



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

Wednesday 5th September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you've all had a joyous summer and are rested and good to go for another year.

It has been an incredibly productive summer for us at St Mary's, starting with the installation of the air conditioning units in each class on the middle site. Funded by FoSM, this fantastic resource is making such a difference to those on the site. Even this morning, when it wasn't quite as warm as it has been, the classrooms were hot before we turned them on. Thank you for all that you did to raise the money for such a big project.

The middle site also had a new boiler. Those of you who know the site will have been aware of the countless floods damaging our computing room especially, we've seen the last of them thankfully.

The replacement roof is still underway but expected to be complete by the end of next week, providing us with a leak free building for years to come. Our thanks go to the London Diocesan Board for Schools for its generosity in enabling these projects happen. We must also thank Mohammad who project managed all the works, at the cost of his own holiday time, and did an amazing job.

Staff news

I am writing to you to let you know that Mr Brampton will not be at school at the beginning of the term. Following a short admission to hospital over the summer, Mr Brampton is undergoing some tests before being declared fit to return to school.

I know you will wish to join me in sending him our very best wishes for a speedy recovery.

In Mr Brampton's absence, Mrs Donovan will be joined by none other than Mr Williams, who it appears has had a shockingly short time off! We are delighted to be able to provide not only a great teacher but also someone the children know well and we are very grateful to Mr Williams for agreeing to come back so soon!

Yesterday I wrote briefly to tell you about two new plans:

PE Kits Years 1- 6

You will be informed by Friday of the days your child will have PE. On those days your child should come into school with their full PE kit, including trainers, and wear it all day. This means your child will not require a PE bag in school. The only problem we predict is if you forget the day they have PE. We will have the days on the website to provide a layer of security!



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Before and After School Years 2- 6

The gates will open on both sites at the normal times. Please be aware that we will have an adult outside from 8:30am but not before. If your child is in the playground earlier than this, because they happened to see the gate open, we are not responsible for them.

The teachers will collect the children from their class lines; doing this allows you to have a brief chat about anything you think they need to know. If you need to have a longer conversation please make an appointment as the teachers will need to lead their children in for the start of the day.

At the end of the day the teachers will bring the children to their lines. This will help to avoid congestion at the gates and allow the teachers to spot who they are handing children over to.

Thank you for your assistance whilst this plan embeds.

Healthy Snacks:

Last year our healthy school policy was implemented successfully and we were very grateful for your cooperation with requests. Here is a small reminder about the snacks permitted for playtimes; raw fruit and vegetables, malt loaf and fruit breads, breadsticks and wholemeal crackers.

Today we saw the reappearance of crisps and chocolate, which we allowed as it is the first day, but they will be kept until home time from tomorrow.

PATHS

I am delighted to let you know about a new project beginning at St Mary's. You will have by now picked up my passion for supporting children's good mental health. Our work with The Anna Freud and the introduction of our learning mentor, Mrs Pummell, have been a real asset to the school so far.

This work continues with the PATHS project, which stands for Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies. It is sponsored by the Barnardo's charity and is a three year project in which teachers are trained and supported to deliver a curriculum in support of positive mental health; it is delivered right across the school.

It is really exciting and we had training on this during our recent Inset days. Some of the lessons extend to homework and we very much hope you will become involved in the project by supporting your child to complete it. We will keep you informed of developments over time and look forward to enabling our children to be more confident about their feelings and develop greater resilience.

Last term we finished the year with a parent survey. Thank you to those who submitted a response. 147 families out of a possible 652 completed the survey; this is similar to our survey of last year.



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Parent survey data results

Question Strongly agree/ Agree	%
My child/ren are happy at school	94.56
My child/ren feel safe at school	97.95
The school's values and attitudes have a positive effect on my children	91.84
Pupils are encouraged to develop a clear sense of right and wrong and behave well	93.20
There is a positive relationship between parents and the school	82.31
The school is well led and managed	80.82

In response to your feedback, we have decided to stop sending out the winners of the Celebration Award and Star of the Week through the newsletters. We will give you half termly attendance date. Lots of parents felt it made the letters too long.

Reminders: Diary dates

Monday 10th September

Year 1 meet your class teacher 15:15 – 15:45 (the meeting will be in the hall and pupils will be supervised in their classrooms)

Tuesday 11th September

Year 2 meet your class teacher 15:30 – 16:00 (the meeting will be in hall and pupils will be supervised in their classrooms)

Wednesday 12th September

Year 3 meet your class teacher 15:30 – 16:00 (the meeting will be in the hall and pupils will be supervised in their classrooms)

Thursday 13th September

Year 4 meet your class teacher 15:45 – 16:15 (the meeting will be in the hall and pupils will be supervised in their classrooms)

Tuesday 18th September

Year 3 Sycamores first swimming lesson

Tuesday 18th September

Year 5 meet your class teacher 15:45 – 16:15 (the meeting will be in the hall and pupils will be supervised in their classrooms)

Wednesday 19th September

Year 6 meet your class teacher 15:45 – 16:15 (the meeting will be in the hall and pupils will be supervised in their classrooms)



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Yours sincerely,

Angela Abrahams

Headteacher

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