

St. Mary's CE Primary School

Head Teacher:

Miss Cheryl Payne

Felsham Road

London SW15 1BA

Tel: 020 8788 9591

Email: info@st-marys-

putney.wandsworth.sch.uk

www.stmarysschoolputney

Autumn Term

Half Term:

Monday 28th October to Friday 1st

November 2024

INSET Day:

Monday 4th November 2024

Last day of Term:

Friday 20th December 2024

Spring Term

INSET Day:

Monday 6th January 2025

First day of Term:

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Half Term:

Monday 17th February to Friday 21st

February 2025

Last day of Term:

Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term

First day of Term:

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Bank Holiday:

Monday 5th May 2025

Half Term:

Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May

2025

Last Day of Term:

Friday 18th July 2025

IN TOUCH

Friday 6th September 2024

Issue 702



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

Welcome back to, what I know is going to be, another fantastic year at St. Mary's! It's been exciting to welcome new faces to the school this week. On the staff team Abbey Medlin joins our Nursery team as a teacher, Carola Liori our support staff team—as a teaching assistant in Year One, Andrew Warburton is the teacher leading Year Two and James Phillips likewise in Year Four. I hope you have all seen information about our 'Meet the Teacher' meetings, which are coming up. It is great to welcome new people to our team and we hope they will bring fresh perspectives which will help St. Mary's go from strength to strength. The children always love to see new friends joining their classes and this morning in worship we welcomed Peter and Pasha in Year One, Beatrice in Year Two and Oscar in Year Three. A very warm welcome to all new adults and children. We hope you and your family will be very happy in your new school!

Before I go on, I want to say a very big thank you to all of our families for their generosity at the end of last term. The staff team were very fortunate to receive lovely cards and gifts at the end of term—thank you for showing your appreciation for the team. It is greatly valued by us all. We hope that parents and carers have had a chance to relax and recharge over the break and that you have enjoyed spending time with your children. It has been great to see you all again on the gate in the morning and afternoon and to see how well everyone is looking after a holiday!

Our new Reception class are doing a great job starting school—they are still completing what we call their 'stagger' which is their gradual start to school. Both Nursery and Reception teachers have completed home visits for new families and we look forward to our Nursery children starting their 'stagger' next week. Elsewhere in the school, children in Year One upwards have made a great start to the school year—impressing their teachers—and there has been a very calm and purposeful atmosphere across the school as we all acclimatise to the new year.

It was lovely—no it was hair-raising—to welcome Reverend Whittaker to lead worship this morning. I'll leave it to the children to tell you what he did. It came with an advisory warning from me and I had my hands over my eyes most of the time! Joking aside, Reverend John made us all think about the active nature of being thankful and encouraged us to be proactive in acknowledging what God and others gift to us as we go about our daily lives. Thankfulness, of course, being one of our core values. We hope that all of our children leave St. Mary's with an attitude of gratitude and go out into the world to spread joy and happiness wherever they go. You are all welcome to attend the annual backpack blessing service at St. Mary's Church this Sunday from 10am. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Thank you to all of the parents who made sure that children were back in school for the very first day of the Autumn Term. The first day of every half term is a really key time for children to feel settled and to know what the expectations of the half term are. Our attendance last year fell well short of our target. Whatever the new Ofsted report card looks like it is fairly certain that attendance will be one of the areas they continue to report on. Although the wording 'Outstanding' will have been removed by the time we have our next inspection—we are always aiming to be the best we can be. When it comes to attendance, we need your help. Please ensure your child is in school every day that school is open. I will be sending letters to all families with poor attendance in 2023-24 asking them to up their game. I am sure we can all agree that it is important that your child attends a great school. Attendance is key to that—lateness and absence is disruptive for all children, especially those who are on time. I ask all parents to make attendance a priority—not only for their child—but for all the children of St. Mary's.

Well, if this week is an indication of how the year will go—I am very excited by what's to come! Until next week, I wish you all a very restful and fun weekend until we see you all again at the same time on Monday,
Best wishes, Cheryl Payne—Head Teacher

School Attendance 23-24

TARGET	97.0%
2023-24	94.8%
Autumn Term 1	
Week Beginning	
02/09	95.4%
09/09	
16/09	
23/09	
30/09	
07/10	
14/10	
21/10	
Total:	

A very warm St. Mary's welcome to:
Abby Medlin (YN),
Carola Liori (Y1),
Andrew Warburton (Y2), James Phillips (Y4), Pasha (Y1), Peter (Y1), Beatrice (Y2) and Oscar (Y3)

LEARNING WARRIORS

Year One: Alice, Edith, Lèontine, Sophie, Pasha, Peter
Year Two: Angelina, Ged, Pauldwelt, Kayan, Beatrice, Audrey
Year Three: Elise, Nina, Louis, Flora, Mia, Ocean
Year Four: Mabel, Harry, Yara, Amelia, Leo, Cecilia
Year Five: George, Fleur, Max, Eleanor, Daniel, Jack
Year Six: Andrew, Corine, Andrea, Noah, Naomi, Ollie

