

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1 Term 1- Week 3 & 4



Headteacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another excellent week at St Mary's. The children are now completely settled in their new classes and are relishing the challenges of a new year. Our new Reception cohort have taken to school life wonderfully. This week, I shared with you the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection. St Mary's was judged Exceptional in all seven graded areas. To our knowledge, St Mary's is the only primary school in the country to have achieved this. If you haven't yet read the report, please do so – it can be found [here](#). The first weeks of term are always exciting, not least because our Year 6 children are heading off on their school journey to Gilwell Park. I will share photographs from the trip in the next edition of the newsletter.

As you know, we place great importance on regular attendance. We want every child to arrive at school each morning feeling safe and ready to learn. Coming in every day gives children the routines and friendships that help them grow in confidence. Last week, whole-school attendance was 96.9%, a strong start to the year. Some children feel anxious about school at times. This is entirely normal, particularly at the start of a new year or in a new class, or when there are worries about friendships or lessons. Occasionally, something else makes coming to school harder, whether that is transport, uniform or a difficult time at home. Whatever the reason, if attendance is becoming a struggle, please talk to us. We are here to help.

Finally, as the leaves begin to turn and autumn settles in, I would like to close with a verse from Galatians:

"Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Best wishes,
Joe Pitchford

Key Dates

7th October
Individual
class photos

13th October
Meet the
team 5-7

14th October
Y4 Trip -
Forest School

16th October
Wear Red (non-
uniform day)
Give Racism
the Red Card

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Reminders

Medication

If your child has medication in school, please check that it is in date and that we have the correct expiry details on record. If there have been any changes to their medication or care plan, please let the office know in writing and send in any updated documents from your GP.

Healthy Snacks

As St Mary's School is a Healthy School, please send only healthy snacks such as fruit. Chocolate, crisps, and fizzy drinks will be replaced with fruit and sent home. Please also make sure your child brings a water bottle each day, as we encourage regular water drinking.

We are proud to be a nut free school.

Please note that 'may contain nuts' is not suitable.

Umbrellas, Helmets and Large Rucksacks

Please be reminded that our classrooms and cloakrooms can safely accommodate a book bag or a small St Mary's rucksack, along with a jacket.

For safety reasons, umbrellas and helmets must be taken home by parents and carers. Large rucksacks required for overnight stays can be stored safely in the school office during the day.

Thank you for your cooperation.



YR

CONFIDENCE

Baby Dino Experience

Y1

CURIOSITY

Magician

Y2

CURIOSITY

Animal Workshop

Y3

CARING

Falconry

Y4

CONFIDENCE

Forest School

Y5

COMMUNITY

Singing in town square

Y6

CURIOSITY

ProfessorBubbleworks