

HEADTEACHER: Mr S. Chiswell, BA Ed (Hons) NPQH
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: Mrs L. Waldram, BSc (Hons) PGCE

Email: admin@stmarysprimary.org.uk
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Friday 17th July 2020

End of Year Newsletter

Good Bye!

Today, we say good bye to two members of our staff, **Mrs. McCarthy** and **Mrs. Balaam-Sheanon**. Both ladies have brought so much to our school in the time that they have been here, supporting our children with passion and care. I am sure that you join me in thanking them for their efforts and wishing them all the best for their futures.

Year 6 and leavers

We also say good bye to a small number of children from Pre School to Y5. It has been lovely having you as part of our school, and we wish you all the best in your new schools. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 6. Although their final year at St Mary's, and the end of term has been very different to what we had planned and expected for them, I really cannot speak highly enough of each and every one of them. I have been immensely proud of the resilience they have shown. So many of the children in the class have been able to return to school which has been lovely. We have missed those who have not been able to return, but I know they have not been far from our thoughts and we have kept in close touch with them. Today, we held a special collective worship with Father Tony able to attend, and celebrate the children's last day at St Mary's. Although parents and the wider school community were unable to be present, it really was a very special occasion. Year 6 we are all very proud of you. You have proven over the past few months, that you are without doubt, ready for the challenge of secondary school. The whole school community wish you every success in Key Stage 3. My word, you all really deserve it! #thefutureisinsafehand

Class Dojo

We will also continue to use Class Dojo in the new school year. Over the summer, class teachers will not be using the platform but if you do need to contact school, Mrs Long for Pre-School and for all other years Mrs Waldram and I will be available. Please be aware it will not always be possible to reply to you quickly.

Next Term

Today in a separate e-mail, you have received our reopening plan for September 2020, so please take the time to read it over the summer break. The staff are really looking forward to welcoming all of the children back next term, and I have been working closely with senior leaders, and members of our trust, to ensure that we have a safe environment for all of the community when we return. We will continue to communicate with you at the start of next term to reassure you, but I have no doubt that once we are back, routines will be established very quickly. We will support all of our children, so please do ensure that your children return to school on the dates given below.



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Years	Date of return to school	Timings
1-6	Thursday 3 rd September	Please check the Reopening Plan for timings for each class
Reception	Thursday 3 rd September	
Morning Nursery	Thursday 10 th /Friday 11 th September	
Afternoon Nursery	From 15 th September in groups	
Pre School	Monday 7 th September	

Thank you and Let's look to the Future

For all of us, this past few months have been extremely strange, and in many ways, difficult. Having said this, I do not think I have ever been as proud of our school, and community, in my time as the Head teacher of St Mary's. You have all played your part in helping us to get through this period.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank different groups of people. First of all, you, the parents and carers of our children. You have all been amazing. Not only have you been your child's parent / carer, but you have been their teacher, their friend, their everything. Thank you on behalf of the staff and governors for your support, and for the guidance you have provided your children. Your role in the education of our children has never been more important, and our school is built on the foundations you give your children. I hope we will take from this period, the chance to work even more closely with you, to support your child in their education and future at St Mary's.

Our staff, without exception, have been unbelievable throughout the past 4 months. I could not have asked for a more committed group of people. Nothing has been too much trouble. I have lost count of the times that they have gone above, and beyond, for the benefit of our children, to give them the best deal they possibly could. As we have progressed, they have continued to find new ways to improve the provision we have offered. I am immensely proud of all of our staff, and I thank them for their support. I have also been supported brilliantly by my Senior Leadership Team, Mrs Ball, Miss Crawford and Mrs Dowling, throughout, but I would like to especially mention Mrs Waldram. As a Head teacher I am so lucky to have such a professional and loyal Deputy Head. She leads on so many aspects in our school, and has done so from the front during this difficult period; as a school we are very lucky to have her.

Our Governors have continued to play the role of a critical friend, and have made sure we have been prepared for each step through this challenging time. The role they play is significant, thank you to all of the board.



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Finally, and most importantly, I must thank our wonderful children! Whether they have spent the last few months at home or coming into school, they are all amazing, and make our school the special place it is. They are resilient, they are strong, and they have no fear. Looking ahead, they will be stronger for their experiences, and will prove to all of us that they can achieve whatever they want. It is so important that the children now have the chance to rest, and recharge their batteries for September. We will return and be ambitious for our children, and provide them with the experiences they need to fulfil their potential. I really cannot wait.

I wish you all a peaceful and restful summer.

God bless,

Mr Chiswell.



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