



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Wednesday 25th April 2018



Learning and loving on our journey with Jesus
Summer Term

Our RE topic is Easter

"To the greater glory of God"

www.stmarys-maidenhead.org.uk

office@stmarys-maidenhead.org.uk

Parish School of St Joseph's, Maidenhead

www.stjosephsparish.co.uk

Parish Priest Fr. John Lee

Parish Office 01628 783988

Diocese of Portsmouth

Change – I'm not sure I like the change in the weather but there it is. In teaching I have had to face changes in curriculum, changes in names of subjects, changes in governments, Education policy and teaching methods - and when a new head teacher arrives there will be some changes; it goes with the territory. Everyone is different – I have new ideas – it would be boring if we were all the same and all schools were the same so there will be some changes especially if we are obliged to follow good practice.

The Morning changes are all about the safety of your children but we have had an additional benefit of children settling into class better and being ready to work. We are trying to promote greater independence and hope it is only day three. It was so much better today. Thank you for the lovely encouragement and support from so many parents through so many means.

The plan is as follows; 0830 Gates open, 0830 to 0845 – parents can stay with their children in the playground. 0845 Teachers out to the playground – parents leave and children line up, 0850 children will go into class **when the parents have left**. The first bell goes at 0845 as it always has so the expectation is that your children will be in by this time. Thank you for your support with this change.

In Monday's Gospel Assembly we looked at Vocations and that God calls us all as individuals. The children and staff have been challenged to be the 'Best person they can be' and show that they are making the most of their skills and talents whilst at home and at school. It is exciting to announce Fisher House as winners of the House points this week. They appear to have gained a considerable number of House points – they are certainly being the best they can be at the moment. Be very proud of all your children – we are!

Merit Assembly – This week the children thought about our school Mission Statement – 'Learning and loving on our journey with Jesus' and what it means in our everyday lives. We also said goodbye to Mrs Covus who is leaving to start teacher training. We wish her all the very best in her future studies and are sure she will be an 'outstanding' teacher.

Stars of the week were Ava Mitton, Ewan Tekerian, Aneesa Akhtar, Danny Rance, Allison Collins, Sian Williams, Natasha Shaw, Fatimah Khalid Shariff, Ana Soliva Jimeno, Cody Hanscomb, Adam Luberda and Piotr Orzel. There were three Golden merits – Lacey-Kay Barrett, Zach Thrift and Bobby Wilkins. The Light of St Marys was Seb Harte. Thank you to all these children for trying so hard and making a difference in our wonderful school.

Mind-set Awards - I was very pleased to give Eric Fernandes and Miguel Silva silver mind-set Awards, whilst the first of the year 5s Logan Moore, Isabella Spencer and Daiki Mercante achieved bronze mind-set awards.

Developing a growth mind-set is vital for facing challenges as children move on through to secondary school.

School Uniform: Children can now wear summer uniform. School uniform is now available to buy on line through Scopay. Please see the school website under **online information** for instructions and a price list of items available.

Orders, once placed can be collected from the school office. You may still purchase items from the office with cash or cheque. All children should be in summer uniform by the May holiday. A quick reminder that trainers are not part of the school uniform. We understand that some children may need softer footwear for medical reasons at different times but this is not an excuse to wear trainers all the time. If there is a problem and your child needs to wear trainers please talk to your child's class teacher and let them know.

School Disco – Friday 18th May 2018 –Don't forget the FoSM disco – what a great way to end SATs week for year 6.

Bollywood dance – We have started a Bollywood dance club after school on a Tuesday but without a larger number of members it will have to close. I can confirm just how much fun it is having taken classes myself some years ago. Why not try something different?

Mobile Phones – Just a reminder! Thank you to those children who so regularly bring their mobile phones for safe-keeping in the office. Just to confirm mobile phones are **not allowed in school during the day** so once your child is in school they need to bring the mobile phone to the office where it will be locked away safely and it then can be collected at the end of school. No primary school child needs access to a phone during the day and any phone found will be confiscated.

Parking – Another complaint from a local resident unable to pass outside his house because of cars parked on the pavement. Please avoid using Brookdene Drive especially the turning area as this affects the safe access to the school. We strive to keep good relationships with our neighbours and hope that all parents will respect the needs of others' children as well as our own. No one should block a school neighbour's right of way and that includes the lane at the side of the pre-school which is a public right of way.

THE SUMMER POOL CLUB WILL BE BACK!!

BUT only if there are enough volunteers to be key-holders and supervise each session. So, will you help make it happen? Please contact Sandra Kiely as soon as possible for more information about what's involved and all the benefits. The FOSM pool club will aim to open after the summer half term break and run all the way through the school holidays. Membership allows your family access to our amazing pool at weekends, summer holidays and often after school too. The pool club is fantastic value for money, helps raise funds for the school and is a great fun way to spend those summer afternoons! More details will be provided over the coming weeks, but it can't run without key-holders, so please get in touch with Sandra (Ruby's Mum in Year 4 Mrs. Hurst/Mrs. Weller's class) or via school office asap!

kielysandra@gmail.com / 07740477704

FREE SCHOOL MEALS - If you think your child is eligible for free school meals please contact the school office even if they are in Reception or Infants as we can claim as a school which goes towards the children's education.

Hair Policy – I know some will say that everyone expresses themselves through their hair style. However, we have had a few extreme haircuts recently and before the razor comes out please consider whether your choice of hair cut for your child might appear aggressive or contrary to the ethos of our school. As always, long hair must be tied back but **not** with large hair bows or other fancy adornments. We will be producing a school hair policy but I would ask you to use your common sense.

Pre-school – have space in their Breakfast club. Please contact them directly if you require before school provision.

Parent Support Advisor - Are you experiencing difficulties with your child? Do you feel that you might benefit from some help and support with your parenting? Our Parent Support Advisor is here to help. To speak to her confidentially or to book a visit, please call Lisa Mack on 07824 357988 or email on lisa.mack@stmarys-maidenhead.org.uk.

PARISH NEWS – the date of First Holy Communion this year is Saturday 12th May at 9.30 am for the first group and 12 noon for the second group. We wish them all a wonderful celebration.

DIARY DATES (so far) – please be patient – dates do change for circumstances beyond our control

Tuesday 1st May – R.E Validation

Tuesday 8th May onwards – Year 2 SATs testing

Monday 14th to Friday 18th Year 6 SATs tests – please make sure all year 6 children are in school.

Friday 18th May - - May Liturgy 2.30pm – FoSM School Disco after school.

Friday 25th April - INSET

28th May to 1st June Half term

Children return to school on Monday, 4th June

If there is anything in the newsletter that you require further clarification of please call and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Mrs Barry
Head teacher

Please ensure you advise us if you change your mobile phone number or email address. All money sent into School must be in a named envelope or named purse.

St Mary's is a school within The Frassati Catholic Academy Trust: a charitable company limited by guarantee

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