

St. Mary's CE Primary School

Head Teacher:

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TERM DATES

School Year 2023-24

Autumn Term

INSET Day: 4th and 5th Sept

First day of Term: 6th Sept

Half Term:

23rd Oct to 27th Oct

Last day of Term: 20th Dec

INSET Day: 21st Dec

Spring Term

INSET Day: 8th Jan

First day of Term: 9th Jan

Half Term:

12th Feb to 16th Feb

Last day of Term:

28th Mar

Summer Term

INSET Day: 15th Apr

First day of Term: 16th Apr

Bank Holiday: 6th May

Half Term:

27th May to 31st May

Last Day of Term:

24th Jul

IN TOUCH



Friday 6th October 2023

Issue 671

VISION: Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish
MISSION: Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian Faith
VALUES: COMPASSION - ENDURANCE - THANKFULNESS

Every week there is something exciting going on here at St. Mary's and this week has been no exception. Reverend Jane was in school leading worship with Phase 2 (Years 3-6) on Tuesday and we marked the start of Black History Month with an assembly and workshops from Bigfoot for children in KS2 (Years 3-6). Unfortunately, train strikes derailed our storytelling sessions for children in Early Years and KS1—these have been rescheduled to 18th October. Many thanks to Miss Barrett, our History Lead, for organising these exciting learning opportunities for all children and for our Black History flag which is flying in the playground.

Thanks also to Mrs Bishop and Mr Newman for taking teams out to play football this week. Our Y5/6 Girls football team came third in the event at Trinity Fields yesterday (please see photo below) and this afternoon a group of Year 3 and 4 girls are travelling to Southfields Academy for a football festival. We wish them all the best and hope they enjoy their games.

Later today pupils in Year 6 will receive a safe travel workshop from TFL. This workshop is part of the work we carry out to ensure that children are well prepared for the transition to secondary school and we hope our Year 6 children get some useful information from the session.

It was great to see past and present parents, staff and children in the playground last night to celebrate the completion of Phase One of our development project. Thank you to all who were able to attend and to Ruth and Rochelle for organising this event and the team of parents who supported. Please see the attached leaflet for ways that you can help us to achieve our target of £100,000. The next phase includes installation of an Eco Classroom, pond, living walls, storytelling area, bug hotel and garden area, which will hugely enhance the delivery of our curriculum and community well-being. Last night Rochelle outlined all of the ways parent/carers can help us to reach our ambitious fundraising total, one of which was to give at least an hour of their time to support FoSMS events. Our first phase has been well received by the children and it would be fantastic to be able to move ahead with the next phase at a pace! Thank you in advance for your support in this.

In assessment news... KS1 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) are no longer part of the statutory tests which the DfE requires schools to carry out at the end of Year 2. Therefore parent/carers with children in Year Two or lower will no longer receive an additional set of results with their child's annual report. We will continue to use tests in Y2 to inform our judgements and parent/carers will still receive the usual information in the annual report at the close of the year.

I am in Canterbury at the end of next week for the annual Diocesan Head's Conference and so there will be no In Touch next week. Until then, we wish you a relaxing and fun weekend and look forward to seeing you at the usual time on Monday! Very best wishes, Cheryl Payne—Head Teacher



School Attendance 23-24

TARGET	97.0%
Week Beginning	%
04/09	96.5
11/09	97.5
18/09	96.3
25/09	97.1
02/10	95.8
09/10	
16/10	
Total:	96.7

Family Points

586

416

568

577

