



St Mary's CE Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: FRIDAY 3rd February 2023, WEEK 5

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

You may have seen the photographs on Twitter of our outdoor learning space, which shows how it has been cleared ready for sessions to begin after the half term. With a wonderful Willow arch to enter through, it is now officially known as **Willow Wood**. The first groups of children to start their learning are Years 2 and 4.

Points to note for Year 2 and 4 parents:

- Please login into Tucasi if you haven't yet managed to pay for the sessions.
- The children do not need to come into school in their school uniform on their day in Willow Wood - teachers will confirm the dates with you in their weekly letter sent on a Thursday.
- The children need warm clothes and a waterproof coat - they will be outside in all weather.
- Wellington boots required but shoes must be sent in for changing into afterwards.

Their learning objectives for the first round of lessons are:

- To be able to recognise the features of our woodland.
- To be able to identify common birds and animals by the clues they leave.
- To understand the impact of winter on wildlife.

We so look forward to this brilliant opportunity finally getting up and running. Much of the resourcing for it has been made possible through the generous legacy fund left by last year's Year 6 children and parents. I am sure that knowing how valuable a resource they have gifted to generations of children at St Mary's will bring them great satisfaction.

Book recommendation

This week whilst teachers were on strike, I was given the gift of a book by a parent of St Mary's. She thought it would be a useful resource for helping children to understand what the strike was about and for sharing historical examples of when people have come together to change the world. It is such a great book that I thought you might like to know about it:

- "Protest" by Alice & Emily Howorth-Booth

Weekly attendance: w/c 30th January 2023

Well done to Year 6 for the highest attendance this week!

I am pleased to report that the percentage of unauthorised holidays in 2022-23 dropped by 2% in the two days before and after the Christmas break, compared to the previous year. Thank you for supporting your child's education and not taking them out of school during term time.

Year group	Lates	Attendance
Reception	4	96.31%
Year 1	8	95.66%
Year 2	1	96.98%
Year 3	1	96.98%
Year 4	1	96.42%
Year 5	2	96.68%
Year 6	1	98.12%
Whole School	18	96.52%

OTHER NEWS

Messy Church at St Mary's

St Mary's Church is very happy to announce the re-launch of St Mary's Messy Church Club!

What is Messy Church?

Messy Church is a once-termly craft session for St Mary's School children in years Reception to Year 3, held at St Mary's Church (Church Street, Twickenham).

The aim of Messy Church is to engage the children with their faith through messy and creative play. They will take part in several craft related activities which they can then take home at the end of the session.

Upon arrival, children are provided with a snack (sandwich, biscuit & juice).

Cost of Messy Church sessions

£3 per child

or

£5 for siblings

Payment must be made in cash on the day. Please bring exact change.

Messy Church is a non-profit club. All proceeds raised are used to fund subsequent sessions.

How often does Messy Church run?

Once per school term. Typically, one session towards Christmas, one around Easter and one just before the summer holidays.

Our next session will be:

Friday 17th March 2023
3.15pm - 5pm (please make your way straight from school).

Pre-booking is not required, just turn up on the day.

Theme: The Last Supper - Father Jeff will provide a short child friendly sermon at the start of Messy Church to deliver the story and message from The Last Supper. We want the children to take away the message to love others the same way Jesus showed his love to mankind.

Other important information:

A parent/carer must remain onsite with your child(ren). Messy Church does not operate a drop off policy. If you need to collect other children from different sites, please arrange for another adult to bring/keep an eye on your child until you can catch up.

An area will be set up within the Church with a small selection of baby/toddler toys for those attending with pre-school siblings. Parents/carers must supervise their baby/toddler(s) at all times.

A tea, coffee and biscuit station will be open for the adults throughout the session for purchase. Items/Drinks will be priced at 50p each. Cash only.

Buggies must be left outside if weather permits. No animals permitted on site.

Point of contact for Messy Church.

In the first instance please contact Kirsten McMullen (07765261430) or Maya Masood (07715667969) with any queries.

School meals

Tucasi school meals will be updated on Friday 10th February 2023 to show the amount to pay for the 2nd half of this term (20th Feb to 31st March 2023) which is **£79.50**.

A week's notice in writing is required during term time to **stop** or **start** school meals.



FINALLY

Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for providing us with things that we often take for granted such as shelter, food and our loving families and friends. Please continue to look after us and keep us safe in the beautiful world you have created for us. Please help us to be more like you each day, reflect our school values and be a shining light to others. Please support us

when we are struggling and finding things difficult. Amen. *William M 40C*

Yours sincerely,



Angela Abrahams
Headteacher

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