



# St Mary's CE VC First School

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Newsletter 10 - 2022/23

9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all looking forward to a lovely half term break, hopefully with some of the beautiful sunshine continuing. It has been a busy term of learning, please take time to look at the Class Blogs on our new website where you can find out more about your child's learning in their class.

We are delighted to be welcoming our Year 5 Learning Transition Mentors into school following the half term holiday. Mrs Helen Pegram will be retiring from this role at Easter and so will be accompanied every Tuesday on her visits to our Year 4 children by Mrs Claire Hudson who will take over this role from Helen. Mrs Hudson will spend time getting to know our Year 4 children and their families as a support and preparation for the transition into Year 5 at St Osmund's Middle School.

Following the half term break, Mrs Tanya Brueton will return to her Lunchtime Supervisor role after a period of maternity leave. We will look forward to welcoming her back to the team.

As part of celebrating our common values of Love, Community and Hope, Reverend Leila invites our classes down each term to 'Tuesdays@StMarys', a café-based social project on Tuesday mornings that brings members of our community together over tea and cake. There are often guests there, like our lovely PCSO Sarah, and the children occasionally see relatives and other local friends. During these visits, we introduce the children to our local parish church and the ways in which the church like to serve our community. They talk about the food bank, the church café, the youth groups, pastoral care, and charities. We also love to explore the church building together, finding all the different symbols and objects and talking about how they're used on a Sunday and what they mean. At the end of our visits, just before returning to school, the children have a drink and a biscuit, and get a chance to chat with some of the 'regulars'. This term and next, we are going to start exploring the King's Coronation and some of the symbols that the children will see in the service if they watch it in May - there might even be some role play! The dates for each class can be found on the next page.

Please look out for the School Association, 'Readathon' information in your child's book bag today. Let's hope there are lots of opportunities to snuggle up with a book with your child over the holidays! World Book Day 2023 will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. (if our school has to close on this day, as it is a date for proposed strike action, then we will reschedule the date) This year we will ask children to come dressed as a 'word'. In school we will base this around the book, 'The Word Collector'. If your child wishes to dress as a book character then they can still do so, but think of a word to describe themselves. Have fun planning your costumes!

Yours sincerely

*Suzanne Garner*



## T@SM

The dates for each class visit can be found below:

Date	Class	Year Group (s)
Tuesday 21st February	Oak	R/Y1
Tuesday 28th February	Linden	Year 3
Tuesday 7th March	Ash	Year 4
Tuesday 14th March	Willow	Reception
Tuesday 21st March	Beech	Year 1/2
Tuesday 28th March	Maple	Year 2/3

### Children's Mental Health Week - 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Mental health and wellbeing are priorities for us in school. Below is a link to some useful videos aimed at parents wishing to support their child's emotional health:

<https://www.dragonflyimpact.com/MHweekvideos>

### Planned Strike Action - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March

We will advise you of any closures for these dates following the half term break. Due to the disruptive nature of the strike we are unable to give lots of advance notice.

### Future Dates:

13-17 Feb	Half Term
20 Feb	Children return to school
21 Feb	Reception Vision Screening
23 Feb	Class Assembly - Linden - 9.00am
27 Feb	RE Day
28 Feb	DASP Year 4 Concert 6.30pm - NEW DATE
2 Mar	World Book Day
3 Mar	Eco Uniform Sale - school hall
3 Mar	Individual and Sibling Photographs
6-9 Mar	Parent/Teacher Consultations
7 Mar	Full Governing Body Meeting (3)
9 Mar	Class Assembly - Beech - 9.00am
15 Mar	DASP Year 4 Concert 6.30pm
17 Mar	Comic Relief
23 Mar	Easter Service 9.00am -School Hall Easter Service 2.00pm -School Hall
27-29 Mar	Hooke Court - Year 4 Residential Visit
31 Mar	Last Day of Term for children

