



St Mary's News

Friday 17th September 2021

Autumn 1

Dear Parents and Carers

The first two weeks of term have flown by and the children are already in very good routines. They look very smart in their uniforms and school shoes and are getting used to the new routines for PE. Thank you for your support in giving the children pride in their uniform.

It is wonderful to be able to see parents on the playground again before and after school. Thank you for social distancing and wearing masks if you need to enter the building. We have decided to continue with the one-way gate system allowing entry by the main gate and exit via the south gate to avoid face to face contact. Just follow the arrows and it will help to reduce congestion and possible transmission.

It has been a real pleasure to welcome our new Early Years children this week to St Mary's. The new children have shown great resilience and we have been impressed by their start to 'big school'. We are blessed with small classes in Early Years and this year the classes are smaller than ever. Our usual 22 or 23 children are now 16 and 17 in each class so the children are benefitting from high levels of support. We still have 12 spaces in Early Years so if you know of any families new to the area please pass on the message.

The Mass last Friday was a real celebration of the school and parish working together and the children sang and responded beautifully. One of our parents has told me that she was moved to tears by the beautiful singing and several parishioners commented on the beautiful behaviour. Thank you to all of our parent helpers who gave up time to walk us over.

The MUGA, Clamber Stack and Daily Mile are very popular additions to our school field and the children have been finding their feet at breaktimes and lunchtimes. We have also trained 21 Year 5 Playground Activity Leaders to work with Year 1 and 2 at lunchtimes to organize games and set rules. Now we do not need to keep the children separated into bubbles it is a good opportunity for the older children to step up to being role models and we are proud of their enthusiasm.

We had some very good news from Mr Haskell this week. He is now the proud father of a delightful baby daughter called Alyssa. Although lacking in sleep Mr and Mrs Haskell are enjoying this precious time with their new arrival and Mr Haskell will share pictures of Alyssa with Marine Class when he returns next week!

The children in key stage 2 have recently completed 'star reading assessments' as part of *Accelerated Reader*. This will give us a range of books at a specific level suited to your child. Your child will then read a book at that level and take a quiz when they have finished it. Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 will also have a book to read each day at the appropriate level. Please encourage them to read regularly at home and bring their book back to school each day.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Mr Edgington, Headteacher.

Welcome to St Mary's Catholic Primary School

A very warm welcome to our new Early Years children and their families.

We also offer a warm welcome to our new pupils in other year groups who have transferred to us from local schools, and welcome one new family who recently moved to the UK. Slavi, Annabel, Jamie, Edward, Spencer, Julia, Ray, Erin, Louis, Gabriel, Sophia and Olivia, you and your families are all very welcome. We hope you are settling into your new classes and enjoying making new friends.

SMASH - After School Club

3pm and 5pm Monday - Friday

If you require help with childcare after school, you can arrange for your child(ren) to attend SMASH for a day here or there, or a set routine throughout the week. Sessions must be booked in advance via ParentMail, at a cost of £5 per child per hour which includes a snack and drink. Please speak to a member of the office team if you would like to find out more about SMASH, or if you wish to register your children to attend.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/22

AUTUMN TERM

Term starts on Thursday 2nd September 2021

Term ends on Friday 17th December 2021

INSET Days Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd September 2021

Half term Monday 25th to Friday 29th October 2021

SPRING TERM

Term starts on Tuesday 4th January 2022

Term ends on Friday 8th April 2022

INSET Days Thursday 17th & Friday 18th February 2022

Half term Monday 21st to Friday 25th February 2022

SUMMER TERM

Term starts on Monday 25th April 2022

Term ends on Friday 22nd July 2022

INSET Day Monday 25th April 2022

Half term Monday 30th May 2022 to Friday 3rd June 2022



Bognor Regis Library Opening Times

Monday 9:30 am - 7:00 pm

Tuesday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm

Wednesday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm

Thursday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm

Friday 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday - Closed

Contact Information

Please ensure you inform the school office if you have changed address or mobile/home phone number or have alternative emergency contact numbers. This ensures that in the event of your child falling ill or if we need to contact you at short notice we have up-to-date contact information. Thank you.

Morrisons

It's good to grow!

**FREE gardening equipment
for your school**



If you shop at Morrisons, please take advantage of their new 'It's Good to Grow' tokens. For every £10 you spend (in store or online) you'll be offered a Grow Token to help your chosen school get everything they need to get growing. Download the MyMorrisons app today to start collecting Grow Tokens and select St Mary's as the school you'd like to donate them to.

We will be able to exchange our Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment which will be used by your children in our outside areas.

School Uniform Reminders

Please remember all children must wear smart school uniform, unless wearing 'home' clothes due to birthday celebrations, or advised otherwise by their teacher.

Please ensure all skirts and pinafore dresses are **navy blue**.

No extreme hairstyles, and no hair colouring. Hair should not be shaved, or have a design cut or shaved into the hair.

Only stud earrings are permitted and must be covered with microporous tape during PE. This tape is available to purchase from most chemists. Children may wear their crucifix necklaces, however, no bracelets, charity bangles or friendship bracelets are permitted.