



St Mary's CE Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: FRIDAY 23rd February 2024, WEEK 1

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Courageous Advocacy

You may recall at the beginning of the year we set everybody the challenge of making a pledge as part of our Vision Day. As we are now half way through our year we thought we would take an opportunity to thank everyone who has fulfilled their pledge so far. You have demonstrated our vision of 'True Love in Action'! If you are still working hard on your pledge, are still to complete it or if you would like to join us in this challenge you have plenty of time. Remember, we would love to hear all about your family's successes so please email us via headteacher@st-marys.richmond.sch.uk to share your news and add a photograph if possible. We reward those children who have achieved their pledge with a Courageous Advocacy Award which is presented in Celebration Worship.

Weekly attendance: w/c 19th February 2024

Well done to Year 5 for reaching 'The Golden Goal' - for the highest attendance and to Year 6 for the least lates this week!

Year group	Lates	Attendance
Reception	2	94.31%
Year 1	15	94.90%
Year 2	2	94.63%
Year 3	3	96.52%
Year 4	6	97.16%
Year 5	4	97.63%
Year 6	1	97.00%
Whole School	33	96.04%

OTHER NEWS

Fake News

All news isn't always good news. We need to be mindful that as young people spend much more time online, they will come across many types of news: fake, real, biased, exaggerated and AI generated impersonation. They are then only a few clicks away to exploring more and becoming vulnerable. Please see attached an informative poster that serves to reinforce online safety practices and encourages open conversations among young people, parents and caregivers.

Swimming Success

Well done to our swim team who performed so well at the borough gala before half term. It was a real team effort and whilst not every member got a medal or ribbon, everyone gave their all, not just in their swimming but in cheering on their team. A particular mention for our Year 6 girls freestyle team (Hebe, Mabel, Aki, Luna) who were third placed; Alice in Year 4 who won a silver medal for freestyle; and Hebe in Year 6 for silver medals in both freestyle and butterfly. For the third successive year, our girls' team has won third place overall – quite some achievement.

Parking outside the junior site

I am sorry to say that I have received a complaint from a near neighbour regarding parking outside the junior site. St Mary's parents are regularly parking on the white zig-zag lines around the pedestrian crossing outside the junior site during drop-off time, around 8.45am. This is an almost daily occurrence, and it is both illegal and unsafe for our pupils who use the crossing. As a reminder, parents parking on these lines are committing an offence, contrary to section 36(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1988, the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016 and Schedule 2 of the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988. You can be fined and lose points on your license.

Important reminders for your diaries

- Thursday 7th March, World Book Day
- Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th March, Parent Teacher Consultations, 1600- 1900 (School finishes one hour earlier on both days to give teachers time to prepare)
- Year 6KG Parent Teacher Consultations will be held on Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th March, 1600 – 1900 (NO early finish on Tuesday 12th)
- w/c 11th March, no school run clubs due to PT Consultations
- Tuesday 26th March Easter Service at St Mary's Church, 1000. Led by Year 5 – parents of Year 5 only may attend

FINALLY

Prayer - for our termly value of Endurance

Dear God,

We thank you that you have made us stronger than we think. We thank you that we are able to do and achieve far more than we think, because you have made us in your image. Thank you that you have promised us your help and wisdom and strength, whenever we need it. Amen

Yours sincerely



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Headteacher

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