Go as all you can be.



Our theme is Light!

Tuesday 29 October
10:30am -12:00pm

Come on over and join the fun celebrating Light making Chinese lanterns, sun, moon, and stars, and junk modelling

Will you win at our raffle...

Hampton Methodist Church Hall, Percy Road, Hampton
messy@hamptonmissionpartnership.org.uk



Join in the fun - no need to book - it's free!



Adverts

October Half Term WHAT'S ON

MON 28
-
WED 30

FOOTBALL CAMP

St James Primary School



MON 28



BEE'S ACTIVITIES DAY - FOOTBALL/DANCE/GYM

Gunnersbury Park

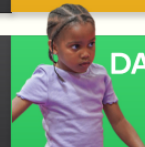
THU 31

HALLOWEEN MULTISPORT CAMP

Hazelwood Centre



WED 30
-
FRI 1



DANCE & GYMNASTICS CAMP

Gunnersbury Park



Book now!



50% OFF FIRST SEASON MEMBERSHIP FOR NEW PLAYERS

SUNBURY & WALTON HAWKS HOCKEY CLUB

We're looking for new players
across all age groups.
Join us at our training sessions
from September:

U8 & U10 Boys & Girls: Sundays 9-10:30am

U12 Boys & Girls: Thursdays 6-8pm

U14 Boys & Girls: Tuesdays 6-8pm

U16 & U18 Girls: Wednesdays 8-10pm

U16 & U18 Boys: Thursdays 7:30-9pm

new players may want to attend a younger aged session



St. Paul's Catholic College
Manor Lane
Sunbury-on-Thames
TW16 6JE



Contact Mark for more info:
headjuniorhockey@swhawks.com



NETBALL
COACH
UK

RICHMOND NETBALL CAMP



Open to players
of all abilities



Qualified
coaches



Fun and
friendly



Outdoor
venue

*Guest coaching from former England
player & current London Pulse U23
Assistant Coach Lindsay Keable

24TH & 25TH OCTOBER
28TH, 29TH*, 30TH OCTOBER

GREY COURT SCHOOL,
HAM STREET,
RICHMOND UPON THAMES,
TW10 7HN

9.00AM - 12NOON
SCHOOL YEARS 3-10

BOOK HERE [↪](#)



www.netballcoachuk.com/camps