



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:

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TW1 3BA

T: 0208 892 7849

F: 0208 607 0420

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

www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

Friday 1st March 2019

Dear Parents,

Happy St David's Day

Save the date:

Please add **Wednesday 20th March 7.30pm**, Middle Site to your diary, to come along to my annual meeting for parents. Titled '*St Marys - our School in 2019*', you will have the opportunity to hear about what happens during the school day, we will share the progress towards our new vision and values statement, learn about the new Ofsted Framework and how we are preparing for it. FoSM is kindly providing a glass of wine or two to make this a social occasion as much as an information sharing event; I really hope you can join me and our Senior Leadership Team.

Spring 2 - Curriculum:

We have an exciting half term of learning ahead. Our teachers have been working hard to develop curriculum links across all subjects to a Key Question each term.

Year R: How are animals different?

Year 1: What does my dream house look like?

Year 2: Why was Florence Nightingale so important?

Year 3: What makes the Earth angry?

Year 4: Why is London an exciting place to live?

Year 5: What is written in the stars?

Year 6: How can we protect our rivers and oceans?

To see our revised Curriculum Maps look at our website: <http://st-marys.richmond.sch.uk/curriculum-maps>



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Education Welfare Officer:

In the recent meeting with our EWO, I was instructed to make referrals to the service for any children who have taken a week's holiday during term time. Please keep this in mind when booking holidays; having to do this isn't part of the role I relish.

St Mary's Fund

Last year it was announced that schools would be receiving some extra money to fund the 'little extras' and the school has now received it. Needless to say this amount, sadly, won't go too far in bridging the gap in funding and required expenditure. We are, therefore, extremely grateful to parents for providing support to the St Mary's Fund. As we look toward a year with a steep increase in costs, this money will be more important than ever.

"Momo" and Internet Safety

We have had a number of parents contact the school regarding the recent media coverage of the so-called 'Momo Challenge'. The school has been sent a number of useful links which we felt parents may wish to read through to hopefully allay any fears or concerns they may have about this, or internet and computer safety in general:

https://schoolleaders.thekeysupport.com/pupils-and-parents/pupil-health-and-wellbeing/pupil-wellbeing/momo-should-we-be-worried/?utm_campaign=News+Briefing&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--DqGFF5eGyTjfQncZ9OhMHn7s1TpvnjjNsk33Nonjai7jofikWuE6lBpRPVQZeuh1t0xQ5R3iimzyA5vYu-f0AIOf2HMDYuUAX2nXV0ru-HxfRYTw&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=70378305&_hsmi=70378305

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/three-minute-briefing-momo-challenge>

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/its-personal/when-you-see-something-scary-online>

News from the governing body

Following the recent announcement of a vacancy on the Governing Body for a parent governor, we received one nomination by the deadline. There is therefore no requirement to hold an election and I am delighted to tell you that the new parent governor for St Mary's will be Malcolm McKinlay.

Malcolm has a wealth of relevant experience and I am sure he will be a valuable member of the Board. As he himself explains: "I have worked as a Headteacher at Parkgate House School for seven years and in education for 16 years. As such, I am very passionate about the positive impact schools can have. My experience extends to both managing a school budget and finances as well as maintaining a school building. I am very interested in developments and innovation within



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education and have written a resource that has been published which helps schools build resilience and engagement in pupils, preparing them for their future. My children love attending St Mary's and I am keen to support the continued development of the school".

Malcolm will begin his 4-year term of office on Monday 25th March when he will be welcomed at a meeting of the Full Governing Body.

Some of you may be aware that the National Governance Association has been holding a week of action over schools' funding. Governing Bodies across the country have been encouraged to take various actions this week in support. St Mary's has added its voice by lobbying our MP, Sir Vince Cable, to support fairer funding for schools, outlining the impact that insufficient school funding is having generally on all schools using information supplied by the NGA, and also giving examples of the specific impact on St Mary's. You can read the letter I wrote on behalf of the Governing Body to Sir Vince on the Governors' section of School Communicator. We will of course share any response we receive with you.

Alex Hazard, Chair of the Governing Body

Summer School Uniform:

We had a burst of lovely weather, hopefully giving us a taste of what's to come. I thought a reminder about summer uniform may be helpful before you start buying it in. Please remember that girls are not permitted to wear the play suits that became fashionable last year. Summer dresses or grey shorts are the order of the day! Do check out the website for further details.

World Book Day, Friday 8th March:

Next Friday we look forward to seeing the children come in dressed as their favourite book character. The children will be asked to donate £1 which will contribute towards replenishing our reading books, thank you in advance for your support.

Your child will soon come home with a World Book Day book token; Sainsbury's is producing mini versions of well-loved stories and these book tokens can be exchanged for one of them.

Head Lice:

We have had a resurgence of the dreaded Head Lice since half term. Please check your child's hair a couple of times each week and treat immediately with conditioner and thorough combing if you spot even one! You can find out more about this via School Communicator, Resources, "Healthcare".



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Career Assemblies:

We would love to hear from any parents/friends/grandparents/aunties/uncles, anyone who has a job that the children can learn about. We aim to enhance our curriculum further, whilst providing experiences to help the children develop aspirations for their future. If you can help, please email us at info@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk. We can be flexible with times and dates!

Swimming news

Just before half term we attended the Richmond Borough Swimming heats for large schools at Pools on the Park. Competition was fierce between the 18 schools with each swimmer/relay attempting to gain a top 6 place and continue onto the next gala, in March. We have secured 10/15 swimmers through to the next round and everyone swam well, many producing a "personal best time".

The highlight of this gala was our squadron relay team made up of Millie C, Theo C, Lauren M, Ben B, Isabelle D and Kyran A; they sailed through the first round and into the Borough final where they achieved bronze medals.

My congratulations to the whole team, *Emma Beagley, Swimming Coach*

Climate change protest:

On the inset day before half term, two of our pupils, Mabel F in 5W and Elsie F in 3 Maples emailed me to tell me that on Friday 15th February they were going on strike because they were not happy that humans are not doing anything about climate change. Mabel and Elsie protested at Parliament Square together and have let Parliament know that they are not happy about this at all. We are very proud of Mabel and Elsie for standing up for something they believe in.

Autism Event:

On Wednesday 20th March 2019 there is an event for World Autism Awareness, 10:30am - 14:30pm at The Rose Theatre in Kingston upon Thames including talks, information & product stalls. Do see their website for further details: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/express-autism-conference-2019-tickets-55893859037



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Help Needed

We are looking for some SMSAs to join our lunchtime teams. The main responsibilities of this post will be:

- Supervise the children during the lunch break
- Monitor and manage the children's behaviour in the dining hall and playground
- Deal with accidents and incidents in the dining hall and playground

The ideal candidate must enjoy the company of children, be dependable, with good interpersonal skills - preferably with knowledge of a school setting.

If you would like more information about the role, or to get an application form, please contact Simon Minty on sminty@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk.

Please see below for dates of important up and coming SATs meetings for parents of children in Years 2 and 6.

Reminders:

Monday 4th March

NO SCHOOL RUN CLUBS THIS WEEK (Parent Teacher consultations)

WORLD BOOK WEEK

Yea 3 cake sale

Wednesday 6th March

Parent Teacher consultations – School finishes ONE hour earlier 16:00 – 19:00

Thursday 7th March

Year 1 Nightingales class assembly (link class 4M)

Parent Teacher consultations – School finishes ONE hour earlier 16:00 – 19:00

Friday 8th March - Note the change of our date - nationally WBD is the 7th

World Book week, dress up as your favourite book character- all welcome! (whole school)

Monday 11th March

6NS to the Poppy Factory

Reception cake sale after school

Tuesday 12th March

Year 2 SATs meeting for parents 1530 – 1600, middle site hall



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Wednesday 13th March

6P to Poppy Factory
Swimming gala finals, Pools on the Park, 1400
First "Plogging" club after school

Thursday 14th March

6Z to the Poppy Factory
Year 6 SATs evening for parents, 1900 – 1930, junior site hall

Friday 15th March

RED NOSE DAY
Year 5 to the Science Museum
Year 6/FoSM Quiz and curry night 1900, middle site hall

Yours sincerely,

Angela Abrahams
Headteacher
headteacher@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

