



Friday 23rd May 2025

HEADLINES

St Mary's Catholic School

Holy Mary, Patron of our school and Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Pray for Us.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 26th May - Friday 1st June
Half Term

Tuesday 3rd June
A-Level Geography fieldwork, Stratford

Wednesday 4th June
A-Level Geography fieldwork, Walton on the Naze

Friday 6th June
Inter-House Darts Competition

Dear St Mary's Community,

As we embrace the warmth of May, I am delighted to share with you the vibrant tapestry of events and achievements that have enriched our school life recently. Our commitment to faith, academic excellence, and community spirit continues to shine brightly through every endeavour.

In a beautiful display of unity and devotion, we recently joined hands with our neighbours from St Joseph's primary school for a touching Marian Procession. Our Chaplaincy team led the way as we embarked on a spiritual journey, first crowning the statue of St Mary in St Joseph's prayer garden. The procession then wound its way to our own St Mary's, where the children from St Joseph's reciprocated the gesture, crowning our statue. This act of shared reverence culminated in a visit to our local parish church, where Fr Peter guided us in prayer, perfectly embodying the spirit of this month dedicated to Our Lady.

As we nurture our spiritual growth, we're equally committed to fostering the aspirations of our students. Our Year 12 students with ambitions in medicine recently embarked on an enlightening trip to Anglia Ruskin University. This invaluable experience offered them a glimpse into the world of medical education, igniting their passion and providing practical insights into their chosen career path. We encourage our students to aim high and aspire and am thankful for the rich opportunities Universities offer to steer our students into achieving their dreams.

In this edition you will see photos of our students' successes and highlights. It gives me immense pleasure to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students. At our recent Headteacher's morning tea, we honoured students nominated by their Heads of Year for their excellence in academic studies and extra-curricular pursuits. These young individuals exemplify the holistic education we strive to provide at St Mary's, excelling not just in their studies but also in their broader interests and talents.

As we reflect on these accomplishments and experiences, let us take a moment to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to Mother Mary. Her example of faith, humility, and strength continues to inspire our community, guiding us in our mission to nurture well-rounded, compassionate, and ambitious young people.

The vibrancy of our school life is a testament to the dedication of our students, the support of our parents, and the tireless efforts of our staff. Together, we create an environment where faith, learning, and personal growth flourish hand in hand. As we look forward to the coming weeks of the second half of our summer term, let us carry forward this spirit of unity, aspiration, and gratitude. May we continue to support and inspire one another, always striving for excellence in all that we do.

Wishing you and your families a blessed half term break.

Kindest regards,
Deirdre McHugh



Click [here](#) to access your child's academic achievement and progress data.

Pupil Achievements



Congratulations to the Summer Term's Headteacher's Tea nominated students. The students have been nominated for excellence in their academic studies, endeavour in their extra-curricular clubs and activities, and their kindness, compassion and school service.



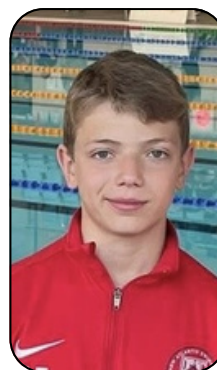
Exceptional praise for Tianna A (Year 9) on representing Hertfordshire in the U14 football National Champion with the Hertfordshire County U14s Football team who beat West Midlands 2-1 in Stoke on Trent.



Congratulations to Alexander M and Dahlia A (Year 10) who have been accepted into attending the Imperial College London Summer School programme.



Additional praise for Dahlia who has also been accepted to the Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge summer school programme too!



Atticus F (Year 7) swims for Dunmow Atlantis Swimming Club and has had an incredible swimming season so far! Starting in September with no county times, he's now achieved 5 county qualifying times and not only competed at the Essex County Championships earlier this year, but also made finals—a huge accomplishment in itself.

Recently, Atticus competed at the East Regional Championships. This competition is made up from the top swimmers across Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire. He raced in the 50m, 100m, and 200m breaststroke events and delivered a standout performance in the 200m breast, earning a 7-second personal best!

Atticus is now ranked among the Top 10 swimmers in Essex and Top 20 in the East Region for his age group.

We are very proud of Atticus's sporting achievements to date, and we look forward to hearing about his future accomplishments!



James M (Year 10) competed in the recent English Schools U16 National Championship finals at Wilmslow Golf Club.

In a strong field of 40 players, he had an impressive performance, starting with a superb 2-under-par in the opening round. Although he slipped slightly in the afternoon round, James finished just two points behind the winner, securing a joint 3rd place with a level-par total for the tournament.

Another dynamic half term in Maths is behind us. In a parallel with the Year 10 and 12 mocks, and Year 11 and 13 exam preparations, our younger students have competed in the Heat Team Challenge for Year 8 in April. Our two teams presented the school very well while having a ton of fun at the same time.

40 Year 8 students took part in the Junior Maths Challenge at the start of May. We are proud to announce that they were awarded 5 Gold, 13 Silver and 12 Bronze Certificates. Congratulations to Alexia K. who scored the highest result for the school and was invited to compete in the Junior Kangaroo Maths challenge next month.

After all the excitement of the contests, we enjoyed a quiet afternoon with a Maths themed film - The Queen of Katwe - a story of struggle and perseverance, which received a very positive review from our students.



Aspiring Medics



On Wednesday, six Year 12 aspiring medics spent the day at Anglia Ruskin University Medical School at an event to give potential future medical students an idea of what to expect when they start on their courses.

The students engaged with existing medical students and got to ask many questions about the courses and university life in general. They also had the opportunity to meet with admissions advisors who explained what they look for in a successful medical school application, along with tips on how best to perform at Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI).

The day was fascinating and gave our aspiring medics an insight in to their future careers.



Notices



MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT HUB

Year 9 Vaccinations - 1st July 2025

The year 9 DTP/Men vaccinations (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio and Meningitis) will be taking place at St Mary's on Tuesday 1st July.

Emails have been sent to parents and carers of year 9 students.
Alternatively, please follow this link to respond
<https://imms.hct.nhs.uk/dtp/2024/hertfordshire>

A reply is needed for both consent and refusal of the vaccination.

Please reply by 30th June to ensure the nurses are aware of whether your child will be attending or not.



The Flyer community magazines were established in 1997 as a way to bring information specific to their area to local residents. Covering towns in East Hertfordshire and Suffolk, the magazines contain information about local businesses and schools, along with book reviews and articles about local history. St Mary's is proud to have had articles featured in the last four editions of the Bishop's Stortford Flyer. Click [here](#) to view the edition for May or [here](#) to access past editions.

LOVE - RESPECT - FLOURISH

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