

ST. MARY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful start to the summer term: the sun has been shining and the children have returned from Easter with their usual enthusiasm for school and learning - it is always exciting to begin a new term at St. Mary's!

This week, I was delighted to share our Ofsted report with you. The team at St. Mary's are delighted with the outcome and we would like to again thank all parents and carers for their support.

During the summer term, we will be working with a local artist, Michael Coppelov, and the St Mary's Church community engagement officer, Emma Miles, to produce a piece of artwork made from recycled plastic. Michael and Emma have already had their initial meeting with our enthusiastic eco-council and have come up with a wonderful design idea linked to our biblical vision from John 15:5 (I am the vine and you are the branches...). In May, Michael and Emma will share the idea in a whole-school assembly and, assisted by the eco-council, production of the project will begin in June. Every child in the school (from Reception up to Year 6) will have a critical role in the creation of this art installation which will become a prominent feature of our playground and be a constant reminder to respect and cherish the world that we live in and one another.

I am thrilled to announced that our Young Transformer summer projects will soon begin. Each child in each year group will have the opportunity to become a change maker: EYFS will learn about bees and the crucial role they play in the ecosystem; year 1 will grow their own vegetables; year 2 will learn about immigration and London's diverse communities; year 3 will learn about robots, the future and technology; year 4 will learn about transport and the environment; year 5 will focus on reading critically and interrogating historical sources; and, finally, year 6 will celebrate their time as part of our school community.

Lastly, I would like to remind you that as the weather - hopefully - improves, it is important that children bring a water bottle and a summer hat to school.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Matthews
Headteacher

Attendance



Our whole school attendance for Week 1 was 95%.

Our whole school attendance for Week 2 was 94.8%.

Well done St Mary's!

Our whole school attendance for this academic year is: 93%

Gentle Reminder:

If your child is going to be absent due to illness, please leave a message for the office team on the school absence line by calling 020 8521 1066 and dialling 1.

If you need to collect your child for a medical appointment during the day or they are late to school due to a medical appointment, you will need to provide the school office with an appointment letter/record.

Head Teacher Drop- Ins

Mrs Matthews holds a Tuesday morning drop in-session, which takes place between 10:30-11:30 each week, please send an email to

st-marys-school@genesistrust.net to make a 15 minute appointment.

Healthy Snacks



We would like to remind parents and carers that St Mary's is a Healthy School. Children should not bring chocolate bars, crisps or fizzy drinks as morning snacks, if your child does bring these in, they will be replaced with a piece of fruit and sent home with them at the end of the school day. Please ensure that should you like to provide your child with a snack that it is a healthy option. Nut free cereal bars, yoghurt bars or fruit bars are recommended.

All children are encouraged to drink water regularly – please ensure that your child is bringing in their own water bottles, these can be refilled during the school day.



We are proud to be a nut free school!

School Nurse Drop In



Our wonderful School Nurse, Caroline, will be holding some drop in sessions for parents to pop in and meet her. If you would like to meet with Caroline, she will be in school for around an hour at the times below. No appointment is necessary as these are drop in sessions, we would just ask that you please wear a mask and complete a lateral flow test before attending.

May 9th 2022 - 9:15 - 10:15
June 6th 2022 - 14:30 - 15:30
July 4th 2022 - 9:15 - 10:15

Young Transformers

Our Summer Curriculum



EEYFS - Curiosity

As far as important species go, bees are on top of the list. Summer is the time for bees, flowers and honey. EYFS classes will learn how bees live and how they are fundamental to existence. We will meet a real beekeeper who will tell us about the different types of bees out there and we even get to taste different types of honey. By looking after our wildlife, we create a harmonious world.

Year 2- Community

Immigration has helped us to become the prosperous society we are today. Year 2 children will learn about immigration, ancestry and London's diverse communities. They will also learn that many people are less fortunate and seek to make out a future here. We will work closely with our church to support refugees who have recently entered the UK. By looking after the most vulnerable people in society, we reveal our true community spirit.

Year 4 - Confidence

In the summer, year 4 will hold a travel survey to see how pupils travel to school. To promote scooting, cycling, walking and skipping to school, the children will work with professionals scooter experts to improve their road safety and scooting skills. By getting on your scooter or bike, you help to eradicate pollution.

Year 6 - Community

Now we have reached the end of our primary school years, we celebrate our time with a school sleepover party. Bring pyjamas and a sleeping bag; the rest is all taken care of. By remembering our time together, we step with confidence into the future.

Year 1 - Curiosity

Have you ever wondered how food ends up in the supermarket? This term, pupils and parents will grow and harvest their own vegetables in gardens or allotments. Ingredients are used to make and sell healthy dishes in our pop up kitchen. Not only will children learn how to grow their own produce, they will share it as well. By growing, harvesting and sharing our produce, we aim to change the way we appreciate food.

Year 3 - Curiosity

Some say that robots will take over the world. We are not so sure. This term, children in Year 3 will learn what robots are and where they are used in industries to help production. They will become familiar with the notion of automation. We will invite students from Imperial College to show how robots work and children will have the chance to operate them. By mastering robotics, we can achieve the unthinkable for the best of humankind.

Year 5 - Curiosity

This summer, Year 5 pupils will ask the question: 'What is truth? Pupils will become critical readers of history and current news to interrogate concepts such as bias, prejudice and power. The truth according to whom? Who is to gain and who misses out? By challenging accepted theories and structures, we reveal uncomfortable truths

Home- Mandatory Confidence

Breaking records is all about improving yourself. We want every pupil to set themselves a challenge to break a sporting record. This could be push ups in a minute, skipping without stopping, or swimming lanes in the pool. Use this term to become an expert at a particular sporting feat by breaking records: don't give up. By breaking personal best records, we set ourselves no limits to what can be achieved.

For more information on our Young Transformers Project, please visit our Young Transformers pages under the Pupils tab on the St Mary's website.

Our Councils



This week, the School Council, the Learning Council and the Eco Warriors met up to formally introduce themselves to one another, established the role of each council/team, how we carry ourselves as councillors/representatives and our areas of responsibilities. Over the next few weeks, the children engaged with these Public Services will endeavour to uncover how their peers feel about a range of topics and issues and will come together to create action plans going forward to benefit the entire school community. We are very excited to see how enthusiastic each member of the Public Services is and cannot wait to share the impact of their actions with you soon!

We will meet again soon and will keep you updated.



Parent Prayer



Parent Prayer is on Wednesday evenings at 8pm on Zoom- twenty minutes of prayer and reflection. A relaxing space for parents to come together at the end of the day. All are welcome!

If you would like the zoom link, please email Jacintha Danaswamy at: jacintha@stmaryswalthamstow.org.

St. Mary's Christian Vision

I AM THE VINE AND YOU
ARE THE BRANCHES. IF
YOU REMAIN WITH ME AND
I WITH YOU, THEN YOU
WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT.
LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I
HAVE LOVED YOU.
(JOHN 15).