



NEWSLETTER No 6: 27th March 2015

St Mary's CE Primary School

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

This newsletter is on the school website and School Communicator:
www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

Dear Parents

THE JOY OF EASTER

On behalf of all staff, we hope you have a relaxing and happy Easter. We remember that Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, is the most important Christian festival, and is the one celebrated with the greatest joy.



Easter service

What a joy it was to welcome parents and friends to our annual Easter service, led by Year 5. We were uplifted by the energetic singing from all of the children and the Year 5s in particular told the story of Easter clearly and enthusiastically.

STAFFING NEWS

Katy Cliffe will be leaving St Mary's at the end of the summer term. Mrs Cliffe and her family are relocating to Cardiff. We wish them all well in their new life.

FoSM

I would like to thank Polly Devereux and her team for all their hard work, quietly and efficiently done, almost on a daily basis. The children loved the Easter egg hunts which have taken place this week across all three sites. FoSM were incredibly accommodating given the number of trips which meant organising the hunts on different days. Thank you to everyone involved for making them such fun and for giving up their time so willingly.

INFORMATION & REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

School run clubs, starting w/c 27th April for 9 weeks

You will find a timetable for the summer term in School communicator, under Resources, School run clubs. We will be sending out further details for some clubs during the first week of the summer term. You will be able to sign up for your chosen club(s) from **8 am on Saturday 18th April** via Tucasi. Some clubs have limited numbers; please be aware that once a club is “full” the option to sign up for it will no longer be available. Once you have paid for your chosen club(s), your child’s place is confirmed.

School Communicator

School communicator is now up and running. I hope you are finding it as efficient and easy to use as we are. Most of our parents have now downloaded SC which is amazing! Thank you. Please make sure you do not “inadvertently” unsubscribe from your chosen groups, as we cannot reinstate you without your instructions.

We are almost completely paperless now which is both economical and environmentally friendly.

You will receive fewer and fewer emails from us. Most communications will be placed in “Resources” under a category. When the resource has been uploaded, an “alert” will pop up informing you that this has been done. For example, if your child is going on a school trip, the permission form will be placed in Resources under “School trips”. Please log into Tucasi to pay for the trip (if applicable) and give your permission (see information below).

At the present time, we don’t appear to have all our parents up to date email addresses. We would be grateful if you could email Georgie Hopkins (based at the middle site) with your details, particularly if you are not receiving emails from the school. If you would like to add another person, partner etc please email Georgie their details too:

ghopkins@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

Our news feed, calendar and Twitter are all linked to the website (and vice versa). Please do follow us on Twitter too @twickstmarys.

Giving permission for school trips

A reminder about this important procedure:

1. **See the trip details:** Click on the trip name (in green)
2. **Give permission for your child to attend:** Click the Permission box (there is sometimes also a Parent Helper option) and press Save
3. **Pay for the trip** (if required).

Cost of School meals for the summer term

The cost for school meals in the Summer Term 2015 will be as follows:

13th April - 22nd May 2015 **£65.25**

(Half Term 25th - 29th May)

NB Bank Holiday **4th May**

Inset Day **1st June**

2nd June - 17th July 2015 **£76.50**

Whole Term **£141.75**

You can also view this information under Resources, category "School meals" on School communicator.

Party invitations

A reminder to all parents: Teachers are not permitted to give out party invitations to children. It is time consuming and can cause problems when some children are excluded. Thank you for your understanding.

Walking Bus for September 2015

There is a parent-run walking bus that takes a small group of children each morning from the Infants (leaving at 8.30), via the Middle site, to juniors (arriving by 9.00). In order for your child to join every day, you will need to undertake one of the walks each week. It's been particularly helpful for working parents who struggle to make the later drop-off at juniors every day or those who use the Asquith Breakfast Club (as they don't deliver children to the Middle or Junior sites). Numbers are always limited so if you are interested in using the bus from September, please email marilia@waitrose.com as soon as possible.

Year 6 trip to France, 8th – 12th June 2015

Please ensure that any outstanding balances are paid by 31st March 2015. You will have received a letter requesting that you log onto Tucasi and pay. If you have any concerns about payment, it is very important that you contact me or Tom Holmes as soon as possible. Thank you.

Infant site reminder

Please remember that children on the infant site must be supervised by the appropriate parent/carer until the school bell is rung at 8.30am and the children can enter school.

CHURCH NEWS

Dear Parents,

As we are approaching the end of the term and I would like to wish you all a happy Easter. Our children have worked very hard and have been fantastic, if I may mention only recent events: Roman Day and Easter Service (led by year 5). It has been my pleasure to see them in classrooms, during our Collective Worship and blessed those who celebrated their birthday. With some we wrote prayers, with others we decorated an umbrella as a symbol of our friendship. In my box I have found plenty of inquisitive questions about God's favourite food, Jesus' family and the creation of the world; now is time for a little break for all of us.

I hope you all will have a good rest, successful Easter egg hunt and more sunny days!

With my best wishes

Fr. Piotr

Revd Dr Piotr Ashwin-Siejkowski

Assistant Priest/School Chaplain - St Mary's Twickenham

<http://st-marys.richmond.sch.uk/father-piotr/>

Visiting Research Fellow (King's College London):

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/trs/people/staff/associates/visit/ashwin-siejkowski.aspx>

SCHOOL NEWS

“Lean on me”

50 children from years 4 and 5 sang Bill Withers' ‘Lean on me.’

All primary schools in England and Wales were offered the chance to audition to sing at one of the welcoming ceremonies at the Rugby World Cup in September. To watch it, please visit our website (www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk) where you will see it, under “News” on the home page, “Rugby singing video”.

We shall find out if we've been successful by April 13th, so fingers crossed!



SPORTS NEWS

Running Club Inaugural 2km Timed Run on Friday 20th March

“The day of the solar eclipse dawned, strangely coinciding with our inaugural 2km timed run. Would we be able to see our way round the course? Luckily we were finished before the eclipse seriously got under way (not that it made that much difference in any case!). Tim Bowden (Estelle’s Dad, year 5) came up with the route, had the technological “knowhow” and brought the idea to fruition with the help of nine committed parents. A total of 56 runners all displayed considerable stamina, resilience, pace and spirit and those marshaling were impressed by the encouragement and team-work of those who took part. Children can, if they wish, get their times at the next running club meeting on Friday 1st May.

We aim to have a timed run once a month during the summer term.” *Julie Brown, Running club organiser*

I would like to single out Ben F (6P), who forfeited his own time to stay with another pupil until the end of the run. Ben’s attitude and kindness sums up perfectly the ethos of our school.

I would also like to thank staff and parents for organising running club every week, rain or shine, whose commitment and support make this club such a success. Thank you all, very much.

Netball news

It’s been a very busy half term for the members of the St Mary’s netball team, with matches being played for both the Borough Tournament and also the Borough Netball League.

The Borough Tournament was held on 25th February. With over thirty schools competing on the day, we managed to qualify second in our group meaning we were competing for the Borough Cup. Despite some committed performances by our players, sadly we were knocked out at this stage by the eventual Cup winners.

Taking the lessons we had learnt from those matches, we practised harder still in preparation for three Borough Netball League matches in a row. We had already won two of our matches from last term, however were sitting in second place for our pool. The first match was against the current pool leaders, St Edmund’s. The pace was fast and furious, and eventually we came out on top, final score 9 - 3. For the second match, all 16 members of the squad came to play a League match and a Friendly against Archdeacon. The friendly team fought hard, and secured a 3-3 draw. The league team came up again feisty and facing determined play from the Archdeacon team. We did, however, manage to win 6-2. The final match on the third day saw us meet the team from Orleans. After a slightly shaky start, our team got into their stride, with a final score of 25-0 giving us a convincing win.

This success means, for the first time ever, that the St Mary's Netball Team have topped their pool and will be competing in the Borough Netball League Tournament finals to be held on Wednesday, 22nd April.

We are extremely proud and delighted with the progress and achievements the Netball squad has made this season, and the chance to play in the Finals Tournament is a well-earned reward for their commitment.

Katy Welsh, Catherine Zawada and Evie Cazzolato



Borough sports

Message from the organisers of borough sports:

“Borough sports will be on Wednesday 3rd June; trials throughout the year (including for indoor athletics, cross country) determine the team.

After much discussion, the only way that we are able to accommodate an expanded Year 6 team (as the Borough's representative School Games team would need four Year 6 girls and four Year 6 boys) is to drop Year 3 pupils from the event, therefore giving an overall team of: four Year 4 pupils (2 boys and 2 girls), four Year 5 pupils (2 boys and 2 girls) and eight Year 6 pupils (4 boys and 4 girls).”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Easter Activities at Albany Park Canoe and Sailing Centre for ages 8 to 16 years

We are offering sailing for beginners and novices or training days to brush up on your skills with the help from our RYA Senior Instructors. A family river trip is planned, from Hampton Court to Albany. Come along and enjoy a family day together. There are also canoeing/kayaking courses for beginners and improvers and our popular multi activity sessions.

Albany Park Canoe and Sailing Centre after school Activities

We are pleased to be able to offer after school paddle-sports (canoeing) sessions on Tuesday evenings weekly throughout the term. Young people will be able to gain valuable experience on the water to prepare and keep refreshed for your next BCU (British Canoe Union) canoeing course at Albany Park Canoe Centre. The sessions will be fully supervised by experienced fully qualified BCU instructors at all times.

Email albanyparksb@kingston.gov.uk or go to www.kingston.gov.uk and search for "Albany Park"

Yours sincerely



Stuart Campbell
Head Teacher
headteacher@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

27th March 2015



THE ROYAL SOCIETY
Associate Schools and Colleges



RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

St Mary's CE School is a member of the RFU Education Partnership