



St Mary's Church of England School

Infants:

Amyand Park Road
Twickenham
TW1 3HE

Middle:

Strafford Road
Twickenham
TW1 3AD

Juniors:

Richmond Road
Twickenham
TW1 3BA

T: 0208 892 5840
F: 0208 744 9027

T: 0208 249 6836
F: 0208 891 1904

T: 0208 892 7849
F: 0208 607 0420

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

www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk

Friday 13th September 2019

Dear parents,

St Mary's Creative Curriculum

You will have seen from Twitter the exciting learning that commenced this week with our Hook Days as year groups begun this half term's topics, which feed through most of their subject learning. These are their Key Questions; please do discuss them at home:

Reception	What makes me special?
Year 1	What does my dream home look like?
Year 2	What are the traditions of Africa?
Year 3	How can I explore India through my senses?
Year 4	Where will a journey down the River Nile take me?
Year 5	Is life a carnival in Brazil?
Year 6	What was life like on the Home Front?

If you do not already, please follow us on Twitter at @twickstmarys. Among other things, it is where we celebrate our curriculum learning.

Drop-off in the mornings

A gentle reminder of the times children are expected to arrive at School in the mornings:
8.30am (Infant), 8.45am (Middle) and 9.00am (Junior).

Class teachers are available for a brief chat five minutes before these start times however, if you need a longer time please make an appointment through the site office. A member of staff will be on the gate at all sites from 8.20am (Infant), 8.35am (Middle) and 8.45am (Junior). Staff are there to welcome you and the children, but they are not able to take responsibility for supervising the children. We ask that the children's safety and behaviour remains the responsibility of parents/carers until the bell is rung. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Support for projects

Once again, St Mary's has been put forward by our parents as this month's Waitrose Twickenham, green token charity. We have been very successful in the past and received £350 - £400 from Waitrose. If you shop there, do consider dropping the green token in our box, thank you.



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Parents have also set up a 'Go Fund Me' page in order to raise money for some sort of additional fencing to complement our middle site railings, after the concerning incident of last week. The total stands at £1415.00, thank you to those who have contributed thus far.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/fencing-for-the-middle-site?utm_medium=email&utm_source=product&utm_campaign=p_email%2B4803-donation-alert-v5

We have been working with the Council to establish exactly what we are permitted to install. It looks like we are limited because of the area we are in, which leaves the options of planting of hedges or some sort of banner-type addition to the existing railings. Either option will be costly, so your support is really welcomed.

Ryman Vouchers for Classrooms!

I'd like to draw your attention to a fantastic offer by Ryman the stationers. When shopping at Ryman, they give you 'classroom vouchers' to give to your school so that we may redeem them on stationery supplies.

If you have any 'classroom vouchers' - please leave them in the office of your site - thank you for your support! The offer closes on 2nd November 2019.

Suggestion boxes

Our parent suggestion boxes are now all up and running and will be checked weekly. If you have any ideas, which you would like to share with us please use this facility, many thanks.

School Council - Summer Fair Stall News

I am very happy to announce that our school councillors have decided to donate the £100 raised at the St Mary's Summer Fair, to the charity Project Le Monde. We are already collecting our old school library books for PLM, but our school councillors thought it would be a good idea to use the £100 to buy some brand new books for children in Africa. During the discussion, the children talked about how they 'have everything we need and we should give the money to children that are not as lucky as us' - it was heart-warming to hear our children showing such compassion and kindness towards others. Diane Pummell, Learning Mentor

Education Welfare Officer

Every six weeks I meet with our welfare officer to look in detail at attendance and punctuality. In our recent meeting she advised that we ensure parents are very clear about school procedures, so please see below if you are unsure:

All pupils are expected to be at school as near to 100% of the time as possible, but for no less than 95% of the school year. Our aim is to raise attendance from its current position at 97%, so that it is



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in line with our local primary schools, which we are always compared to. A number of schools are above 98%, so we are very close.

We will not authorise holidays taken in term time; please check the dates on the website. Holidays taken automatically require a referral to the welfare service.

Pupils who arrive at school late and after the close of the register receive an unauthorised code which amounts to a morning off school this, when recorded repeatedly, requires a referral to the welfare service.

Pupils who are a cause for concern because their attendance has dropped to 90% or below are closely monitored and any days off school must be evidenced with a note stamped by the GP. We have made contact with all our local GPs so they understand what our parents are being asked to do.

These are the salient points from our policy which will provide clarity for the coming year.

Headlice

At the beginning of every academic year there seems to be an outbreak of Headlice in school. We do not send emails to year groups but if a class teacher notices that your child has Headlice s/he will call you to let you know so that you can treat it accordingly. There is information for parents on School Communicator, Resources "Healthcare". Should you wish to alert other parents in your year group, please communicate within your Whatsapp groups.

A six week series of talks on aspects of Dyslexia

These talks are directed towards parents, teachers and anyone who has a real interest in why some children and adults have difficulties affecting literacy and numeracy. Each week a different aspect will be covered with ample opportunity to ask questions. All are welcome. Flyer is available [here](#).

7.30pm: Tuesday 17 September – Tuesday 12 November 2019
Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue,
Richmond TW9 1TP
Tel: 07495 648025

Understanding autism family seminar

'Understanding Autism' is one of the Autism Seminars for Families which provides information and advice to parents and carers of children aged up to 11 who have received a recent diagnosis or are on the road to a diagnosis of autism.



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Seminar date: Thursday 10 October 2019
Start and finish times: 9.30am to 2.30pm
Venue name: Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School

[Flyer](#)

[Application Form](#)

Reminders of important dates coming up:

Monday 16th September

6Z to Henley Fort 0815
Chamber choir auditions for Yrs 4 – 6 0800 (just turn up)

Tuesday 17th September

6SK to Henley Fort 0815
Parent sign up via Tucasi for School run clubs 1300 onwards
Year 3 Poplars first swimming lesson Pools on the Park

Wednesday 18th September

6M to Henley Fort 0815

Thursday 19th September

Year 2 presentation on Africa

Friday 20th September

Year 2 African drumming workshop

Monday 23rd September

School run clubs start (except Chamber choir)

Tuesday 24th September

Year 6 meeting for parents re secondary schools 1800 – 1900 junior site hall

Best wishes,

Angela Abrahams
Headteacher



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