



# St. Mary's Buzzin' Bulletin

Termly Newsletter  
20th September 2021



***Friendship Compassion Service Forgiveness***

## **Principal Comments**

Dear Parent,

Are we back to normal? It certainly feels like it.

What a great way to start the term. Happy and very smart looking children running in, smiling parents and no masks, no bubbles and no more track and tracing. Whilst there is an appropriate amount of caution with the opening in this way, it feels great.

For the first time in a very long time, I can write and actually tell you that the school feels almost normal again. There is a cautiousness about opening with these new guidelines, but I am liking it so far!

Last week for the first time in over 18 months, we had our school assembly with Key Stage 2. They sat with good space in the KS2 hall, music playing and it felt amazing. I stood at the front and for a small moment was struck by the beautiful sight of our community back together. My eyes welled up and when the children all said good morning together, I am sure a small tear escaped. It really was lovely and we can't wait to have you all in this year for school events.

I would like to thank you for your support over the last 18 months. Being a Head Teacher is by far the best job in the world, but it has been a pretty tough one in recent months. If it wasn't for the very supportive staff, lovely children and large supportive community of parents; I may have cracked up. You kept me going and the comments and kind letters I received at the end of the year were perfectly timed. I hope you have all had a restful summer, as indeed I have, and are ready for the year ahead together.

We have a great year planned and it is already starting off well with some wonderful learning experiences for the children. Please check our Facebook page for photos and celebrations of these. We are excited to get our community projects and public exhibitions of work again and hope you are able to attend them. This way, the children can share their learning and engage in the wider community too. This term we can look forward to a Harvest celebration by Year 3 and begin our preparations for Nativities and other whole school events.

Our new Reception children have started this week and in typical fashion have sprinted in smiling and leaving their mums and dads waving, longing for one last look back as they enter the new world of education. They look so smart and it was so nice to see photos being taken at the front entrance sign. My son started secondary school this year and I felt exactly the same as I did when he started Year R - a little worried, lost and aware that he is growing up fast. To his relief, I didn't walk him in holding his hand and waving him goodbye. (My wife did though!!)

You will have seen some new faces around the school. Our new staff members have settled in well and it's so nice to see them interacting with parents already. Thank you for helping them feel welcome.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. T.M. North, NPQH

### School Dinners

Just a reminder that school meal costs have risen from September 2021 to £2.30 per day (£11.50 per five day week). All payments should be made in advance. Cheques should be made payable to Caterlink and should be sent into school each Monday morning in an envelope with the child's name and class clearly written on it. Caterlink envelopes are available from the school office.



### Contact Details

The majority of communication with school is now done via email. It is therefore very important that we are using the correct email address to contact you. If you have changed your email address recently, can we ask you to contact the school office as soon as possible so that we can update our records. You will also need to update your email address on the Sims Parent App.



### Term Dates 2020/21

| School Term Dates 2021/2022                        |            |
|--|------------|
| Term 1   |            |
| Staff Development Day                              | 01/09/2021 |
| Staff Development Day                              | 02/09/2021 |
| Staff Development Day                              | 03/09/2021 |
| Start of Term 1 (1 <sup>st</sup> day for Children) | 06/09/2021 |
| End of Term 2                                      | 22/10/2021 |
| Term 2   |            |
| Start of Term 2                                    | 01/11/2021 |
| End of Term 2                                      | 17/12/2021 |
| Term 3   |            |
| Start of Term 3                                    | 04/01/2022 |
| End of Term 3 (Last Day for Children)              | 10/02/2022 |
| Staff Development Day                              | 11/02/2022 |
| Term 4   |            |
| Start of Term 4                                    | 21/02/2022 |
| End of Term 4                                      | 08/04/2022 |
| Term 5   |            |
| Start of Term 5                                    | 19/04/2022 |
| End of Term 5                                      | 26/05/2022 |
| Staff Development Day                              | 27/05/2022 |
| Term 6   |            |
| Start of Term 6                                    | 13/06/2022 |
| End of Term 6                                      | 22/07/2022 |

Please note: Dates for 2 Staff Development Days are provisional and yet to be confirmed

### School Items

Should you wish to purchase any of the items listed below, please can we ask you to order via Parent Pay online. The item will be sent to your child's class for collection. Thank You.

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| 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          | £3.50 |
| Water Bottle        | £2.00 |

### School Photographer

On Thursday 23rd September, the Photographer is in school to take individual/group photographs of the children in the Infant Hall. Due to the lifting of Covid restrictions, photos with siblings in other year groups will be possible. Letters have already been sent out to parents with details. Please send in any slips as soon as possible, requesting group photographs.



### Child's Absence from School

Please can we remind you to contact the school on the first day of your child's absence.

Please 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 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.

## P.E.

We hope you like the new P.E. kits. They look amazing. Please do make sure they wear them on P.E. days and keep to the uniform expectations. This way, our pupils look smart and present well in the community. Please see the uniform guide below. Below is the timetable of the days that each class is having their P.E. sessions.

Occasionally, children may have to wear their P.E. kits on additional days for sports events or trips, but parents will be made aware of these dates in advance:

**Year R** – Monday (Explorers) and Wednesday (Adventurers)

**Year 1** – Thursday (Italy and Spain)

**Year 2** – Tuesday (England and India)

**Year 3** – Wednesday (half of Burkina Faso\*) and Thursday (France and half of Burkina Faso\*)

**Year 4** – Monday (Sri Lanka) and Thursday (Kenya)

**Year 5** – Thursday (Brazil and Peru)

**Year 6** – Wednesday (Australia and Canada)

\*The Burkina Faso class teacher will make parents aware of the days for the children in this class via the parent app. If you have any questions, please do ask the class teacher.

## International Work

Our International work at St. Mary's is already underway, linked to the SDG's (Sustainable Development Goals). Y4 are working towards their Fair Trade Silver Award and have linked with our new partner school in Bangladesh and sent them a portrait of themselves. Little Amal, a 3m puppet representing a 9 year old Syrian refugee, will be coming to Folkestone in October and we are doing work towards this <https://youtu.be/BLen3WqXdPI>.



**Dakhin Kolkond Masterpara Govt. Primary School Bangladesh**

**Folkestone St Mary's CEP Academy England**

Connected by Learning

**Little Amal will be coming to Folkestone on 19<sup>th</sup> October.**



<https://youtu.be/BLen3WqXdPI>

We have received British Council funding to continue our work on Climate Change with our partner in Tunisia, along with DAV in Ludhiana India, our Malaysian partners and others. Two schools in South Africa that received Year 5's amazing work on Nelson Mandela last term are also working with us this year. This term, Year 5 are excited to be working with Mr. Russell's former school in Spain and learning some Spanish. Our new team of Global Councillors will be meeting from next week.



**CULTURE POSTCARD**

**IT'S BANGLADESH**

**School Name: Dakhin Kolkond Masterpara Govt. Primary School**




**CULTURE POSTCARD**

Tunisia is the land of diversity where many religions have coexisted for centuries now. More than 3000 years of Civilisation, of history and of an important multi-ethnic influx. Known as Carthage with the Romans then Ifriqiya with the Arabs then now Tunisia. Tunisia is a country that perfectly combines tradition and modernity. The Tunisian personality is characterized by tolerance, hospitality, an unwavering joy. Tunisia is a liberal and tolerant society with many equality laws enshrined in the Tunisian Constitution brought in as early as 1959. Tunisia is a country that perfectly combines tradition and modernity. The Tunisian personality is characterized by tolerance, hospitality, an unwavering joy. Tunisia is a liberal and tolerant society with many equality laws enshrined in the Tunisian Constitution brought in as early as 1959. Tunisia is a country that perfectly combines tradition and modernity. The Tunisian personality is characterized by tolerance, hospitality, an unwavering joy. Tunisia is a liberal and tolerant society with many equality laws enshrined in the Tunisian Constitution brought in as early as 1959.

**Location:** Northern Africa, bordering the Mediterranean Sea, between Algeria and Libya  
**Capital:** Tunis  
**Climate:** temperate in north with mild, rainy winters and hot, dry summers; desert in south  
**Population:** 11+ million (2020)  
**Ethnic Make-up:** Arab, European, Jewish and others  
**Religions:** Muslim, Christian, Jewish and others  
**Government:** republic

**SCHOOL: Collège Pilete Sousse Tunisia**



**Global School Alliance**

**Dakhin Kolkond Masterpara Govt. Primary School Bangladesh**

**My name is:** Fale  
**First name only**  
**go to school** to Mary's CEP Academy, England  
**Age** 8 years old  
**Description** girl  
**Colour of eyes** blue  
**hair** black  
**As interesting fact about me:** I like to read books  
**What I am good at:** drawing  
**What I would like to know about your school or area:** how many people live in your school



## Parents' Evening

Parent consultations commence week beginning 4th October. Further details to follow.

Don't forget  
Parents'  
Evening!

## Harvest Festival



Our Harvest Festival Celebration will be on Thursday 21st October. Further details to follow

## Covid-19 Risk Assessment

Our most recent Covid-19 risk assessment can be found on the school's website.  
<https://www.stmarysfolkestone.com/risk-control-measures>.

## Health Care Forms

Once again, we will not be sending home blank Healthcare forms to every pupil. Instead, we will be using the SIMS parent app to collect any new information. Can we ask you to log into the app and click on your child's name. There will then be a link called 'Data Collection'. Please have a look through this section and update your child's health details as necessary. We will then be alerted of any changes you make. We may then send home a form asking for any healthcare requirements that we need to know about in school in order to best look after your child.

If you require a new link to activate the app, please email [office@st-marys-folkestone.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-marys-folkestone.kent.sch.uk).

Parents of the new Reception children will receive their activation link shortly.



### ST. MARY'S RECEPTION SCHOOL UNIFORM

#### Boys Uniform

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.)

#### Girls Uniform

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

#### Spring and Summer



#### PE Kit

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)

#### Autumn and Winter



#### EXTRAS

Navy sun hat with school logo (available from School Office)  
Navy Book Bag (available from School Office)  
Water Bottle (available from School Office)

**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

#### Boys Uniform

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

#### Girls Uniform

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

#### Spring and Summer



#### PE Kit

Navy Shorts (no skirts for girls)  
White Round Neck T-Shirt  
Black Plimsolls, no laces  
Navy blue jumper and jogging bottoms  
Blue Drawstring PE Bag (can be purchased from School Office)

#### Autumn and Winter



#### EXTRAS

Navy sun hat with school logo (available from School Office)  
Navy Book Bag (available from School Office)  
Water Bottle (available from School Office)

**EVERYTHING CLEARLY LABELLED PLEASE. Thank you.**