



St. Mary's Buzzin' Bulletin

Termly Newsletter
15th September
Term 1



Principal Comments

Welcome back everyone and a very special welcome to our new children who have started in reception. It was an absolute delight to see them walk into school for their first day. It is such a special moment for the children and families and for us to be able to share it with you, is a true privilege. The children were fantastic and made it look so easy as they strolled in with confidence. Welcome to our big school family!

I hope you have all had a restful summer break. I was able to take a few weeks away with my family and enjoy a holiday for the first time in a while. It was lovely to have some forced relaxation and reconnect with life as a father and husband. I must admit though at times I would have valued my children's school being open for a little respite! With this in mind, there may well be a sense of relief that your children are back in school. Your rest can begin!

The term has started with a real surge of energy and it is alive with new staff and wonderfully busy children all making new friendships and building new relationships with their teachers. Forest School is buzzing again, the chickens are excited to see the children and the pond area is starting to fill again with the recent rain. Our Forest School will be running full time again and we can't wait to smell the campfire burning and warm hot chocolate being made.

Last week was a reminder to us all that the world is constantly changing. The passing of her Royal Highness, Her Majesty the Queen, was a shock to us all. The sadness that the country is feeling is understandable as someone we've known for so long suddenly isn't there. We have responded to this in school with a sense of celebration of her life and will continue to do this in a way that supports children and their emotional wellbeing and keeps them informed of the historic events that are unfolding. It strikes me that our pupils are facing more changes and news breaking moments than most other generations have had to in the past.

We will of course be closing the school on 19th September for the Queen's funeral.

New staff:

We have introduced three members of staff to the school this year in new roles. I am delighted to introduce them to you. They have written a few words below:



"Hello, I am Lisa Tingley and I'm excited to join the team at St. Marys" in my new post as the Community Engagement and Welfare Lead. My responsibilities will include supporting good attendance, managing the breakfast club, being the main point of contact for the PTA and generally supporting parents accessing what they need to ensure all of our children here flourish. I will be on the main gate most mornings and look forward to meeting you soon. Do come and say hi!"



"Hi everyone, I am Michelle and I am joining St. Mary's as a school based Counsellor to support the welfare and emotional health of the children and families. I have worked within the education sector for 25 years, firstly as a teacher and then as a SENCo and Assistant Head Teacher. While working with children with additional needs, it became clear that pupils' emotional wellbeing was also crucial to their growth, achievement and happiness at school. I decided to further develop my skills in this area by training to become a Counsellor. I am now very excited to be able to focus on emotional wellbeing and to be able to be part of a team at St. Mary's that supports children's all round school experience."



"Hello my name is Katie and I am the Sports Coach at St. Mary's this year. I have taught PE to children at a primary school in Margate for the past 6 years. I moved to Folkestone 2 years ago and recently started my own sports coaching business, allowing me to work closer to home. In my spare time, I enjoy playing netball in Thanet, Canterbury and Sandwich and one thing not many people know about me is that I ran in the 2018 London Marathon in aid of cystic fibrosis. I am really excited to be here and look forward to working with the team and winning some competitions!"

Yours sincerely,

Mr. T.M. North, NPQH

In our school charter, we promise to wear our uniform with pride. I wanted to thank everyone for sending their children into school so smartly this term. All of the children look so proud as they walk into morning Worship—new shoes, shirts all tucked in, ties and the correct school jumper, it makes a big difference. If you need any help with uniform, please do contact us at school. We have lots of spares. Here is a reminder of the uniform expectations:


ST. MARY'S RECEPTION SCHOOL UNIFORM

<p>Boys Uniform</p> <p>Mid Grey Trousers or Shorts White Polo Shirt (no full buttoned shirt) NO TIE Navy Blue V Neck Jumper Grey or Black Socks Appropriate Shoes (No trainers or plimsolls. No laces if possible.)</p>	<p>Girls Uniform</p> <p>Mid Grey Skirt / Pinafore Dress White Polo Shirt (no full buttoned shirt) NO TIE Navy Blue V Neck Jumper / Cardigan Appropriate Shoes (no trainers or plimsolls) Navy Tights / White Socks Blue and White Check Summer Dress</p>
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<p>Spring and Summer</p> 	<p>Autumn and Winter</p> 
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<p>PE Kit</p> <p>Navy Shorts (no skirts for girls) White Round Neck T-Shirt Black Plimsolls, no laces Blue Drawstring PE Bag (can be purchased from School Office)</p>	<p>EXTRAS</p> <p>Navy sun hat with school logo (available from School Office) Navy Book Bag (available from School Office) Water Bottle (available from School Office)</p>
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Please note: No trainers or tracksuit bottoms are required in Reception for PE.
No Back packs / Rucksacks, these cause a hazard in the cloakrooms.
EVERYTHING CLEARLY LABELLED PLEASE. Thank you.


St. Mary's Church of England Primary Academy
YEARS 1-6

<p>Boys Uniform</p> <p>Mid Grey Trousers or Shorts White full buttoned shirt School tie Navy Blue V Neck Jumper Grey or Black Socks Appropriate black school shoes - no trainers or plimsolls</p>	<p>Girls Uniform</p> <p>Mid Grey Skirt / Pinafore Dress White full buttoned shirt School tie Navy Blue V Neck Jumper / Cardigan Appropriate black school shoes - no trainers or plimsolls Navy Tights / White Socks Blue and White Check Summer Dress</p>
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EVERYTHING CLEARLY LABELLED PLEASE. Thank you.

May we remind all parents that use the Breakfast and Funky Monkey After School Clubs that you must pay for your child's attendance in advance of using the service

Please note that when using Parent Pay, if you select the bank transfer option at the checkout, your payments can take up to 10 days to clear into our account. If you use the VISA/debit card option and the payment is successful, we should receive the payment the next day. We would suggest you choose this option when making payments, as use of the Clubs will not be available until the funds have cleared.

Thank you.

Road Safety

When driving into the school playground to collect children from clubs, please can we ask you to drive with caution at no more than 5mph. It has been reported that cars are driving at speed when approaching the school from Warren Road. For the safety of the children, please stick to the speed limit. Thank you.

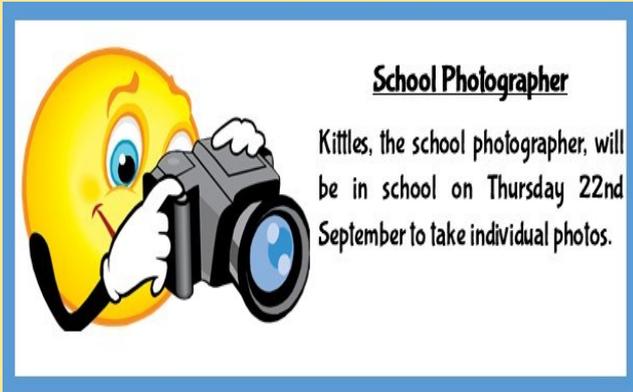


Child Absence

Please can we remind you to contact the school on the first day of your child's absence. You should ring the school office by 10:00, stating the reason for absence. If we do not hear from you by this time, we will telephone you asking for a reason for the absence. It is the parents' responsibility to contact the academy on the first day that their child is absent. This is a safeguarding issue so that all parties know that the child is safe. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.



Book Bag – Original	£3.90
Book Bag – Strong	£6.00
P.E. Bag	£3.00
Elasticated Tie	£2.35
Traditional Tie	£2.90
School Cap	£4.00
Water Bottle	£2.00



Harvest Festival

Harvest celebrations will take place in the week commencing 3rd October. Further details to follow.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place in the week commencing 17th October. Further details to follow.

PE Kit

We regard uniform as an important part of our school. It creates a sense of identity and belonging and we expect all families to do their best to cooperate with our policy. The PE kit is as follows:

- Navy School Hoodie
- White School T-shirt
- Navy Shorts or Jogging Bottoms
- Appropriate trainers suitable for indoor and outdoor PE (no heeled trainers)
- KS1 will need plimsolls for indoor PE. It would be appreciated if the parents of young children could provide the type of plimsoll which has an elastic tongue, or alternatively substitute elastic for laces in the traditional plimsoll. A simple bag (with name on the outside please) should be provided so that the plimsolls may be left on your child's cloakroom peg. Drawstring bags are available to buy from the school office.
- All clothing should be clearly marked with the owner's name and it is worthwhile checking from time to time to see that marking is still discernible.
- **The wearing of jewellery in school is strongly discouraged due to health and safety implications. Watches and studded earrings can be worn, but all jewellery must be removed before any physical activity.**

School Term Dates 2022/2023	
Term 1	
Staff Development Day	01/09/2022
Staff Development Day	02/09/2022
Start of Term 1 (1 st day for Children)	05/09/2022
End of Term 1	21/10/2022
Term 2	
Start of Term 2	31/10/2022
End of Term 2	16/12/2022
Term 3	
Staff Development Day	03/01/2023
Start of Term 3 (1 st day for Children)	04/01/2023
End of Term 3 (Last Day for Children)	09/02/2023
Staff Development Day	10/02/2023
Term 4	
Start of Term 4	20/02/2023
End of Term 4	06/04/2023
Term 5	
Start of Term 5	17/04/2023
End of Term 5	26/05/2023
Term 6	
Start of Term 6	12/06/2023
End of Term 6	21/07/2023
Staff Development Day	24/07/2023

International Work

The Global Councillors group, with children from Y1 to Y6 will be starting again this term and we will be working on Climate Action, Sustainable Development Goal 13, with schools across the World.

At the end of this month, Y4 will be participating in a webinar hosted by Global School Alliance, part of their contribution to the World Primary Student Council, sharing the information they've gathered on our Biodiversity here at school.

We have had messages of condolences for our late Queen from several of our partner schools:

'We offer our heartfelt condolences to the Royal Family and the people of the UK at this very difficult time. The Queen was an example to us all in the way that she dedicated her life so selflessly to public service. Deep Regards DAV. BRS School, Ludhiana India'.

Together with a group of Heritage students, we expressed our condolences on the passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II, on behalf of our community, at the British Embassy in Chisinau today. Rest in peace, Your Majesty! Heritage International School, Chisinau, Moldova.

A Tribute from our link teacher at Ecole Primaire in Sousse Tunisia:

"Your time to depart has unexpectedly come, leaving an emptiness of losing a mom. Your peaceful look of an eternal reign misled my thoughts of seeing you again. I loved a country which is not mine because of Your splendour in every street and line".