



St Mary's Church of England School

Infants:

Amyand Park Road
Twickenham
TW1 3HE

T: 0208 892 5840

Middle:

Strafford Road
Twickenham
TW1 3AD

T: 0208 249 6836

F: 0208 891 1904

Juniors:

Richmond Road
Twickenham
TW1 3BA

T: 0208 892 7849

F: 0208 607 0420

E: info@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

Friday 8th September 2017

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to parents new to St Mary's and to those returning. We've had a really lovely first week and the children have arrived back rested, enthusiastic and raring to go, which is just the way we like them.

The staff had productive Inset days which were spent doing a range of things: we carried out our statutory annual training including Child Protection and Safeguarding, designed our own curriculum (more about that in a moment), trained to be an 'Attachment Friendly' School and learnt all about Mindfulness, to enable us to manage our stress and see the positives in every day!

Our new Curriculum will be shared with you very soon. The staff worked in year group teams analysing what worked well last year and then developed ideas about how to make our schemes of work exciting, inclusive, diverse and creative. Our aim is to make sure that creativity is embedded in all lessons. The teachers and class based staff fed back that they relished the opportunity to be involved in creating a personalised curriculum for our pupils.

During the holidays we had a number of building projects on the go. Our Infant site playground drainage was finally sorted. This means that 'St Mary's Lakes', rivalled only by Lake Michigan, are no more ☺. We don't exactly welcome rain now, but we don't dread it. We can now make plans to improve Reception playground with the generous FoSM donation towards equipment.

On the middle site the soft surface under the central tree was replaced. We can now hose down any bird deposits easily and there'll be no more slipping and sliding in it, thank goodness.

On the junior site works took place to investigate the tree roots, to see if we can lay a permanent surface on the 'road' through to the main school entrance. Unfortunately, the work hasn't been left in a good enough state for the children to use, so we continue to seek a solution. New security cameras were installed to provide greater vision when giving access to visitors to school.

Our fish finally arrived in the tank on the junior site (thank you to FoSM for the funding). At this stage there is one for each junior class and the children can 'earn' others as the year progresses! They have caused lots of excitement, and that is just from the staff.

In addition, the usual maintenance of our buildings took place to make sure they are in tip top shape for the return of our pupils.

Collective Worship and assemblies at school continue and we look forward especially to Father Piotr returning for another year of support. A reminder that parents are invited to Celebration assemblies; *please note there will be no Celebration assemblies next week, w/c 11th September.*



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Our Celebration assemblies will take place as follows:

- Infant site: Tuesdays at 9.00 am
Middle site: Wednesdays at 9.00 am
Junior site: Fridays at 9.10 am

Our rewards systems differ this year. We will continue to give out Pen Licences but will no longer be awarding Presentation Prefects. This is because the presentation in school is transformed and now it is the norm. If you do manage to come along to our assemblies can we please ask that once the children start to enter the hall all talking stops, thank you.

Please take the time to look at the school calendar on the website. It has been uploaded with all important dates for the year for your information.

Thank you for sending the children back to school so well turned out; they look very smart and proud to be at St Mary's. As the weather turns colder please send in the school PE sweat shirt and track suit bottoms alongside their PE kit.

We look forward to working with you all this year and to seeing your children flourish in our environment.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Abrahams

Headteacher

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