



St. Mary's Buzzin' Bulletin

Termly Newsletter

Monday 22nd March



Friendship Compassion Service Forgiveness

Dear All,

Having the children back in school is wonderful. It was certainly a little overwhelming for me at the start with so many faces back on the school site. At times, I found myself putting on a brave face and trusting that we would re-adjust. On speaking with many of our community, I do not think I am alone in this. We have been in a strange limbo for so long, the sudden rush of energy felt in the school was a reminder of just how far from normality we have been. We are adjusting and the children are once again showing us all just how resilient they are.

They have returned to school with a buzz and drive we haven't seen for a while and many of them seem to have really benefited from the more tailored learning the remote learning offered. We have certainly seen a lot of children blossom in their reading confidence. This really has highlighted the value of reading and the difference that can make. Our biggest worry was that the children would find the transition to school a challenge and finding themselves again re-adjusting to different routines and boundaries. They have nailed it and it is a credit to you as parents just how amazingly they have done this. We have had a few tears and wobbles, but the strength in character shown by the children is admirable. Simply super stars. The children run into school, they smile and say hi. The work around wellbeing with The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse that has continued in all classrooms seems to have really inspired the children. There are some amazing pieces of artwork and meaningful writing around this developing across the school. The children have really tapped into the simplicity of the artwork and the depth of dialogue around the messages within the book. We will be sharing this soon with you.

We are not out of the woods yet but we are in the spring and summer months now so the last few terms in school will be a wonderful time for the children. I do hope we can be together again for you to share in assemblies, sports days, fairs and other community events.

Around the school, there is a friendly and community feel. This is strengthened by yourselves as you come on the site. Many of you stop and say hi and talk. The thanks you have given us as a team and the real sense of gratitude we feel is inspiring. I truly believe that we are so much stronger now than ever before and it is our time to blossom and shine as a community. Thank you again for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. T.M. North, NPQSH
Principal

Term Dates

The remainder of the term dates for this year are as follows:-

End of Term 4 is Thursday 1st April

Beginning of Term 5 is Monday 12th April

Bank Holiday is Monday 3rd May

End of Term 5 is Friday 28th May

Beginning of Term 6 is Monday 14th June

End of Term 6 is Tuesday 20th July

Staff Training Day: Wednesday 21st July

September 2020 YR Places

Parents, whose children are due to start school in September 2020 will be notified by County Admissions as to which school their child has been offered on Friday 16th April 2020.

PE Kit

As you are aware, we are asking for pupils to come to school dressed in their PE kits on the days that they are due to have their PE session. Your child's class teacher will communicate which days these are. PE is a vital subject essential for health and wellbeing and it is important that children are prepared and safe for their PE sessions with the following kit:

A white round neck t-shirt.
Navy jogging bottoms/sports trousers. Navy shorts can be worn in warmer weather.
Black plimsolls (to be brought in school bags).
Trainers (your child may be using the field in some PE sessions and these may become muddy).
Navy jumper – children can wear their school jumper or a coat in cold weather.

It is important that pupils do have their hair tied back for PE sessions, where applicable, and that jewellery, including studded earrings, are not worn for these sessions.

If you have any queries/questions, please do let us know.



We know that many of you may have uniform that has not been worn much in the last year and is no longer of use.

The PTA would be grateful to receive any unwanted uniform, that is in good, clean condition, to offer to families who need it. At some point in the future, we would like to hold a pre-loved uniform sale with proceeds going to the school funds.

Please can we ask you to keep hold of any uniform for the moment until we are able to arrange a drop off point at the school.

If you need help with uniform for this term, please contact Mrs Milton or the PTA:

pta@st-marys-folkestone.kent.sch.uk

Thank you for your continuing support.



Pre-loved School Shoes

If you have any school shoes that your children have outgrown, Mrs Milton would like to have them.

Please can we ask that the shoes are in good, clean condition and still have some wear left in them as we would like to forward them on.

All shoes received will be cleaned with anti-bacterial cleaner and isolated for at least 72 hours before they are handed out.

Any shoe donations can be brought to school in a carrier bag and handed to either Mrs Harrison or Miss Ryan at the morning drop off or afternoon collection time.

As always, thank you for your support.



For this term's DT competition, we would like you to create a device that helps to *conquer climate change* in some way!
Your device could help to combat plastic pollution on our beaches or in our oceans., clean the air or plant trees!

It can be made out of whatever you like, from cardboard, to plastic, to wood.

Please send pictures of your amazing models to srilanka@st-marys-folkestone.kent.sch.uk

Competitions closes on Monday 29th March 2021



Friends of St Mary's PTA

Easter Raffle & Virtual Balloon Race



Easter Raffle

Tickets are on sale until the 24th March and can be purchased through Parent Pay. £2 for 4 tickets.

First prize £50 cash

Other prizes include a luxury hamper, Chocolates and Easter craft gifts. A prize list will be posted soon.

The virtual draw will take place on Friday 26th March with Mr North & the Hot Choc Champs.

Virtual Balloon Race

The race launches at 12pm on 4th April from Jerusalem, Palestine.

The race winner will receive £500 cash, with an Apple iPad for second place, and 10 x £10 book tokens for the runners up. The furthest balloon travelled in the race from St Mary's will receive a large Easter egg.

You can purchase a virtual balloon to enter the race for £3 at: <https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1433>

Thank You for your support.



Friends of St Mary's PTA

Easter Raffle Prizes

1st Prize - £50 Cash

2nd Prize - Luxury Easter Hamper worth £35

3rd Prize - Easter Chocolate & Wine hamper worth £20

4th Prize - Children's Craft Hamper worth £15

Further prizes include a large Easter Egg and a cuddly bunny.



Luxury Hamper



Chocolate & Wine



Craft Hamper



Cuddly Bunny & Egg



Large Lindt Easter Egg

Thank You for your support.

Science Day

Last Friday, we welcomed scientists, doctors, astronauts and aliens from outer space to school.
Thank you for helping us make Science day 'out of this world' for the children.

