



## St Mary's Church of England School

### Infants:

Amyand Park Road  
Twickenham  
TW1 3HE

T: 0208 892 5840

### Middle:

Strafford Road  
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### Juniors:

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[www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys.richmond.sch.uk)

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

The end of the academic year and the last of many, many newsletters; thank you for reading them, especially over the last term, when they were frequent and filled with updates and instructions...congratulations to St Mary's School community, we made it!

At times, since March, some of the things we were being asked to do felt unmanageable, but it just shows what can be accomplished when home and school work together.

My enormous thanks go to the staff who have shown such support and flexibility, without this it would have been a sorrier end to the year, as we wouldn't have seen all our year groups return. We know that having the children back at school made a difference.

Our children have shown tremendous resilience and I thank them for continuing to show our St Mary's values of Resilience and Endurance during this year. We are very proud of them.

### Curriculum Overview

Although time in school has been cut short this year, St Mary's curriculum has continued to thrive and even strengthen. Half-termly topics have continued to act as meaningful and engaging links between subjects; new topics this year have included India in Year 3 and the Circus in Year 2. Hook Days are the highlight of the term for many children – a great way to start a new topic and a new half term – and have included Roman shield making, entering a Space Dome and welcoming real-life rainforest animals to touch and observe.

Topics have inspired writing, such as Year 4's Paddington Stories linked to their London learning, which has been shared across link classes. School Visits have continued to inspire and enrich the curriculum; for the first time our Year 6s visited Henley Fort in Guildford and dressed up and relived the role of the Home Guard in WWII. Our curriculum continues to regularly link to local issues (Twickenham's riverside redevelopment and River Cray projects); environmental learning (protecting rivers and oceans, learning about biodiversity and fighting against animal extinctions such as the rhino); and diversity (learning about Black Lives Matter, how those with physical impairments are challenged and how women and people of all backgrounds should be celebrated). Our Great Works have showcased the Outstanding curriculum we have – highlights included Year 2's African singing to parents on the playground, Year 5's Rainforest Soundscape to the Middle Site and Year 4's Walk through London for parents.

Despite the challenges, we have been committed to sustain our vision for learning and curriculum intent during Lockdown; we thank you, our parents and carers, for supporting it and keeping it alive.



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We also made great use of the newly refurbished pond area on the junior site, kindly sponsored by last year's Year 6 parents and children. This year's Year 6 parents are supporting our other green spaces around the school and we thank them for this lasting legacy.

Our Reception playground was completely transformed, creating a play space to be proud of.

We look forward to the new year and more exciting developments.

### **Please see attached important guidance about September.**

Our School is supported by the Governing Body, which works tirelessly behind the scenes and we remember, of course, they are all volunteers. I thank them for all they do for us. My thanks also to the trustees who, through their annual grant, help us to provide our Learning Mentor, The Anna Freud outreach, our singing teacher and so much more.

My thanks also go to Emily Price and Georgina Acosta-Rubio, our FoSM Chair who is stepping down as our recently retired Vice- Chair. What a year successful it has been for them, including the innovative Summer Fair. Thank you to you both, for your tireless work in support of our school. We very much hope someone will come forward very soon to take over the reins.

My final thanks go to you, the parents, for your support of our wonderful school. St Mary's is a very happy, inclusive School because we all work together. This year you were required to educate your children at home and we know the challenges you faced in doing it - so we think you deserve a reward; we hope your certificate adorns your fridge over the summer. It was emailed to you at 2.30pm today!

### **From the Governing Body:**

As the academic year draws to a close we would like to thank you all on behalf of the Governing Body for your continued support for the school. Parental time and commitment in all forms matters, particularly this year given the circumstances we have all found ourselves in. Your support makes a huge difference to the children's educational outcomes and goes towards sustaining our school community and its cohesion; we really do appreciate it, it helps make St Mary's the school it is.

A massive thank you to your children for their hard work this year. They have found themselves working in a way that none of us would have imagined and have responded and adapted extremely well. We of course look forward to them returning in September and as a school supporting them as they reintegrate. We are also hugely grateful to the teaching and support staff for the hard work, dedication, professionalism and of course flexibility that they have shown throughout this year. A very well deserved break awaits – thank you all!



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The Governing Body has produced its annual report which you can find on the school website at <https://st-marys.richmond.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/2020-Governing-Body-Annual-Report-to-the-school-community.pdf> As volunteers, the governors have given their time to the school generously and unfailingly and we are sure you will join us in thanking them for that.

We would like to wish everyone a restful and relaxing summer holiday.

Andrew Gunn and Malcolm McKinlay  
Co-Chairs, Governing Body

### Calendar dates for our next academic year

Normally, we would have shared these with you by now and updated the school calendar via our website. Given the current situation, we have these ready in "draft" and will wait until September to send them with you. We are also waiting for approval for our Church dates. Everything may be subject to change of course.

### School Meals

As we look forward to returning to school in September we are getting everything in place with our caterers to provide as full a service as possible. Ahead of the new academic year, we have been advised that there will be a slight increase in the cost of meals. With this in mind, the price of a meal will, unfortunately, rise to £2.35 per day which equates to a £9.50 increase for the whole academic year. This means the cost for the first autumn half term will be £82.25. Should you wish to pay for the whole term, the cost will be £164.50.

Separate to this, could all parents of children currently in Year 2 please contact Mrs Maxted on [dmaxted@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:dmaxted@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk) as soon as possible to let her know if your child will remain on school meals in September, or if you will be switching to a packed lunch. Without this information, we will not be able to provide a meal for your child upon their return in September.

We send good luck wishes to all of our leavers, pupils and staff, and hope they will keep in touch with us to let us know of their future achievements, which we know will be many.

### Year 6 destinations 2020

1 x Christ's School  
1 x Clarendon  
2 x Hampton School  
1 x Heathlands  
2 x KGS  
1 x Nonsuch High School for Girls  
51 x Orleans Park School  
1 x Sir William Perkins  
2 x St Catherine's



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1 x St Richard Reynolds  
4 x Surbiton High School  
1 x Teddington School  
1 x The Green School for Boys  
1 x The Green School for Girls  
1 x Tomlinsoncote School  
9 x RTS  
3 x The Tiffin Girls' School  
7 x Waldegrave School

The staff joins me in wishing you a very happy summer break and we look forward to our return on 7th September.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Abrahams  
Headteacher

