July 2025

St. Mary's CofE Primary School

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'Within the love of God, working together, growing together, for all to flourish.'

Upcoming Events

Friday 11th July – Final church service at St. Mary's Church. 11.00am

Thursday 24th July – last day of term

Tuesday 2nd September – start of the Autumn Term

Rights Respecting Focus -
ARTICLE 14 – Freedom of Thought and Religion

Children can choose their own thoughts, opinions and religion, but this should not stop other people from enjoying their rights. Parents can guide children so that as they grow up, they learn to properly use this right.

As we approach the end of term it is a good time to reflect on a busy and successful year. As always, every July is filled with excitement as we look forward to welcoming new children to school after the well-deserved holiday.

But it's also a time to start thinking about saying some 'Goodbyes' and this year is no different as we say goodbye and good luck to our Year 6 children as they move on.

Keep in Touch

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www.stmarys-brixton.devon.sch.uk

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Bikeability

Well done to all of the children who took part in Bikeability sessions this term. The instructor was very impressed with both groups and complimented them on their skills but also their listening and good questions. The children have learnt some essential road skills which will help them as they venture out on their bikes.

Sports Day

What an amazing Sports Day we had this year. Thanks to some good weather, we were able to go ahead on the original date rather than the reserve date. It's probably one of the hardest calls to make as a Head of School as we know so many of you ask for time away from work or change busy diaries to be able to attend.

Thank you to everyone who was able to be there. It was a great event and it was so good to see everyone having a fun day including all of the children that joined us as always, from Ladybirds Nursery.

A huge well done to Mothercombe house for winning the event this year in a very close contest. Thank you also, to all of the parents and carers who took part in the skipping race. The children love watching you take part and there were some excellent skills on display!

FOBs Colour Run

We hope that you enjoyed the Colour Run if you were able to be there to take part. What a fantastic and colourful event organised by the FOBS. Don't forget that every penny raised by the FOBS through this sort of event, goes straight back to supporting your children and the school.

Bodmin Jail

Key Stage 2 recently went on their trip to Bodmin Jail. It's always good to hear how successful a trip has been but from listening to the children coming back to school, it was clear that some of them thought this had been the best school trip EVER! It was also evident from talking to them afterwards how much they had actually learnt about the jail. I hope they told you all about it too?

Brixham Trip

Just like the older children, KS1 and the EYFS also went out on a trip recently. Their visit to see the Golden Hind in Brixham was another great trip. What a great effort by you all and the children for getting ready as pirates for a day out. Thanks for your continued support. The effort makes these days out even more special.

I'd like to thank all of the staff for the organization of these trips. They take a lot of time and effort and it's really appreciated. We are also very grateful to the FOBS who were able to provide a contribution to both of these recent trips. We know that this support makes the cost of these days out much more affordable for everyone.

Holiday Club – Achieve4All

We have had some positive feedback from the trial and A4A in the May half term so A4A are now taking bookings for their summer holiday sessions.

These are the current dates available for booking and further details will follow if you are interested in booking a space. You can log in to book spaces straight away so follow the link below.

30, 31 Jul (Wed, Thu)

5, 6, 7 Aug (Tue, Wed, Thu)

14 Aug (Thu)

19, 20, 21 Aug (Tue, Wed, Thu)

26, 27, 28 Aug (Tue, Wed, Thu)

https://achieve4all.co.uk/holiday-camps/

Events and dates

Friday 11th July	Final church service of the year (11.00am)
Monday 21st – Wednesday 23rd July	Y6 Skern Lodge residential
Thursday 24th July	Final day of the term
Summer Holiday	
Tuesday 2nd September	Start of the Autumn Term

Don't forget that school term dates for the rest of this year and next year, can be found on the school website, especially if you are looking to book holidays and need to know when the school is closed.

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

The Brixton Feoffee Trust

Brixton Devon

Everyone is aware that there is a well-documented 'cost of living crisis' at the moment across the whole country and we appreciate how difficult things can become for families at different times of the year, for all sorts of different reasons.

The Brixton Feoffee Trust is available to anyone in genuine need who cannot obtain financial assistance from other sources. Support can be given to individuals who live or who have lived in the Parish of Brixton. Support can also be given to students of the school to support with an aspect of school life. Finally, support can also be given to people living in the Parish, who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. This can be given as a grant to support the buying of food and basic essentials.

If you would like any more information or wish to make an application to the Brixton Feoffee Trust, please contact the Clerk to the Trustees directly on 01752 880262 or email brixtonfeoffeetrust@googlemail.com.

More information can also be found via the website - https://www.brixtondevon.co.uk/

All applications are confidential and will not be shared by the Brixton Feoffee Trust with any other parties.

Mental Health Corner - Supporting Our Children Through Big Feelings

As parents and carers, it can be really tough when our children have emotional outbursts—whether it's at home, out shopping, or in the middle of a playdate. These moments can leave everyone feeling overwhelmed. It helps to remember that when children are dysregulated, the "wise owl" part of their brain—the bit that helps them reason and communicate—goes offline. In these moments, they aren't ready to talk or be reasoned with.

Three simple strategies can make a big difference:

- try to stay calm yourself (easier said than done, but powerful!),
- avoid trying to talk things through when they're very upset, and
- give them some space to calm down while making sure they're safe.

For more helpful tips, check out this excellent article and short video from the children's mental health charity Place2Be

https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/article/de-escalation-techniques-with-children

MHST

We are really pleased to announce the arrival of the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) at St Mary's from the start of the Autumn term.

MHST are part of a national initiative to provide early intervention and preventative mental health support to children and young people in schools. They focus on mild to moderate mental health difficulties like anxiety, low mood, and behavioural problems. MHST work with the whole school community, including children, parents and staff, to promote well-being and resilience.

The team will be in school on Monday 15th September to deliver an assembly to the children about what they offer. They will also meet staff and be outside of school at the end of the day to introduce themselves to parents and carers and explain their role and provision.

cfhd
Children & Family Health Devon

Please do come and say hello!

Our Educational Mental Health Practitioner is called Amber McCletchie and she will be with us every Wednesday afternoon from October time.

To find out more, please visit: https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/our-pathways/mental-health-support-team/

And Finally…. Class Structure

Just to remind you of our class structure for the coming year. Don't forget that this includes a name change for Miss Kelly and she is getting married this summer and will return as Mrs. Passmore.

Class	Year group	Teacher(s)
Rosen	Reception	Mrs. Berry
Potter	Y1/2	Mrs. Passmore (Miss Kelly)
Dahl	Y3/4	Mrs. Kay (4 days) & Mrs. Howlett (1 day)
Morpurgo	Y5/6	Mrs. Ironmonger

Adrian Clements

Head of School