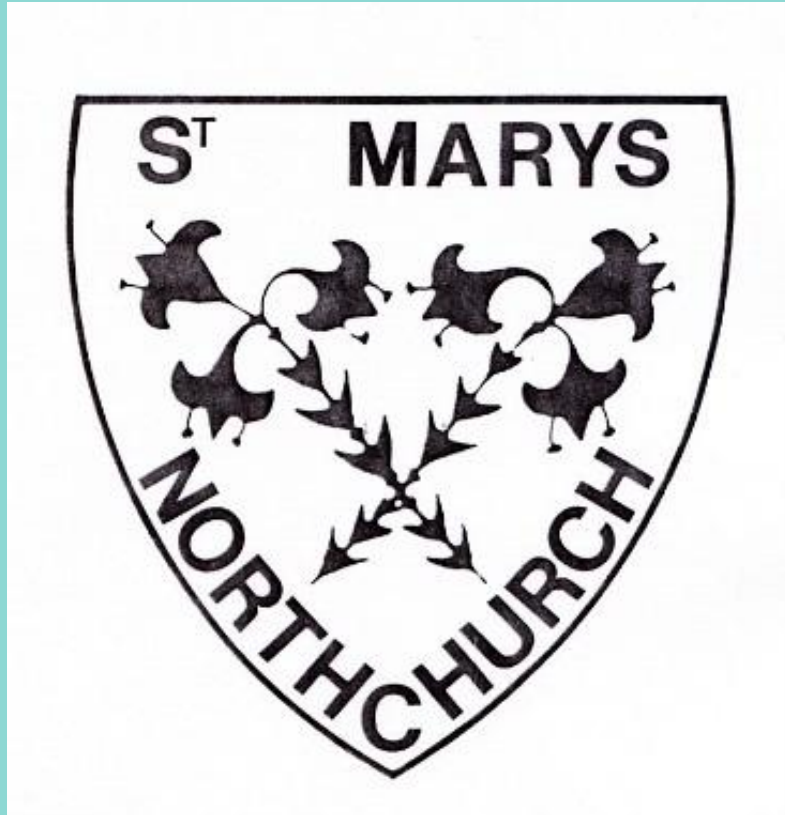




**Shining Brighter
& Brighter**

**Reception
September
2026**

St Mary's CofE
Primary School

Agenda

- Meet the Team
- Timings & Wraparound Care
- Our Timetable
- Uniform
- Communication
- Teaching & Learning
- Forest School
- Visitors
- Parents - Volunteers & Home Learning
- School Readiness
- Dates for your Diary
-



The Team



Reception

- Mrs Bishop – Reception Teacher (Monday-Friday)
- Mrs Fennessy, Miss Davies & Mrs Emery– TAs
- Mrs Hawkes – Reception PPA Teacher (Wed pm)
- Miss Bowers - Reception Teacher (Friday pm)

Nursery

- Mrs. Kirby – Nursery Teacher (Monday-Wednesday am)
 - Miss Bowers - Nursery Teacher (Thursday-Friday am)
- Mrs. Davies & Mrs Honey – TA (Monday-Friday am)

Timings



- Reception starts at 8.50am (doors open 8.40am).
- Drop off is at the EYFS playground gates.
- If you are late, please enter via the school office.
- Reception finishes at 3.20 pm.
- Pick up is at the EYFS playground gates.
- Please inform us of any different collection arrangements in advance or via the office.
- Passwords are required for unfamiliar adults - form.

Wraparound Care



- Breakfast club – 7.45-8.45 am (Contact breakfast.club@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk)
- After school club – 3.20-6pm (Contact afterschool.club@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk)

Timetable



- ☐ Registration
- ☐ Phonics session
- ☐ Child Initiated Learning (CHiL)
- ☐ Snack time (milk – statutory 5 year olds pay)
- ☐ Lunch
- ☐ Maths
- ☐ CHiL
- ☐ Story/Lunch choice

Timetables are produced each term with a Curriculum Leaflet each half term- available on the school website/Tapestry.

Uniform



- Named uniform & school shoes
- Named coat or waterproof
- Named book bag (taken home daily)
- Named water bottles (taken home daily)
- Named wellies/waterproof trousers (at school)
- Spare change of clothes (named bag)
- Secondhand uniform from the GSA - Asher's mum

We will teach the children to look after their belongings at school and to be responsible for them.

Here is the photo I can guarantee you will all take on that big milestone day, your child's first day of school!



Enjoy this pristine look while it lasts...

And here is how it might be by the end of the school day!
You might want consider our second hand uniform.



This is not mess, this is your child learning...

Offending Stain 1



Sand

A team of children invested a long time, digging out these trenches, creating different routes, and were so excited to add water to see the route it took and whether the sides held up.

Skills used: teamwork, communication and language, experimenting, trial and error, gross motor skills.



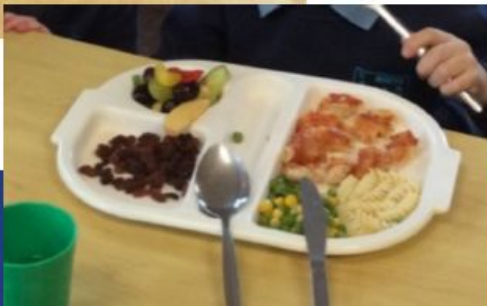
Offending Stain 2



Gravy

This child had roast beef for lunch. From the first day we will be encouraging your child to be self sufficient at meal times. That means carrying their own trays, cutting there own meals and at the end clearing their waste and messy trays. This does result in some accidentally stains.

Skills used: Independence, spacial awareness, controlled fine motor skills, good manners - please and thank yous to our dinner staff.



Offending Stain 3



Grass Stain

Summer term, this is when this stain will start to make an appearance, due to us joining the big children on the field (running/jumping/skipping/falling), sports day, trips, and when we go to forest, we will not be wearing our full water proof kit due to the heat.

Skills used: Important physical development, learning about keeping fit and being healthy, investigating nature and learning how to manage risk taking.



Offending Stain 4

Mud



"Who wouldn't want a 9 tiered birthday cake, made with chocolate layers and sprinkles?!"
Growing our own vegetables and having a potato party for our student teacher.

Skills used: Understanding and respecting our environment, life cycle of plants and nature, exploration and creative thinking, motor skills, social interactions, wellbeing.

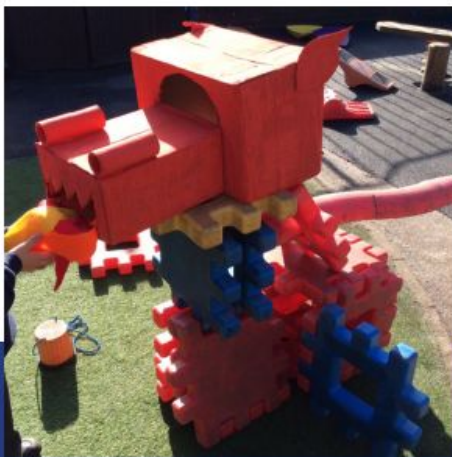
Offending Stain 5



Red Paint

This team of children have been painting a large Welsh Red Dragon head. They were then given access to lots of materials to create a large scale dragon model.

Skills used: learning about a different cultural celebration, teamwork, turn taking, patience waiting for their go, construction, imaginative role play, social skills.



Not a Stain but...

Wet, wet, wet!

We will be outside daily, and in all weathers. We will be playing and experimenting with water, ice, foam, snow, hail, paints, wet chalk and more. Spare clothes are vital, they will be used and wet ones returned.

Please don't say "why are you so dirty/wet?" Instead ask "wow, what have you been learning today?"



Communication



Latest Information

- School Website - Class Page
- School Emails & Newsletters
- Tapestry - Curriculum Letters & Learning
- Class Reps – Asher's Mum

Contact for Absence/Collection Arrangements

- Email and/or phone the school office

Contact Mrs Bishop

- Class email address: reception@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk
- Parents evening twice a year
- End of year report

Teaching & Learning

Areas of Learning and Development			
Prime Areas			
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development	Communication and Language	
• Self- Regulation • Managing Self • Building Relationships	• Gross Motor Skills • Fine Motor Skills	• Listening, Attention and Understanding • Speaking	
Specific Areas			
Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
• Comprehension • Word Reading • Writing	• Number • Numerical Patterns	• Past and Present • People, Culture and Communities • The Natural World	• Creating with Materials • Being Imaginative and Expressive

Forest School



- Mrs Hawkes will take Reception on Wednesday afternoons
- Please could we have: wellies, waterproof trousers, raincoat

Collective Worship

Church Visits

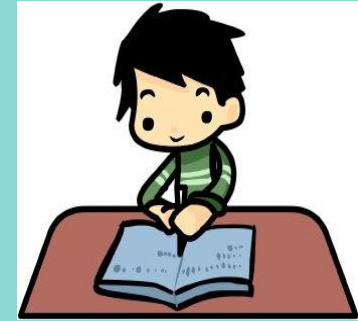


- Keep an eye on the school calendar
- Collective Worship will be once a week

Parents

- Would you like to volunteer? Forest School
- DBS check may be required for some volunteering roles.

Home Learning



- A library book each week
- A reading book (when the children are ready) and a reading record
- Tapestry Videos for phonics

Dates to Look out for...

- Meet the teacher
- Phonics Information Evening



Getting Ready for School

- ▶ Herts have lots of ideas for things to do over the holidays and help your child to get ready for school.



Practise putting your uniform on and taking it off



Practise washing your hands with soap, independently



Practise taking your coat off and putting it back on



Go on a number hunt



Look at the dinner menu on the school website



Practise carrying your food on a plate



Help write a shopping list



Share books with an adult

September....



We are looking forward to welcoming your children into the Foundation stage at St Mary's

- **Thursday 9th July - 9.15am for new to St Mary's & Nursery children to come in as per usual.**

September 2026

- **New to St Mary's - 2.9.25 8:40-11.45 am**
- **All Children - 3.9.25 8:40-11.45 am**
- **All Children - 4.9.25 8.40-12.30pm**
- **All Children - 7.9.25 8.40-3.20pm**
- **Any questions, please ask!**