

**ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND
(Aided) PRIMARY SCHOOL**

FOUNDED 1789



EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER:

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'Learning for life with God as our guide'

21st July 2022

Dear Parent/Carers

Farewells

We say a fond farewell to our lovely Year 6 children. They have had an ever increasingly busy end of year; a fun week of activities, Bikeability, and their outstanding end of year production. We wish them all well as they embark on their secondary education and thank them for all that they have contributed to St. Mary's School.

As you will also know from previous letters we say goodbye to Miss Beth Roberts, Mr William Hillier, Miss Bridie Richardson and Mr Dean Gonsalves (Sports Coach) and, of course, Mrs Alison Trelfer who is retiring. We thank them all for their time with us – I know you will join with me in wishing them all well.

And Hello!

We welcome new staff to the team who will start with us in September. As previously advised we welcome Mrs Louisa Wallis as Assistant Head of School, Mrs Claudia Marsh as SENCO, Miss Marie Phengphachanh and Miss Kira Link as Class Teacher and Mrs Amy McGavin as Lunchtime Supervisor.

We also, of course, welcome a whole class full of new Reception children as well as children who will be joining other classes across the school.

Monday, 5th September– Term 1

We will be holding staff training days on Thursday, 1st and Friday, 2nd September and will welcome the pupils back to school on **Monday, 5th September**.

School Uniform

Items of school uniform are available to purchase on-line through PMG Schoolwear. Once you have chosen your items make sure that you type in '**STMDFC**' in the voucher code to **claim free delivery**. Please note that if you are ordering for September the last date for orders is **10th August**.

To purchase your uniform log in to www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk.

Please remember that School shoes (not boots or sandals) must be black and enclose your child's feet. Please also remember to clearly label your child's clothing and other belongings.

PE Kits

From the beginning of the new term in September children in classes 1-6 will need to bring a PE kit to school. This should be in a draw-string bag which they will keep on their peg. **No carrier bags please.** Reception Class will only need plimsolls in a draw-string bag. Once the term begins teachers will let you know which days each class has PE.

Water Bottles

Please send in a water bottle every day with fresh water. Children may bring additional flavoured drink to have at lunchtime.

Pierced Ears

Children cannot wear earrings during PE. If you are thinking of getting your child's ears pierced please do so at the beginning of the school summer holiday so they have time to heal in order for them to take their earrings out for PE lessons at school. Thank you for your support with this.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will start again on Monday 5th September. All children are welcome to attend – please contact the school office to place a booking. The daily charge is £2.20, which includes breakfast and childcare from 8:00am.

School Meals

All children in Classes R, 1 and 2 will continue to be entitled to a free cooked school lunch every day. Children in our current Class 2 who have benefited from the free cooked lunch will, from September when they join Class 3, pay for their cooked school lunches with children in Classes 4, 5 and 6 unless they are entitled to means tested Free School Meals. Miss Lamb can help with applying for Free School Meals – do please contact her.

The cost of a school dinner in September has been increased and will cost £2.43. **Please note** that payment online direct to Principals Catering is the only method for payment. To pay online use the following link https://meals.principals-catering.com/accounts/sign_in. Cash/cheques will not be accepted and all meals must be paid for in advance.

Attendance

As you know, the school closely monitors pupil attendance. Regular attendance at school is crucial if our pupils are to be successful.

I would remind you that I am not able to authorise leave of absence for the purpose of a family holiday. Requests for holidays in term time will **not** be authorised. If the holiday is taken anyway, the case may be referred to the Attendance Service who may issue a Penalty Notice to each parent for each child taken out of school. Further information can be found on our website.

Late Arrival

If your child arrives to school after 8:55am they must be brought to the school office BY AN ADULT who can hand them over safely to the school staff and give the reason for lateness to the school staff so this can be accurately recorded.

Term Dates

Term dates for 2022/2023 and information regarding our five staff training days are indicated below, to assist you in booking holiday outside of term time. Please note that children are not required to attend school on staff training days.

Term Dates 2022/2023

TERM 1 2022	1 September 2022 – 21st October 2022
TERM 2 2022	31st October 2022- 16th December 2022
TERM 3 2023	3rd January 2023 - 10 February 2023

TERM 4 2023	20th February 2023 - 31st March 2023
TERM 5 2023	17th April 2023- 26th May 2023
TERM 6 2023	5th June 2023- 21st July 2023

Staff Training Days (children not required to attend school)

Thursday, 1st September 2022
Friday, 2nd September 2022
Monday, 31st October 2022
Tuesday, 3rd January 2023
Friday, 26th May 2023

Dates

Dates for next year are being finalised and will be shared with you in September. You may, however, wish to note that we have booked tickets for the Marlowe Theatre Pantomime for all children in Classes 3, 4, 5 and 6 to attend for Christmas. A very quick response will be required in September when we send out information to you regarding this.

Thank you

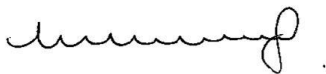
Many thanks to you all for your support this year.

I would also like to thank all of the staff, each one of whom works tirelessly for you and your children.

As always, should you have any queries or concerns please don't hesitate to speak to any of the staff – we are always very happy to clarify any aspect of our work and to help you with matters related to your child.

Finally, I wish you all a good summer and look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours sincerely



H Comfort
Executive Headteacher