



St Mary's CE Primary School  
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## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: FRIDAY 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023, WEEK 6

### FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Thank you for your support during this very busy term; without your help we couldn't do half the things we do. Your Amazon Wishlist donations, cake sale money - which provides the extras to enable a really enriched curriculum and accompanying us on the many visits to places of interest; what a team we make.

If you get ten minutes during half term to scroll through Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/twickstmarys> you can really get a feel for what goes on right across the school. One of our governors said recently that he wishes he'd gone to a school like ours; me too.

### Pause for thought

With all the exciting things going on here it is hard to imagine what life has become for those involved in the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. At St Mary's we have many families from Turkey and we know that they are suffering, worrying about family members and about the country they may still call home. It's difficult to feel anything but great empathy for those involved and being so far away there is little we can do except hold them in our prayers and contribute to the Red Cross appeal. If you have anything you can spare please consider making a donation in the spirit of Conemur:

[https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal?gclid=EAlaIQobChMI5PbT38WK\\_QiVROztCh16xwOiEAAYASAAEgKE0PD\\_BwE](https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal?gclid=EAlaIQobChMI5PbT38WK_QiVROztCh16xwOiEAAYASAAEgKE0PD_BwE)

### OTHER NEWS

#### Weekly attendance: w/c 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023

A reminder that, as per my newsletter dated 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022, absence from school two days before or two days after a holiday will be marked as unauthorised unless you are able to provide medical evidence of your child/ren's absence, as advised by our local authority welfare officer. The link to our Attendance & Punctuality policy is here:

<https://st-marys.richmond.sch.uk/school-policies/>

Well done to Year 1 for the highest attendance this week!

Year group	Lates	Attendance
Reception	12	97.02%
Year 1	10	98.52%
Year 2	2	95.95%
Year 3	2	97.05%
Year 4	4	97.54%
Year 5	3	97.91%
Year 6	5	95.82%
<b>Whole School</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>97.1%</b>

Extra playtime next term for 3 Maples, winners of the half term attendance competition with 98.98%

### **Term dates 2024 – 25**

These are with the GB waiting to be ratified at their next meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March. We will let you know when they are available via our website.

### **Calendar dates for parents January – July 2023**

These are updated and attached to this newsletter. The website calendar is up to date on our website.

### **FINALLY**

### **A Prayer for the earthquake in Turkey & Syria**

We pray for the people of Central Turkey and North West Syria, whose lives have been devastated by the earthquake. Be present, O Lord, our Good Shepherd, to bring comfort, relief, shelter and human kindness. Shield the people who suffer, console those who are bereaved, prosper the provision of relief, strengthen the work of emergency teams, and shine your light and hope in the most despair.

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Wishing you all a safe and happy half term.

Yours sincerely



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