



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

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F: 0208 607 0420

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

www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

Friday 5th October 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy World Smile Day ☺

Sports news from Miss Whittall

With regards to our recent change in the wearing of PE kit, we are hearing great things from both staff and pupils so we wanted to share this with you.

The amount of time children are actively partaking in physical activity has increased. There is no wasted time getting changed therefore children are getting two full hours of PE a week which was not the case beforehand. This is enhancing the children's fitness levels as they are active for a longer period of time. Children who previously missed lots of PE due to not having their PE kits, are now actively involved which avoids letters being sent home over forgotten kits. 100% of children are participating 100% of the time. No changing time also makes transitions to the next lesson much smoother, children are ready to continue their learning in the classroom quicker than before. The school environment looks much tidier, cloakrooms aren't full of blue PE kits and the amount of items in our lost property has been reduced.

However, could parents ensure that all children have names in their PE jackets. Can we also remind children that it is important they look smart in their PE kits. If your child does not have a school jacket, then they may wear a navy alternative until their top comes back into stock. Please let us know if finance is preventing your child having the correct kit, we may be able to help.

Reception parents, your children are changing at school for PE as part of their physical development. They are doing well, however some children still need a lot of support. Encouraging independent changing at home will help develop this skill allowing more time for physical activity in PE sessions.

Please note: Our Sports Day dates are now on the website however, we have changed the timings to 9.30am-12.30pm, just in case we should have a very hot summer once again!

Super Reading Resource

If your child needs help with reading or phonics, we recommend a super new app. 'Teach Your Monster To Read' has been created by Roehampton University. The program covers the first 2 years of a child's reading journey in a fun way! The app allows children to create characters, play fun games and learn, all at the same time. The app has a small cost but the website is completely free. Please follow the link to explore the site: <https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/>.

Harvest Service



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A reminder to our Year 2 parents that they are invited to join us on Tuesday at 10:00 am for the service at St Mary's Church. If you would like to make a donation to Water Aid, we are taking a collection at the end of the service.

Road Safety

Today a pupil from Orleans Park was hit by a motorbike whilst crossing Richmond Road. This was reported to us by a parent there at the time. It may be timely to remind your children about using the crossings and not being on mobile phones whilst on the roads?

Local Community Appeal

Can you help? The ETNA Centre is a much-used resource by local families and we need 150 people to back our crowdfunding project by 14th October, to qualify for a grant from the London Mayoral Fund. We just need a small pledge say £1 or £2, to show your support for our project to create a space where the elderly, the young and those just wanting a chat can come for coffee and an affordable meal. <https://etnacentre.org/pledge/>

SEN Review

Last week we promised to share with you some of the highlights of our recent SEN review. We hope you enjoy reading them:

- *Across the school there was consistently high expectations of pupils by their teachers for both learning and behaviour.*
- *All the lessons seen were well planned and teaching style, tasks and resources were differentiated to enable pupils to access their learning as independently as possible.*
- *Where additional adults were observed they obviously had a very clear understanding of their role and some very astute questioning was overheard*
- *Behaviour management in all the classes was very effective and staff were using a range of strategies to make sure all pupils, including those with SEND, were engaged.*
- *There is a well-developed, rigorous and consistent whole school assessment schedule in place. As well as formal assessment, it was clear from observations that teachers and additional adults in the classroom are constantly using questioning during lessons to ascertain pupils' understanding and discover if there have been any misconceptions or misunderstandings.*
- *Across the school pupils with SEND are making good progress and data shows that the longer pupils are in the school the better the progress they make. Last year's SEND leavers made better than the average progress in both reading and writing and equivalent progress in Mathematics.*



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- *SEND is very well led and managed across the school. The Lead SENCo has developed systems and procedures to ensure that teachers on all sites have the information they need to provide the best outcomes for pupils with SEND in their class.*
- *The Governing Body takes its responsibility for SEND pupils seriously and believes there is excellent provision for pupils with SEND. The Governor for SEND is well informed and the Chair of Governors takes a personal interest in SEND across the school.*
- *School staff have undergone a wide range of training, specifically in relation to provision for pupils with SEND. The training has been delivered both in-house by the SENCo and by outside agencies.*
- *The pupils at St Mary's are polite, confident and happy to voice their views and both they and their teachers work extremely hard towards common goals.*

Governing Body News

As part of planned succession arrangements, **Ben Driver** and **Ieke Hilmy** have stepped down as Chair and Vice Chair respectively of the Governing Body of St Mary's with effect from 1st October. We thank them for their tremendous contribution and dedication to the School in these roles over three years, much of which goes on behind the scenes. Ieke has also stepped down as a Governor and we wish her and her family all the very best going forward.

At the Governing Body meeting this week, **Christina Sturge**, **Victoria Busby** and I were appointed Co-Vice Chairs and Chair of the Governing Body with effect from 1st October for the coming year. We look forward to working with Mrs Abrahams and the wider School community in ensuring St Mary's continues to thrive as a cohesive and inclusive school with shared Christian values, underpinned by a strong culture that blends compassion with excellence.

The Governing Body also welcomes **Andrew Gunn** as a foundation governor. We thank him and all governors for offering their time and energy to St Mary's in this way.

You can find more information about the Governing Body, who we are and what we do on the School website via the following link: <http://st-marys.richmond.sch.uk/school-governors/>

Alex Hazard

Chair of the Governing Body



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Monday 8th October

Year 6 cycling proficiency x 2 weeks (further information to follow)

Monday 8th October

Year 1 cake sale

Monday 8th October

FoSM AGM (6pm), New parents evening (19:00 – 20:30) IS

Tuesday 9th October

Harvest Thanksgiving service, 10:00 St Mary's Church

Tuesday 9th October

No celebration assembly at the infant site

Wednesday 10th October

Mental Health Day

Wednesday 10th October

Primary Proms, Year 5, Albert Hall

Thursday 11th October

Phonics screening meeting for Year 1 parents, 17:30 -18:00, IS

Monday 15th October

Year 6 cycling proficiency x 2 weeks (further information to follow)

Monday 15th October

Year 6 cake sale

Monday 15th October

Meeting for Year 6 parents re France 19:00 – 20:00 JS hall

Monday 22nd – Friday 26th October

HALF TERM

Yours sincerely,

Angela Abrahams

Headteacher

headteacher@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk