

December 2020

St. Mary's CofE Primary School

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Upcoming Events

December 18

Last day of term.

January 4

First day of the Spring Term.

January 4

Y5/6 Bikeability Week

The end of the first term of the school year and what a great term it has been! Thank you to everyone for their hard work in school. All of the staff have done an amazing job this term and the children have also been thoroughly brilliant. Thank you too for all of your continued support through these difficult months. Let's hope for some better times in 2021.



Looking back....Looking forward

I think that 2020 will be one of the years that we will all remember and although it has been a difficult year for many people around the world, it is really important to look back and reflect as well as to look forward. Despite the many challenges that we have all had to deal with to the last few months, make sure you take the time to reflect on what has been the highlights of the year too.

Important Announcement

Please make sure that you complete one of the booking forms, which are available from the school office, if you would like to book any sessions in our Before and After School Clubs (BASC).



Hearts For Homes



The children have contributed to making a banner of hearts with Christmas messages to share with one of the care homes in the village. We delivered the many 'Hearts for Homes' to The Lawns Nursing and Residential Care Home earlier this week and we hope that they help to raise the Christmas spirit for everyone who will see them.

Free School Meals

Children who are entitled to a free school meal will now benefit over the school holidays starting this Christmas.

To ensure that you receive your entitlement - if you receive one or more of the following benefits your child should be entitled. Please sign up immediately to ensure you receive your school holiday benefit.

Eligible benefits are:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBSJA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190).
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

If you qualify for any of the above there is now a new and easy way to apply for Free School Meals.

Parents and carers with parental responsibility may apply on-line at

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live

This system is discrete and will give you an instant decision on your eligibility. You will then bring in a screen-shot or printed copy to prove eligibility to our school. If you have any problems, please telephone 0345 155 1019 or enquire from your school office.

Achieve4All - After School Sports Clubs



Here are the final plans for the after school clubs for the first half of the Spring Term from Achieve4All. The clubs will start during the first week back after Christmas. Here are the details:

Wednesday – Sports Club – Year 1 and 2 - starts Wednesday 6th January – 6 sessions – £19.50

Thursday – Football Club – KS2 - starts Thursday 7th January – 6 sessions – £19.50

You can book these sessions by going to www.achieve4all.co.uk.

Online Nativity Performance



The performance is done and we hope that you all enjoy it. It is very different to our normal production in school, I but we hope you enjoy it. Can we please remind you that this shouldn't be shared on any social media sites as agreed.

Term Dates

This term ends on Friday 18th December and school re-opens again on Monday 4th January 2021.

To see the term dates for the rest of this academic year as well as for the next school year (2021-22), see the school website.

<https://stmarys-brixton.devon.sch.uk/parent-zone/calendar/>

Thank you from the office

We really appreciate your support when there are forms that we need completing for different reasons. Can we please urge you to ensure that any letters or forms that are sent home or emailed, are returned to school by the date given. This really helps us to get things completed as soon as possible and allows us to try and keep ahead on our own jobs list. Thank you.

More Important News

Plastic Lids



The 'Plastic Police' our Eco Group, have sorted all of the lids and the winning designs have been chosen by the group. In the end two designs had the same number of votes and so we have decided to

combine the best bits of both designs into one picture. Well done to Grace in Y6 and Oscar in Y2 for their winning entries. Well done to everyone who took part in the competition. All of the designs will be displayed in a book in the school.

Application for a Primary Place 2021

Please remember that applications for primary places are open and need to be submitted by 15th January 2021. You need to apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline to have the best opportunity of gaining your child's chosen place.

Thank you for your continued support with everything that we do at St. Mary's.

Stay Safe

It has been a difficult 2020 for many people for many different reasons. Everyone at school would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Regards,

Adrian Clements

Head of School

Rights Respecting



Article 29 (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Christian Value

Our Christian Value for the next half term is...

Justice

Psalm 106:3

*'Blessed are those who act justly,
who always do what is right.'*

'Jonah and the Whale' is a great story in the Bible that helps to illustrate the value of Justice.