

St. Mary's CE Primary School

Head Teacher:

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**Autumn Term**

Half Term:

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

INSET Day:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Last day of Term:

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Spring Term**

INSET Day:

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

First day of Term:

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Half Term:

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

Last day of Term:

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**Summer Term**

First day of Term:

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

Bank Holiday:

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Half Term:

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Last Day of Term:

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

# IN TOUCH



Friday 15th November 2024

Issue 711

**VISION:** Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish  
**MISSION:** Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian Faith  
**VALUES:** COMPASSION - ENDURANCE - THANKFULNESS

On Monday, we marked Armistice or Remembrance Day with a special whole school act of worship. We listened to the Last Post together, kept the two minutes silence and sung our special remembrance song. Finally, we prayed for all of those who have lost their lives in service of our country, as well as their families. During worship, I shared some photographs with the children and asked them if they recognised anyone in particular. In addition to his Majesty, The King (amongst others), it was great to see someone we recognise conducting at The Cenotaph. Director of Music at St. Mary's Church, Richard Quesnel, can be seen below conducting the Choir of His Majesty's Chapel Royal St James's Palace. Richard is also the conductor of the Church Junior Choir who rehearse here at St. Mary's every Tuesday. If you want your child to benefit from singing instruction from one of the very best—don't hesitate to sign your child up. The Junior Choir were in action at the Church on Sunday and made a fantastic contribution to the Remembrance Service there. Well done children!

Year Four have been learning all about the act of Remembrance and have been writing some thoughtful poetry in their English lessons. They followed up the work they have been doing with a trip to The Cenotaph on Thursday morning.

It was great to be able to celebrate meeting our attendance target last half term. As we approach winter there will undoubtedly be more absences due to illness. Please try to avoid missing school for other reasons as far as possible. There have already been a number of requests for leave at the end of the term due to holidays. These will all be unauthorised. When children are absent it causes disruption to the rest of the class as staff have to back track over learning and activities to ensure they have caught up. Please make sure you are not taking holidays during term time.

Thank you for your support for Odd Socks Day. Children across the school have been off timetable today and have been focused on learning about respect which is the theme of this year's Anti-Bullying Week. Please give generously to the Anti-Bullying Alliance when you see the bucket on the gate if you can.

Next week, Yellow Family have their treat on Monday and can come to school in non-uniform. Reverend Helena is in school on Thursday to lead worship and I leave you with a reminder that this month is Cut Your Carbon month. We encourage all of our families to achieve the six challenges that have been set! Fun for all the family!

Mrs Bishop will be writing to you next week as I am on a residential training course at the end of next week. I wish you all a fun and relaxing weekend and will look forward to see you at the usual time on Monday.

Best wishes,  
Cheryl Payne  
Head Teacher



**School Attendance 24-25**

TARGET	97.0%
2023-24	94.8%
Autumn 1	97% (357)
Week Beginning	
04/11	97.3% (33)
11/11	95.2% (48)
18/11	
25/11	
02/12	
09/12	
16/12	
Total:	96.8% (438)



**Family Points**

337      323

333      349