



SCHOOL NEWS

ST. MARY'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, PUTNEY

JULY 2026 ISSUE



GOVERNORS MESSAGE

In this piece last year I reflected that it had been a year of change, and that change has continued. Following the departure of Mrs Bishop as Deputy Head teacher at the end of last academic year we have been lucky to have the support and expertise of Mrs Jennings, on a part time secondment from St Michael's CofE primary in Southfields as Deputy Head, and that has been a very fruitful relationship. We are very grateful to Mrs Jennings for being part of the St Mary's family.

Our big challenge as a governing board, however, has been to ensure consistent senior leadership throughout the spring and summer terms in the ongoing absence due to sickness of Miss Payne. We were extremely lucky that Mrs Sara Sanbrook Davies came to us towards the end of the spring term as an interim head teacher. Her expertise, calmness and professionalism was key in seeing the school through first an Ofsted inspection and then a SIAMS inspection. We are confident that we have acquired similar strength in leadership for the next academic year, as Miss Payne will sadly need more time away from work due to illness. It will mean new faces in the Interim Head and Deputy Head role, and if we have not done so by the time you read this newsletter we will be letting parents and carers know about this before the end of term.

This year and last have been ones of unprecedented challenge for the governors, and I thank them all, as Chair, for their unwavering support and skill in their roles as governors of our school. In this academic year we have strengthened our Board further with new recruits - a new parent governor, and three new Foundation governors - Miranda Lerner, Richard Quesnel, Adam Rachlin and Gillian McFarland. They all bring different skills to the Board which we are already drawing upon, and we are grateful to them for volunteering for this role. We are, however, sad to be losing John Whitaker. John has been with the Board for the length of his tenure as Vicar of St Mary's Church, and has brought much wisdom to school governance matters. We wish him well in his departure for Gloucestershire.

Throughout all of the uncertainty in school leadership for most of this year the governors are so grateful to the full staff team for going above and beyond, every day, to make sure that the learning experience and life at St Mary's is still as wonderful as it always has been. We have been inordinately blessed by having Mrs Davies as Interim Head, and she and Mrs Jennings are much thanked and praised, and will be much missed. We also thank parents and carers for their patience and support in what has certainly been a challenging time for the school and the Board. We are all a bit battered and bruised by what the school has been through this year, but the Board are confident that what has been put in place for September will provide more stability going forwards. Wishing you all a restful summer, and asking you to continue to keep Miss Payne in your thoughts and prayers.

Paula Greenwood, Chair of Governors



A big thankyou!



FoSMS would like to thank all of the wonderful parent volunteers, staff and teachers who supported all the school events this year, which raised much needed funds for pupil enrichment at St Mary's. Please get in touch if you would like to be part of the committee

Summer Reading Challenge

Read to the Beat arrives in libraries across England and Wales, this month!

Start your summer of storytelling with rhythm, music and creativity! Putney Library is kickstarting this year's Summer Reading Challenge. Visit in person or online to sign up and enjoy a summer of reading.

Location: 5-7 Disraeli Road, London, SW152DR .

<https://www.better.org.uk/library/london/wandsworth/putney-library>



A message from the Interim Head

I know I have only been here a short time, but I have already found St Mary's to be a wonderful school. The staff and children are delightful and truly live out our values in all that they do. It has been a rollercoaster of a term, and everyone has risen to the challenge of multiple inspections and a fair few changes.

There have been many highlights this term. One of these was celebrating Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday and recognising his incredible contribution to our understanding of the natural world. We held our worship outside, where the children created the number 100. We talked about some of the programmes he has made, as well as the compassion he shows towards animals and the environment, and the endurance he has demonstrated throughout his career. We also shared the Eco Prayer, which had been written by the children.

The number of trips the children have enjoyed this year has been amazing, providing such a wide range of enriching experiences for everyone. When trips were cancelled owing to the heat staff improvised and the children had a great experience!

In June, we held our third Anti-Bullying Day. This year, Year 6 linked our Power for Good theme with Refugee Week. After reading The Unforgotten Coat, a story about two brothers who are refugees, the children thought about what it might feel like to arrive in a new country and how small acts of kindness can make a big difference. Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors (ABAs) visited classes across the school to talk about what it means to be a refugee. They shared part of the story and encouraged each class to think of five acts of kindness that could help someone feel welcome, safe and included. The wonderful ideas from every class showed just how caring and thoughtful our children are.

FoSM have also been incredibly busy, supporting not only our Sports Days but also the Summer Fair. We are so grateful for all they do to support our school community. As a staff team, we are saying goodbye to Michelle Brathwaite, Tahlee Hamilton, Rebecca Tarquini and Richard Annerley from our premises team. We thank them for their dedication and service to the school and our community, and we wish them every success and happiness in their new roles.

Finally, we say goodbye to the children and families who are leaving us this year. We wish you every happiness for the future and hope you will stay in touch. As we often say at St Mary's, "Once a St Mary's family, always a St Mary's family", and you will always be welcome to come back and visit us.

With best wishes to all our staff and families for a restful and restorative summer holiday.

Sara Davies
Interim Head Teacher.



CLASSROOM CLOSE-UPS

Y3

It has been an exciting summer term in Y3! The class loved our English lessons that focused on the fictional chapter book, 'The Thames and Tide Club' by Katya Balen. In the novel, a group of children take part in a mudlarking club in London, searching the Thames for artifacts. After finding a magical object on the river shore, they dive into the secret underwater city beneath the Thames. The children produced some excellent writing and creative work based on the story, such as a weather report and a dramatic diary entry. In Science we had fun exploring light, especially when we placed a suncream-covered card into direct sunlight, and created our own water cycle 'in a bag.' Water and weather was our focus in Geography, where we used online simulations to investigate how the sun creates seasons in different hemispheres. We also explored weather forecasts and their different symbols, becoming weather forecasters. Finally, we had a great 'volcano and earthquakes day', making our own volcanoes and using computers to look at the magnitude of earthquakes around the world. I think Y3 are certainly ready for the adventure ahead in Y4, after a well-deserved summer holiday of course!



Y1

As another wonderful term comes to a close, we are so proud of everything the children have achieved. Every week has been filled with exciting discoveries, happy memories and a real enthusiasm for learning. During Insect Week, our budding scientists loved collecting and recording data to answer the question: "Which insect is found most often in our school grounds?". After lots of careful investigating, the answer was... "ants!" They also explored how different bird beaks are suited to different foods by using straws, spoons and pegs, recording their findings in tables like real scientists.



In Geography, we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring continents, oceans and human features, using Venn diagrams and spider grams to compare Zambia and England. The soaring temperatures certainly didn't dampen our love of learning—and cooling off with a splash in the pool was a welcome treat! Our class texts have inspired our science work and led to wonderful discussions about caring for our world and each other. "Stella and the Seagull" encouraged us to think about reusing and recycling, while "Lubna and Pebble" taught us valuable lessons about empathy, resilience, compassion and finding comfort in life's simple moments. From our unforgettable visit to Legoland, Holland Park and Godly Play—where we were even the first younger children to see the bell tower—to the excitement of Sports Day and the Summer Fair, this term has truly been one to remember!

Y5

Year 5 have had a very busy Summer Term, packed with learning excursions, KS2 performance rehearsals, swimming lessons and lots of exciting learning opportunities. To start the term, we explored poetry during our reading lessons that pushed us to think outside of the square! Students explored poems by Joseph Coelho, deepening their reading skills and knowledge of figurative language. In Maths, students strengthened their understanding of 2D and 3D shapes, position, volume and capacity. Geography lessons encouraged the class to think about energy and sustainability, with students creating informative displays on renewable forms of energy. In addition to weekly swimming lessons, the class also enjoyed attending the Children's Literature Festival at Battersea Arts Centre, where they listened to a fascinating talk by author Sharna Jackson. The children were truly inspired, with many members of the class stepping into the role of detectives and confidently sharing their ideas about mystery on the microphone during the event. During Science, the class showed great teamwork to investigate how pulleys reduce the effort needed to lift a load. I was incredibly impressed by the way they designed and created their own pulley systems, demonstrating the excellent scientific skills they have developed throughout the year. Year 5 should be proud of all of their achievements this term. I have no doubt they will make a smooth transition to Year 6!



YN

We have had a very busy term of learning and play in the Nursery Class! The children have become expert storytellers as they acted out key events from the texts we focussed on. They have been scientists investigating the natural world, learning about minibeasts and animals and their habitats. There have also been some budding engineers in class with some exceptionally complex models and constructions emerging from careful planning and collaboration with friends.

A favourite time of each week in Nursery has been the Outdoor Learning session in the newly built Outdoor Classroom in the big playground. The children helped to plant vegetables and flowers earlier in the year and have observed their growth over time. There were many excited faces when even the smallest changes were noticed. Using natural objects, we explored patterns with some transient art on the benches and the ground. We also made our own dancing ribbons from sticks to investigate the wind. The Outdoor Classroom gave us the opportunity to enjoy snack times outside in nature and deepen our understanding of the changes in seasons as we watched Autumn leaves cover the ground, Spring blossoms bloom and lush green leaves grow.

The Nursery Class enjoyed a fantastic trip to Bocketts Farm to complement our Animal Topic of Learning, where we saw baby lambs, piglets, calves and kid goats. It was great fun cheering on the pigs in the Pig Race and we don't think there's anything more exciting than a 'packed lunch'!

Our animal topic also allowed us to extend our maths skills by sorting pets into groups according to different rules and creating a city and counting how many pets lived in the houses and apartments.



Y4

This term, our learning has focused on natural resources and how we use them in Geography. We explored where many of the Earth's resources come from and compared case studies from the UK and Chile, helping us understand the importance of using these resources responsibly. As part of our learning, we even went squelching through the muddy banks of the River Thames in search of wildlife, discovering that the Thames is much cleaner and more biodiverse than it first appears.

In English, we continued this environmental theme by reading 'Varmints' by Helen Ward. The story inspired the children to think carefully about protecting the natural world. They wrote persuasive speeches calling for more wilderness and green spaces along Putney High Street, using powerful facts and ambitious vocabulary to support their arguments. They then confidently performed their speeches in the playground to eager audiences from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

We are incredibly proud of the determination and enthusiasm the children have shown while learning their songs for the KS2 production, making a fantastic contribution to a jam-packed show. Despite an exceptionally hot term, Year 4 have worked hard and should be very proud.



Y2

We have had a very busy term of learning and play in the Nursery Class! The children have become expert storytellers as they acted out key events from the texts we focussed on. They have been scientists investigating the natural world, learning about minibeasts and animals and their habitats. There have also been some budding engineers in class with some exceptionally complex models and constructions emerging from careful planning and collaboration with friends.

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Y6

Mrs Rinaldi told us that Year 6 would fly by — and she was right. How can we already be at the end of our journey? Even though it was our final term, we never slowed down. The start of term, when we took the KS2 SATs, already feels like a distant memory. We worked incredibly hard to prepare, and although the tests were challenging, we still had a great week. Each morning began with a delicious breakfast, and afterwards we were rewarded with a SATs paper shredding party, a picnic in Wandsworth Park, and receiving our leavers' hoodies. Even with so much going on, our learning never stopped. We read two fantastic novels, 'The Explorer' and 'The Unforgotten Coat', learning about the Brazilian rainforest and the steppes of Mongolia. We used these texts to develop our writing skills, particularly focusing on crafting multi-clause sentences. In Maths, we discovered that algebra is not as scary as we first thought. We also went on a Faith Trail, visiting three houses of worship in Wimbledon, and enjoyed comparing and contrasting these very special places. Our history lessons sparked particularly lively discussions, when we studied 20th-century conflict. We loved being role models for the younger children. Every Friday at break time, we became play leaders, organising games for KS1 - something everyone thoroughly enjoyed. It was wonderful to connect with the younger children in this way. We also survived the record-breaking heat and spent a lot of time learning in our outdoor classroom. It has been a fantastic final term -thank you, St Mary's!



YR

As we come to the end of a fantastic year in Reception, we would like to celebrate all that the children have achieved. It has been a wonderful year full of learning, laughter, and memorable experiences. In Summer 1, our topic was Celebrating Ourselves. Through our literacy text 'So Much', we explored different types of families, celebrating what makes each one unique while sharing information about our own. We then enjoyed 'The Night Pirates', using our imaginations to learn about pirate life through storytelling, writing, and creative activities.

In Summer 2, our literacy learning focused on rhyming through 'Oi Frog!' and developing independent writing inspired by the book 'Hairy Maclary'. In Maths, we explored doubles, number bonds to 10, odd and even numbers, and numbers to 20 through practical games and problem-solving activities.

Some of our highlights included our visit to the Natural History Museum, where we learned about Sophie the Stegosaurus and explored the dinosaur exhibition. We also enjoyed a Teddy Bears' Picnic, sharing jam sandwiches with our favourite teddies from home.

We are incredibly proud of everything the Reception children have achieved this year. It has been a joy to watch them grow in confidence, independence, and curiosity. Thank you to all our Reception families for your continued support throughout the year!

KS2 PRODUCTION - 'THE ISLAND THAT ROCKS'

The KS2 production of The Island That Rocks was a fantastic showcase of our students' talents. It was truly a team effort, with each student working hard to learn their lines, choreograph dances, and design programmes, props and costumes. The confidence and enthusiasm shown by the Year 6 actors and singers were a delight to see. The story followed a brother and sister who become marooned on an island where innovative approaches to sustainable fuels take centre stage. In the end, everyone learned that, by working together, they can be amazing in the world we're facing. Years 3, 4 and 5 also impressed, clearly enjoying their songs and providing a glimpse of the talent moving up through the school. It is always a special time of year, and the KS2 production remains a much-anticipated event at St Mary's - this year's performance was certainly no exception.



FOSMS SILENT DISCO - MAY 16th - £2400 RAISED



SPORT

London Mini Marathon.

On Saturday 25th April, a group of St Mary's runners took to central London to take part in the London Mini Marathon! The group ran a 2.6k route from Horse Guards Parade, passed Buckingham Palace, towards Hyde Park and ending on the Mall. It was a fantastic experience.

St Mary's Girls Football

"the girls football was so incredibly fun and gave us the opportunity to work with Year 5. I really enjoyed developing our skills together, from not so good to scoring goals! I want to thank Mr Philips for being an awesome coach to the girls football team" Fleur Y6

English Schools FA Wandsworth Schools District Football

"I really enjoyed the challenge of being selected from 60 schools to represent Wandsworth schools district in U11 football". We played so many other district teams and even got to play at Crystal Palace academy. I scored quite a few goals and enjoyed meeting boys from different schools and playing in some tough competitions and tournaments" Eben Y6



MUSIC

Music this term has been extremely fulfilling and busy, with Y4 Flutes finishing their year long programme with a sharing, and one to one instrumental lessons continuing to expand. Y1 and Y2 put on a Summer Concert for parents/carers, showcasing their percussion skills, and singing a variety of songs which was a great success and well received, and of course KS2 have been preparing for the Y6 Production at the end of term. Y6 have also enjoyed studying Film and Theatre music as their topic this term, and we will be sad to lose such committed musicians when they leave - we wish them all the best for their future music making! Y1 have begun learning notation, Y2 have been writing music, Y3 and Y5 have enjoyed composition, and Y4 have explored Elgar's Enigma Variations as they prepared for an orchestra trip. Nursery have loved developing their motor skills with untuned percussion and also using music for story-telling, and Reception continue to recognise notation and explore beat and rhythm.



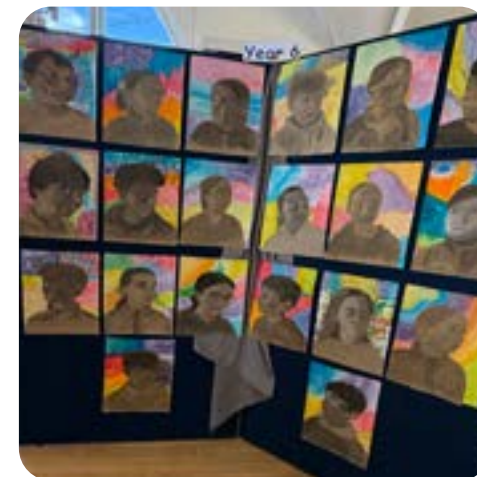
SAWYERS CROFT 2026

In Feb 2026, Year 6 and Year 5 visited Sawyers Croft, This is always an exciting moment in the final years of primary school for the pupils, with Year 6 spending 4 days/ 3 nights away from home. Student left their comfort zone and took part in a variety of physical challenges and learning experiences such as high ropes, climbing, hiking, pottery and pond dipping, to test their resilience, independence and character. It finished with the every popular disco. They all came back exhausted with a positive sense of achievement.



ART FAIR

Earlier this year, Reception class explored print-making techniques to create an ocean scene inspired by the work of artist Hokusai. Year 1 created decorative magical woodland doors. The children used the score and slip method for joining clay pieces onto their door before adding colour. Year 2 explored the painting 'Surprise!' by Henri Rousseau. The children's tiger line drawings were traced and transferred onto a Styrofoam tile to create a block printing plate of their image. In Year 3, the children learnt how to make a monster model by building a small pot using a pinch and pull method. Year 4 have been looking at the sculptural work of artist Faith Bennington. We used her piece Let's Dance as inspiration for our own 3D figures. Natural treasures were used by the Year 5 children to create nature inspired decorative piece using clay and plaster of Paris. Year 6 created mixed media self-portraits using oil pastel, chalk pastel, coloured inks, collage and charcoal. A graphite transfer technique was used to print their image onto of their colourful background.



STAFF UNCOVERED

Teacher Uncovered - Chris Steinitz

Background

I'm originally from up north in Grimsby. From an early age, I loved performing on stage and join an amateur dramatics society. I made loads of friends there and it gave me the confidence to take on new challenges and eventually move to a big city. After moving to London to attend drama school (Rose Bruford College), I ended up staying and making it home. I performed in many plays, in UK and European theatres, before deciding the settle down and have a restful job as a teacher... As Shakespeare once said, "What fools we mortals be!" I soon learnt being a teacher is never restful, but I love it! I wouldn't change my job for anything, and I love the children I get to work with. The children's stories, opinions and ideas are the reason I walk into school with a big smile, eager to teach and learn even more.

What subjects did you do at school?

All the usual ones but I loved History, Art, PE and writing stories in English.

What do you like best about St. Mary's?

The school community is so kind and generous with their energy and time. It really does make it a special place to work and the children always make everyday new and exciting.

What subjects did you do at school?

All the usual ones but I loved History, Art, PE and writing stories in English.

What makes you happy?

Spending time with my family and also visiting the theatre. Theatre is a wonderful tool to perform stories, ideas and problems to a group of strangers who share the experience together.



Where was your best holiday?

My honeymoon with my wife, Mrs Steinitz! We were very fortunate to go to Mexico and scale pyramids and swim in crystal clear waters. After that, we had a road trip from Austin, Texas all the way to Nashville, Tennessee, USA. BBQs, everglades, Elvis's Graceland and Dollywood amusement park - what a trip is was!

What pet do you have or would you like?

My Nanna used guide dogs growing up so I have always loved Labradors. Whilst I don't think it suits my life style at the moment to own a dog, I look forward to owning a Labrador (any colour will do) when I retire in the far off future.

What are you reading right now?

The Odyssey by Emily Wilson - I'm an eager reader for adventure and the classical world still holds many lessons we can learn from- especially a healthy respect for the sea.

Describe a perfect meal?

Exceptional question with an easy answer: Fish and Chips from Grimsby with mushy peas, salt, vinegar, red sauce, a pot of tea and scarps (left over bits of batter)!

FOSMS SUMMER FAIR



On Saturday the 4th July the annual St Mary's summer fair took place in the playground. We were treated to soccer skills provided by Skills Coach and Tennis sessions provided by Putney Lawn Tennis Club and a wonderful Magic show. Children and parents alike were able to have fun trying their luck on the Tombola, bobbing apples, donut catch, lucky dip and adapt a Teddy, whilst enjoying hot dogs and burgers from the BBQ, some churros and drinks from the Hamptons bar. Such a fun day with lovely weather which raised some much needed funds for enrichment activities.



FOSMS NEWS

Quiz Night - 5th Feb

On a cold winter's night, the school hall was once again brought to life by a rambunctious and highly competitive group of parents, teachers friends battling it out for the coveted title of 'St Mary's Quiz champions'... and the winner was YEAR 4!!!

Thanks to Year 2 for hosting the event, Ben & Andy for their brilliant quiz-mastery and OJ for providing the best musical section we've ever had!

£1200 was raised - a brilliant result from a bit of brain power! See you next year, Year 1...

Silent Disco - 16th May

For the first time ever, St Mary's School and Church joined forces for a silent disco and what a (rather quiet) raving success it was! Over 250 adults & kids danced the night away to their own tune with glitter faces, glow sticks and sweets galore.

It was a truly spectacular night that really highlighted the strength of our school community while **raising over £2400**.

A huge thank you to everyone who gave their time and contributed to this fabulous night!

Summer Fair - 4th July

The sun was shining and the new playground was ready for the event of the year - St Mary's annual Summer Fair! It was a brilliant afternoon full of endless activities for young & old including tombola, splat a rat, adopt a Teddy and some rather messy Krispy Kreme eating! We were all stunned by Marco the magician whilst enjoying delicious BBQ, churros and pick n mix. Thank you to Miss Bosley for hosting our annual Art Fair in the school hall - it was wonderful to see all children's artwork displayed and hung with pride! A huge thank you to Hamptons Estate Agents for donating their time & money to host our Drinks Bar - pimm's and Limoncello Spritz were thoroughly enjoyed! We are so appreciative of our partnership and look forward to many more events together!

Thank you

St Mary's would be a very different place without FoSMS and our incredible community of parents & carers working tirelessly behind the scenes to strengthen and improve our school, so whether you have painted a face, flipped a burger or been on a few too many zoom planning meetings - we say THANK YOU!! We appreciate every single one of you and look forward to another school year together!

What we've paid for since January:

Learning resources - £2800; Swimming lessons Y3, 4, 5 - £1800; Staff welfare - £1100; Audit fees - £1000; Sports Day - £600; School newsletter - £400; Easter Eggs - £100



PLAYGROUND PROJECT UPDATE

We have loved our first full year with the second stage of the playground complete. The addition of grass and natural spaces has transformed our environment, and we have made the most of all it has to offer. Thanks to Kate Bolton and our Eco-Warrior group, our planting programme is well underway. The children have been delighted to grow their crops from seed and experience the joy of tasting those first tomatoes. We are also looking forward to harvesting our pumpkins in the autumn. The outdoor classroom provided a welcome respite from the scorching temperatures experienced in some of the classrooms and offered a refreshing change from learning at our desks. A huge thank you to all the parents who helped make this space a reality. It has already had a wonderful impact on our children and school community. As we wrap up another amazing year, we want to say a heartfelt thank you to every parent, carer, volunteer, teacher and child who's supported the FoSMS fundraising in any way - whether by baking a cake, manning a stall, donating a prize, or just turning up and joining in. Your support makes a real difference, and we're so grateful. **THANK YOU!**

PUPIL LEAVERS

Xavier Dreyfus-Gibson Y1
Beatrice Dreyfus-Gibson Y3
Evan Ntelekos Y3
Alice Early Y2
Ruby Watton Y1
Whitney Kelly YR
Emma Imad Y4
Frederick Manners YR

NEW PUPIL STARTERS

Elias Trindade Y5
Rocco Trindade Y2
Benaiah Norden Y5
Luca Catilli-Ewbank Y5
Liberty Taylor Y4
Zane Labrador Y1
Daniele Ciuccio Y1
Aksel Ileri Y4



YEAR 6 REFLECTIONS



Name: Agastya

Reflections: St Mary's has always been a welcoming school - the pupils, the staff and the community - even though I joined in the middle of Y2. I extremely enjoyed our three-day-residential to Sayers Croft, where we got to spend what felt like endless time with our friends.

Ambitions: I would like to become someone in the financial world. If I don't become a finance wizard, I may also become a pilot that flies Boeing 777's.

Teachers will remember you for: a can-do attitude, personal drive and being a friend to all.

Secondary School: Haberdashers' Boys' School, Elstree



Name: Edy

Reflections: St. Mary's has been a good school for me. I have enjoyed much of the learning through the years. I will always remember the lovely teachers and staff.

Ambitions: I may become a horticulturalist and have a small plant nursery for viola tricolor and/or a lay minister in the church or a Christian theologian.

Teachers will remember you for: your honesty, immense factual knowledge and love of a debate.

Secondary School: Saint Cecilia's Church of England School



Name: Zahra

Reflections: Some things that I will never forget about St. Mary's are the wonderful community and kind friends I have made here. I still remember my first day in Reception and everyone was so welcoming. And don't let me forget the wonderful time I had at Sayers Croft.

Ambitions: One day I would like to be a paediatric physio because I like helping people especially children and seeing smiles

Teachers will remember you for: your lead by example attitude, enthusiasm and self-motivation.

Secondary School: Surbiton High School



Name: Kayson

Reflections: I remember walking into this school for the first time in year 3 not knowing any English. Coming here changed my life completely. Joining St. Mary's was the best decision I've ever made and I have made really loyal friends.

Ambitions: I'm not totally sure but I might want to become a singer because I love singing.

Teachers will remember you for: your kindness, natural spelling ability and loyalty.

Secondary School: St Mark's School



Name: Shasmeen

Reflections: A memory that I will never forget is when we ripped the mock SATS papers after our SATS exams and then we went to Wandsworth Park to have a class picnic. Another memory is when we went to Sayers Croft and we did lots of fun activities. I also enjoyed the Spring Concert and I played Für Elise and Ordinary on the piano.

Ambitions: I wish to become a professional pianist and a doctor.

Teachers will remember you for: your quiet confidence, graceful nature and impressive piano skills.

Secondary School: Chelsea Academy



Name: Eben

Reflections: I remember being in Reception and making a big car out of recycling, bigger than my whole head! Also, at Sayers Croft we had a quiz where I brought a yellow banana toy to match my yellow jumper which I wore around everywhere, even when I conquered my fear by getting to the top of the climbing wall

Ambitions: I would like to be a football player.

Teachers will remember you for: your sporting excellence, energy and love of a good joke.

Secondary School: Christ's School



Name: Ben

Reflections: I remember that one time at Sayers Croft we were playing in the muddy field and so many people slipped and fell in the mud. It was hilarious!

Ambitions: I would like to become an engineer or a motocross racer or a lawyer.

Teachers will remember you for: your resilience, respect and being a loyal and reliable friend.

Secondary School: Saint Cecilia's Church of England School



Name: Elizabethjoyce

Reflections: A memory I could never forget was my first time at Sports Day in Year 3. I was so excited (because I love sports) and I beat record for high jump. This was a really proud moment for me, standing there holding my trophy.

Ambitions: I would like to become an artist, an Olympian and a judge.

Teachers will remember you for: your resilience, kindness and being a sporting leader.

Secondary School: Saint Cecilia's Church of England School



Name: Adriana

Reflections: One really good memory of St. Mary's was the last day of SATS when we were given practice tests to rip up after all of our hard work! Then, the next day, we found out the play would be The Island That Rocks. I can't forget to mention Sayer's Croft; it was such a fun experience that brought us all together. Finally, winning the Year 6 talent show with my dancing, was a proud moment for me.

Ambitions: I enjoy being creative and might like to be a designer. I also like coming up with ideas for books so I might want to write one.

Teachers will remember you for: your brilliant dancing, independent thinking and caring of others.

Secondary School: Ashcroft Technology Academy



Name: Jack

Reflections: I will always remember when I first joined St. Mary's. I felt scared at first until I made so many friends and they were so kind to me! The teachers have helped me do my best learning and encouraged me during my 8-year long journey here. I am so very grateful for everyone who has been a part of this journey. Thank you!

Ambitions: I would like to work in astrophysics and discover new galaxies and worlds. I would also love to step on the moon using a SpaceX rocket.

Teachers will remember me for: your quick-thinking, compassion and scientific brain.

Secondary School: The Harrodian School



Name: Fleur

Reflections: I have truly enjoyed my time at St. Mary's, especially year six. I will always remember our end of SATS celebration, tearing up our old papers and celebrating at the park. This school has guided me through my life and I am so incredibly grateful for this experience.

Ambitions: Probably something along the lines of a designer or an athlete.

Teachers will remember you for: your sporting prowess, determination and easy going nature.

Secondary School: Ibstock Place School



Name: Troy

Reflections: A memory I will remember was my first day, awkwardly walking into Year 3. Another is how in Year 6 we went to Sayers Croft and caught no sleep! I will very dearly miss St Mary's!

Ambitions: I would like to become a professional football player and win the quadruple with Arsenal. (FA Cup, Carabao Cup, Premier League and the Champions League.)

Teachers will remember you for: being helpful, immense knowledge of memes and a cheeky smile.



Name: Aleksei

Reflections: I remember walking through the gates at the start of year 6. I knew it would be a fun and action-packed year. I was right and I have really enjoyed year 6. I will be sad to leave St. Mary's.

Ambitions: I would love to become an architect as I love designing.

Teachers will remember you for: your positivity, perma-smile and love of a good joke.

Secondary School: Epsom College



Name: Otilie

Reflections: I remember the first day of the Year Six school year like it was yesterday. I was so excited and nervous that, instead of making my way to my new classroom, I entered the Year Five classroom shocked that it was filled with no one in my class. I wasn't surprised others did the same. Now I can't imagine walking into another classroom let alone a new school. I am going to miss St. Mary's.

Ambitions: Probably something arty and to make a good difference to the world.

Teachers will remember you for: your quiet confidence, creativity and determination.

Secondary School: Lady Margaret



Name: Matilde

Reflections: I remember walking into this school for the first time in year 3 not knowing any English. Coming here changed my life completely. Joining St. Mary's was the best decision I've ever made and I have made really loyal friends.

Ambitions: I would like to become a professional hip hop dancer, work with little children and be a tennis player.

Teachers will remember you for: your amazing dancing skills, being strong-minded and organisation.

Secondary School: Hurlingham Academy



Name: Eleanor

Reflections: I can't believe that I'm already about to end my St. Mary's journey after seven years here. Some of my absolute favourite memories were Sayers Croft and breaking the Year 4 Wizzball record at Sports Day. I will never forget this place.

Ambitions: I want to be an author when I grow up because I adore writing stories.

Teachers will remember you for: your creative storytelling, fierce independence and engaging reading voice

Secondary School: Francis Holland, Sloane Square



Name: Danny

Reflections: Every year I remember doing something new. I remember in year 5 when the head of our school got slimed (staff poured slime on her). My favourite memory was when at Sayers Croft we had to make a story for our soft toys.

Ambitions: I'd love to be an ornithologist or a creature designer (a person who designs creatures for movies)

Teachers will remember you for: your love of the natural world, artistic talent and gentle nature.

Secondary School: Ashcroft Technology Academy



Name: Peter

Reflections: I will remember St. Mary's for the life lessons and the understanding teachers. St. Mary's is the best school I've ever been to - I will fondly remember it. I will tell my children what they missed out on.

Ambitions: I want to be a doctor.

Teachers will remember me for: you sharp mind, talkative nature and need for a hat/coat on the warmest of days.

Secondary School: Brummana High School



Name: Ruby

Reflections: I don't know what I will do without St. Mary's. The pupils and staff are always there when you need them and will always help you up if you fall down. One of my favourite memories was at Sayers Croft in Year 5. Our partners were guiding us through a path because we were blindfolded. My partner made me fall into the mud multiple times.

Ambitions: I would like to be a singer or an actor.

Teachers will remember you for: your honesty, amazing ability to always injure yourself and working hard.

Secondary School: Ibstock Place School



Name: Saim

Reflections: I absolutely loved our exciting Sayers Croft residential trip and the fun day that we finished SATS and received our leavers' hoodies.

Ambitions: I would like to do something mathematical or musical.

Teachers will remember you for: your fantastic piano playing, quirkiness and love for reading.

Secondary School: Saint Cecilia's Church of England School

Eco-Committee 2026

Our biggest project has been transforming the school's flowerbeds. With lots of hard work from the committee and with the support of Kate Bolton, we prepared the beds. We planted a wide variety of vegetables and herbs, including artichokes, lettuce, basil, parsley, pumpkins and lots and lots of tomatoes. It has been wonderful to watch everything grow and flourish. The committee have taken great responsibility for looking after the plant. It has been wonderful to watch everything grow and flourish. The committee have taken great responsibility for looking after the plants, making sure they are regularly watered and cared for. The addition of the water butts has been a huge help, allowing us to collect and use rainwater to keep our plants healthy while also making us more environmentally friendly. The bug hotel has also been receiving plenty of attention. Committee members have been checking in on our tiny visitors and making sure they are getting some much-needed 'R and R' in their cosy habitat. We even helped some snails settle into their new home recently, and they seem to be enjoying their stay! During our latest meeting, the children shared lots of exciting ideas for future projects. They are keen to spend more time caring for the pond area and continue to keep our playground clean and litter-free. We have also been discussing what to plant next, with potatoes proving to be a very popular suggestion. It has been fantastic to see the enthusiasm, teamwork and dedication shown by this year's Eco-Committee.



KS1 AND EYFS SPORTS DAY

On Friday 3rd July, our Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day packed with fun, laughter and sporting success. Despite the soaring temperatures, the children showed incredible enthusiasm and resilience throughout the day, eagerly taking part in eight different activity stations that tested their throwing, balancing and running skills. It was wonderful to see everyone trying their best, encouraging one another and celebrating each others achievements, all with huge smiles on their faces. We were delighted to welcome so many parents and family members to support the children throughout the morning. A huge thank you to all the parents who came along to cheer and, in many cases, volunteered to help run the activity stations. Your time, enthusiasm and encouragement helped make the day such a success. A big thank you also goes to FOSMs, who treated everyone to refreshing squash and ice lollies after all the excitement. This year, for the very first time, every child also received a Sports Day 2026 commemorative pencil. We are thrilled to say they have already proved a great success, with many children proudly telling us they have been using them every day. Not only are they a lovely reminder of the day, but they are also a much eco-friendlier keepsake.



A summer message from our Rector

September 1st 2018 - first day of my new job as Team Rector for the Parish of Putney based at St Mary's Church. Within a few days I was attending an INSET day of combined staff and governors at St Mary's School reflecting together on what the school vision was and how best to articulate it. In eighteen years of ordained ministry, I had never had experience of such a good quality discussion on Christian vision with rich engagement and contributions from everyone in the hall.

That vision has been tweaked and firmed up a couple of times and is wonderfully captured in our vision picture with the school values of compassion, endurance and thankfulness, all built on the foundations, central to Christian life, that God wants us to reach our full potential (excellence) in all areas of our life - academic, creative, sporting, kindness, generosity, sympathy, empathy, friendships, loyalty. And that is what St Mary's school is all about.

As I come to the end of my time here in Putney, moving to new ministry in Gloucester, it has been a privilege and a blessing to me to have shared in the life of the school and I can say nothing but 'thank you'. May the wonderful work of God's grace within and through the adults and children of St Mary's school continue to abound, now and into the years ahead. Amen.

God Bless
Revd John Whittaker
St Mary's Church - Parish
of Putney



Quotes from Sports Day

Olivia (YN) "I liked the javelin. I've used my pencil already"
Emilia (YN) "I liked the relay race because my mummy was running it. I've used my pencil to draw houses"
Eddie (YR) "I've used my pencil every day! I liked running. I never stopped in the running race"
Henry E (YR) "I won the first race! I love my pencil and enjoyed javelin"
Azariah (Y1) "I liked that my brother was there. It was so fun. I loved Sports Day. My favourite part was the hoop race"
Sadie (Y1) "I enjoyed the hoop race because you get to hop with one leg and both legs and I like hopping".

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to Mr Newman, our fantastic Year 6 helpers and all the staff who worked so hard behind the scenes to organise such a memorable event.

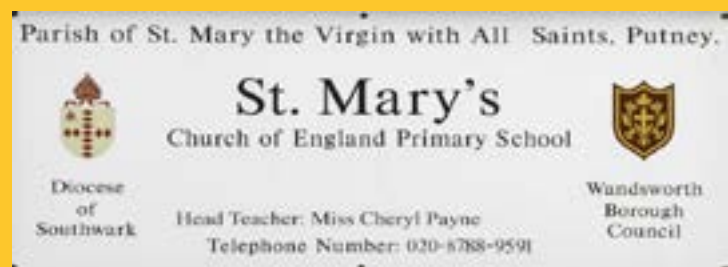
**The Autumn Term starts
Tues 1st Sep 2026**

**Wishing you all a
wonderful Summer Break!**

KS2 SPORTS DAY 2023

KS2 Sports Day was another roaring success! Races were won, records were broken, and plenty of ice lollies were enjoyed along the way. Once again, our fantastic parent volunteers delivered a professional, exciting and enjoyable event for everyone involved. Despite the hot weather that had been forecast, everyone coped remarkably well and the day ran smoothly from start to finish. The children demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship throughout the day and had a wonderful time taking part in the wide range of activities. There was clear evidence of our school values in action, with children supporting and encouraging one another at every opportunity. Congratulations to the Green Family, who were crowned overall winners. However, every child should be incredibly proud of their achievements and the effort they put in throughout the day. A huge thank you to all the parents who gave their time and support. Organising and running an event of this scale is no small feat, and it simply could not have happened without your help. A special thank you goes to Kate and Nikki for their excellent organisational skills and hard work in ensuring the day was such a success.





Year 6 Art Work on display in Putney Shopping Centre

