St Mary Federation Newsletter

Docking

March 2026

Important dates for your diary



Thursday 5th March: World Book Day

WC. 9th March: Science Week

Thursday 12th March: Class Photos

Friday 13th March: Cake sale after school

WC.16th March: Parent consultations

Friday 20th March: Red Nose Day

Monday 23rd March: GenR8 Easter Assembly

Thursday 26th March at 2.40pm: Phonics Screening Check Information session for Y1 parents

Thursday 26th March: BEE Netball Tournament (after school)

Friday 27th March: Easter Service at 2pm led by Plovers

Friday 27th March: Last day of term

Tuesday 14th April: Return to school

We are still awaiting an update re: swimming lessons, as soon as we know, we will notify you of the date that swimming will resume.

Hello from the Head



We hope you and your families had a restful half term break and are looking forward to the exciting learning opportunities ahead. This term will be another busy and rewarding one for our pupils as they continue to grow academically and personally.

We would like to remind all parents and carers to please book a **Parent Consultation appointment**. These meetings are an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements, and identify ways we can support their continued development.

Strong **home–school collaboration** plays a vital role in a child's success. When families and teachers work together, students benefit from consistent support, encouragement, and shared expectations.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to working closely with you throughout the term.

World Book Day

We threw ourselves wholeheartedly into World Book Day, with the whole school focusing on The Wonder by Tom Percival. Each class was gifted a copy during our Book Day Assembly at the start of the morning.



Throughout the day, pupils took part in a wide range of activities inspired by the story. These included the skittle experiment, creating rain on an umbrella, music-inspired art, 3D artwork, and making colourful rainbows.

The day was topped off with each class hosting a Story Café for parents at the end of the day, sharing their learning and creativity.

The following day, classes came back together to present and celebrate everything they had created and discovered.

'Many people, one body, many gifts, working together'

Courageous **Curious** **Confident** **Collaborative** **Compassionate**

Our Value for this Half Term – Confidence

This half term, we will be focusing on our value of **Confidence.**

Confidence means believing in ourselves, trusting the gifts God has given us, and having the courage to try our best—even when something feels new or challenging. When we are confident, we are willing to share our ideas, try new things, and keep going when learning becomes difficult.

Confidence in Action

Our school value of confidence reminds us that we are all unique and capable. The Bible encourages us to be brave and trust that God is with us in everything we do:

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid… for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

When we remember that God is always with us, we can step forward with confidence. Confidence does not mean we never make mistakes—it means we are willing to learn, grow, and keep trying.

At school, confidence might look like:

- Sharing an idea in class
- Trying a new activity
- Asking for help when we need it
- Encouraging others to believe in themselves too

At-home Activity

Confidence Challenge

Together at home, talk about something new you could try this week. It could be learning a new skill, helping with a task around the house, reading something challenging, or trying a new hobby.

Afterwards, talk together about:

- How did it feel to try something new?
- What helped you feel confident?
- How can we remind ourselves that God is with us when we feel unsure?

You might like to write or draw your "confidence moment" and share it with your child's class.

Together, we can help our children grow in confidence, knowing they are valued, capable, and supported every step of the way.

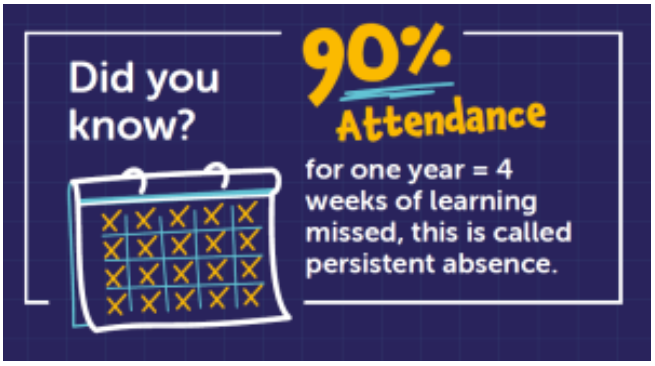


Attendance

98-100%	• Excellent - Children are accessing all learning opportunities
96-97%	• Good - Very few learning opportunities are missed
94-95%	• Risk of underachievement • Up to 10 school days absent in an academic year
92-93%	• High risk of underachievement • Up to 15 school days absent in an academic year
90-92%	• Severe risk of underachievement • Upwards of 22 school days absent in the academic year
< 90%	• Extreme risk of underachievement • Upwards of 22 school days absent in the academic year

February has seen an improvement to our overall school attendance. Well done to the Red Kites for the highest attendance this month, they achieved our target of 96% - well done! There have been a lot of bugs going around and we appreciate that some absences are unavoidable. Please visit **Is my child too ill for school?** for an up to date summary of illnesses and advice. Please also check our website **https://www.stmaryfederation.co.uk/st-mary-federation/term-dates** for term dates and avoid these when booking holidays.

Robins	92.4%
Swifts	94.4%
Plovers	94.8%
Red Kites	96.3%



Governors

We are still recruiting governors!



Do you care about education? If your answer is 'yes', then become a governor.

All schools need committed governors – people who are willing to take an active interest in the life of the school. It is important that governors reflect the local community.

Why become a governor?

Schools are more effective if there is regular and positive dialogue with parents and the school community. Being a governor is one of the ways that you can take part in the life of the school.

If you are interested in becoming a governor, please see/message Mrs Woodrow to express your interest and ask any questions that you may have.



Just One Norfolk – Here to Help

Just One Norfolk offers advice and support for families on health, development, and wellbeing from birth to teens. If you have a question or need guidance, their friendly team and online resources are a great place to start. Visit **Just One Norfolk** to find out more.

Children & Young People's Health Services
JustOneNorfolk.nhs.uk
Norfolk & Waveney
0300 300 0123