



Our school is a friendly and vibrant community, where all of God's children flourish and gain the knowledge, wisdom and skills needed to care about themselves, their community and their world.

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, Welcome Reception Children! What a delight it has been to see you settling so well into our school and making your Mummies. Daddies and Carers so proud. You have looked so smart and so ready for school and we thank God for every single one of you. You are a precious addition to our St Mary's Family.

And for the rest of us, it has actually been quite pleasant to have a slightly cooler week at school, as it has given us all a bit more energy to do some wonderful things in our lessons.

For example, the Year 1 and 2s had a fantastic PE session with Katie earlier this week, showing how much they have matured over the summer, and the Year 3s had a wonderful time bringing their learning about the Stone Age to life in the Forest School where they foraged and cooked a delicious stew on an open fire. We are so lucky to have teachers who make the learning so much fun and so much more real.

I have had the joy and privilege of joining the Year 6 teachers for some Maths this week and I have been so impressed with the mathematical vocabulary that the children are using in their reasoning.

And then, on Thursday, we had the chance as a school to meet with Moise who shared his story about the school in Burkina Faso. What a humbling experience to see how, in a small way, we have helped this wonderful school. It also served as a reminder of our global responsibility to reach out and help where we can. I hope we can continue to support this inspirational project.

It was fantastic to meet the brilliant Mary Jane, the children's worker at Harbour Church. She has such a heart for the children and communicates so well with them her infectious love for Jesus. We are so lucky to have such fantastic links with the community and are grateful for all the time they willingly give us.

And finally, a big 'Thank You' to our Site Team who have worked all through the holidays and are continuing to work hard to make the school look so lovely, I'm sure you'll all agree that we are so lucky to have such a fantastic site. I've shown lots of prospective parents and carers around this week, and they have all commented on our wonderful facilities and our calm and well-behaved children who are a credit to you all.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.



Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

Thank you for our families and for our school.
Thank you for nature and the birds and the trees.
Thank you for our friends.

Please bless our world.

Amen

Year 1 children

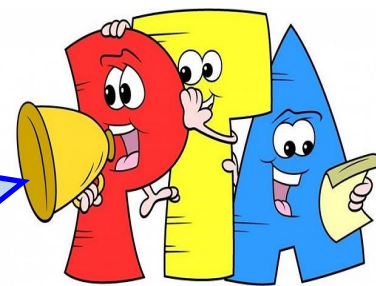
School Term Dates 2023/2024	
Term 1	
Staff Development Day	Friday 1 st September
Start of Term 1	Monday 4 th September
End of Term 1	Friday 20 th October
Term 2	
Start of Term 2	Monday 30 th October
End of Term 2	Friday 15 th December
Term 3	
Start of Term 3	Tuesday 2 nd January
End of Term 3	Thursday 8 th February
Staff Development Day	Friday 9 th February
Term 4	
Start of Term 4	Tuesday 20 th February
End of Term 4	Wednesday 27 th March
Staff Development Day	Thursday 28 th March
Term 5	
Start of Term 5	Monday 8 th April
End of Term 5	Friday 24 th May
Term 6	
Start of Term 6	Monday 10 th June
End of Term 6	Friday 19 th July
Staff Development Day	Monday 22 nd July
Staff Development Day	Tuesday 23 rd July

School Items

Book Bag – Original	£3.90
Book Bag – Strong	£6.00
P.E. Bag	£3.00
Elasticated Tie	£2.50
Traditional Tie	£3.30
School Cap	£4.00
Water Bottle	£2.00

Calling All Parents and Carers

We would like to invite you to be part of the PTFA this year in whatever capacity you can. We shall be running a series of events and would love to have you come along and help us run them. Please don't feel you have to help out at everything, as we know how busy life can be. But if you could spare a couple of hours occasionally to help out, we would love to hear from you. All welcome.



International School Award

During the holiday's we had the exciting news that the school has been awarded the British Council's International School Award for the 7th time (continuous since 2005).

This is thanks to everyone at St Mary's and all of our amazing partner schools across the world, this award would not be possible without all of you and them.

The British Council recognizes this as an important part of our Curriculum work, which enables our pupils to have a better understanding of the similarities and diversity of our many partners across 'Planet Earth' and to become Global Citizens.

