

April 2023



St. Mary's CofE Primary School

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OUR VISION:

'Within the love of God, we work together, grow together for all to flourish.'



Rights Respecting Focus -

Article 12 – respect for the views of the child

Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

The Summer Term is here but we're still competing with some cold temperatures at times so please make sure that your children still come to school with their coats, just in case they are needed.



Upcoming Events

May 5

Coronation Day in school

May 25

TTRS / Numbots Day

Before and After School Club

For anyone who needs to continue to use the before and after school clubs, please make sure that you book **in advance**.

For urgent bookings within 7 days, please continue to phone the office and confirm that we have space available before paying on ParentPay and completing a booking form.

**REMEMBER - Friday afternoon bookings are no longer available.
Thank you**

Parents Evenings



Thank you for your contribution to our recent parent teacher meetings. These meetings are always a good opportunity for you to ask the teachers about how well your child is doing in all aspects of school life and we appreciate your input into these discussions.

Christian Values

Thank you for all of the responses to our recent consultation about the Christian Values that we have in school. We will be looking through all of the responses and using them in our review of the values that we like to focus on across the school year.

To see more about our Christian Values, please follow the link below to our school website.

<https://stmarys-brixton.devon.sch.uk/our-christian-values/>



Dartmoor Zoo



Well done to everyone in Rosen and Potter Classes for their trip to Dartmoor Zoo. It's one of my favourite zoos and we're so lucky to have it in our local area.

I know that the children had a wonderful day out. Thanks to all of the staff for their organization of this super trip which got the Summer Term off to a flying start for both classes.

<https://rosenclassblog.wordpress.com/> <https://potterclassblog.wordpress.com/>



Attendance

The school's attendance rate continues to be above 95%. Thank you for your continued support with this.

If your child is unwell and not attending school, please make sure that you contact the school office and leave a message by 8:30am to report the reason for their absence.

Please remember that, in line with local authority policy, we are unable to authorise absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. All requests must be submitted on an **S2** form which is available from the school office.

Sports Day

It's the time of year when we look forward to some special events and Sports Day is definitely one of those. We have set the date of Thursday 29th June in the hope that the sun will be shining.

However, we have also put a reserve date in the diary in case of poor weather. This will be Wednesday 12th July.



We will send more details nearer the time but for now please put the date in your diary as we would love to see as many of you as possible to support the children in all of the different activities.

Miss Lee



After many years of working at St. Mary's, Miss Lee has taken the difficult decision to move on to a new challenge. She has been a wonderful member of the St. Mary's team and we know that she will miss St. Mary's as much as we will miss having her in school. She is leaving at the end of this term and we wish her well for the future and hope that we will see her back in school from time to time. Miss Lee has taught so many of the children in school and her role as part of the Reception Class, has been such an important one as those first few days and weeks at the start of school are vital building blocks for future success. Miss Lee will be missed by us all.

Sun Safety

We're still getting quite a lot of rain but we'd like you all to be thinking ahead to the warmer weather that is hopefully coming soon. Being 'Sun Safe' is very important and something we'd like to remind you about.

Follow the top tips here and help us to keep everyone safe this summer.

Children may have their own sun cream in school but can we remind you that it must be named and they must NOT share it with anyone. This is purely to prevent any unwanted skin reactions.

For children who can't apply their own sun cream can we suggest the longer lasting sun cream that you can apply before they come into school.



It is SO important that children also have their water bottle in school every day.

School Jumpers

As we get to the warmer months we find that our lost property box fills very quickly with unnamed jumpers and cardigans that have been taken off during the day. Please help us to be able to reunite your child with lost items by making sure everything is clearly labelled.

Coronation Event – Friday 5th May



We hope that you have seen the letters all about the Kings Coronation and how we are going to mark the occasion in school. Here's a reminder of the plan.

Friday 5th May – the plan

1. We would like to see as many royal costumes as possible on the day. Who can dress as a king, a queen, a princess or a prince for the day? If you'd rather, why not wear your best party outfit as if you were going to the coronation event itself at Westminster Abbey.

Invitation to Grandparents – Grandparents can come along from 10.30am to help be creative and help to make crowns with the children. They can join the classes and talk with children about previous royal events that they can remember from their own childhood. We fully understand that it is impossible for everyone to have a grandparent there on the day so we also hope that the ones that are able to come along will be happy to share their time and creativity with everyone.

2. A Royal Banquet on the field – It's always nice to have a school picnic and so we'd like to invite you all to bring a picnic lunch to share with your children on the school field (weather permitting). If it is wet, there will be a plan B.

You can arrive on the field from 11.45am to set yourself up and then the children can come and join you at 12.00pm. Why not dress up too or make your own crown to wear.

Children can order a school lunch as normal on the day if that is what you would prefer to do.

Bring your singing voices as I'm sure we'll find time to sing the National Anthem.

3. After lunch, we'll return to the classroom where the children will do some more Royal activities to finish off the day before the long weekend of celebration.

We would like to thank the Brixton Parish Council, Brixton Community Association, Brixton Feoffee Trust and the Brixton Composters for providing all of the children with commemorative gifts for this special occasion.

| Date | Classes |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Wednesday 3 rd May | Dahl and Morpurgo |
| Wednesday 10 th May | Rosen and Potter |
| Wednesday 17 th May | Dahl and Morpurgo |
| Wednesday 24 th May | Rosen and Potter |

Times Tables Rock Stars and Numbots Day – Thursday 25th May



We will have our next Times Tables Rock Star and Numbots day in school on Thursday 25th May. This will be a special day to focus on maths, especially times tables, and as always, it would be great to see a school full of rock stars and Numbots.



Parents of children in Year 3 & 4 will be invited to attend a times tables parents meeting with Mrs Kay after school on Thursday 25th May so that they can find out more about the Multiplication Tables Check which all children in Year 4 take.

Mental Health - May 2023



From 15th – 21st May, it is Mental Health Awareness Week. For this week, the Mental Health Foundation (www.mentalhealth.org.uk) is focusing on the theme of anxiety.

Anxiety is a feeling of unease, such as worry or fear, that us humans all experience at times in our lives. Indeed, anxiety can be useful to help spur us on, keeping us alert, making us aware of risks and motivating us to take action.

However, if anxiety becomes a frequent or permanent feature of our lives, it can cause much distress.

Our mental health champions will be learning about anxiety and some top tips to combat unpleasant feelings, which they will share in assembly that week.





If you would like more information about anxiety in children and young people, please check out the link below for Young Minds which includes a section on how to help your child in the moment if they are feeling overly anxious or about to have/are having a panic attack.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/anxiety/>

And finally... Diary Dates

Here is a reminder of upcoming dates for the diary...

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday 1 st May | Bank Holiday |
| Friday 5 th May | Coronation Event |
| Monday 8 th May | Coronation Bank Holiday |
| Wb Tuesday 9 th May | KS2 SATs week |
| Thursday 25 th May | TTRock Stars and Numbots Day 3.30pm – Y3/4 Times Tables meeting with Mrs. Kay |
| Wb 29 th May | Half Term holiday |
| Thursday 15 th June | Class Photos |
| Thursday 29 th June | SPORTS DAY |
| Wednesday 12 th July | Reserve SPORTS DAY |

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Adrian Clements

Head of School