



St Mary's C of E Primary School Newsletter

Friday 25th April 2025
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Go, shine in
the world



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to all our families. We are looking forward to an exciting term of learning. A reminder that after school enrichment clubs begin next week for the children who received confirmation letters last term.

We are looking forward to inviting parents into school from next week for class Curriculum Presentation to Parents. Please take a look at 'Important dates for your diary' overleaf for more information on when these are taking place. The children are looking forward to sharing their learning with you.

With best wishes, Miss Mitchell (Head of School) and Mr Webb (Executive Headteacher)

What do parents say about our school?

We are delighted to share with you the results of our parent questionnaire. Thank you that nearly all parents responded and gave comments.



It is exceptional to have results showing parent agreement well above 90%. Very few schools achieve this. We're so pleased to have such a supportive parent community.

We don't pretend to be perfect so if there are things that you think we could do to improve, do pop in to meet us and let us know :)

Please take a look at the results attached.

Punctuality Matters...

Please help the school day run smoothly by ensuring that your child is in school on time by 8.55am, and ready for learning at 9:00am.



The school gates are open at 8.45am to enable the children to come in calmly and safely. Children get embarrassed, and sometimes upset, if they are late going into class.

Reading is the most important part of our curriculum and all children take part in reading lessons at 9am. First thing in the morning is the time of day when the children's minds are least tired and learn best. Don't let your child be the one who is missing out.



St Mary's Golden Rules... ★

At our school, we value and respect each other. To make sure our school is a place where all children can learn and be safe, our pupils follow our **GOLDEN RULES...**

As it is the start of this new term, Ms Jackson reminded the children about our Golden Rules in assembly this week.

Please talk to your child at home about the Golden Rules - they are useful in all areas of life, too! Many parents tell us that they find the Golden Rules useful at home. Praise and reward your child when they follow the Golden Rules.

Do be kind, helpful and polite.	<i>Don't hurt people's feelings by being rude or unkind.</i>
Do be gentle.	<i>Don't hurt or play fight.</i>
Do listen to people and follow instructions.	<i>Don't ignore people or interrupt them.</i>
Do look after our things.	<i>Don't waste or damage things.</i>
Do be honest.	<i>Don't tell lies or cover up the truth.</i>
Do understand its OK to make mistakes.	<i>Don't laugh at those who are brave enough to have a go.</i>
Do work hard and try your best.	<i>Don't waste time or give up easily.</i>

I have received and read the St Mary's C of E Primary School newsletter of 25.4.25

Name of child _____ Class _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND YOUR CHILD MIGHT WIN A PRIZE :)

Important dates for your diary...

Monday 28th April— After School Enrichment Clubs start

Thursday 1st May—9.15am— Y1 Presentation to Parents

Friday 2nd May—9.15am— Y3 Presentation to Parents

Monday 5th May—Bank Holiday— school closed

Tuesday 6th May—9.15am— Y2 Presentation to Parents

Tuesday 6th May—2.45pm—Y4 Presentation to Parents

Thursday 8th May—9.15am—Y5 Presentation to Parents

Thursday 8th May—2.45pm—Reception Presentation to Parents

Monday 26th May— **Friday 30th May**— Half term

Monday 2nd June— Children back at school



Person of the Week!

Reception— Oliver
Year 1 - Yara
Year 2— Dima
Year 3— Elias
Year 4— Chenai
Year 5 - Sophia
Year 6 - Ismahaan

Camden Moving On to Secondary School Event..



Parents of children in Year 4 and Year 5 are invited to the **Camden Moving On to Secondary School Event** on **Thursday 5 June 2025** at **The Francis Crick Institute, 1 Midland Road, London NW1 1AT**. Timed slots are available from 4.15 to 6.45pm.

This free event is a great opportunity to:

- Receive advice on how to apply for a Year 7 place for September 2026 from the Camden Admissions Team
- Find out more about what Camden secondary schools have to offer your child
- Speak with headteachers, student ambassadors and staff from Camden secondary schools.

This is a timed ticket event, so please make sure you arrive for the time you have booked. Please click the following link to book your place. [Book your free place here via Eventbrite.](#)

Work of the Week!

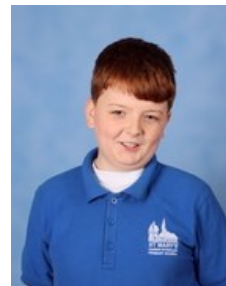


This week's brilliant piece of work displayed in the school lobby is by Harry in Year 5.

As part of their Maths curriculum, Year 5 have been finding the area of compound shapes.

Harry has used his prior knowledge of multiplying and area to successfully find the area of the shapes. Harry has also challenged himself to complete tricky problem solving and reasoning questions and presented his work neatly.

Well done, Harry!



Our Prayer of the week...

Loving Father,
In your patient love,
Hear the prayers of your children.
Make us grow in love for you and for one another.
Amen



Don't let a little worry turn into a big one...

If you or your child are worried about something or have any questions, please phone the school office and book an appointment to see their class teacher, Ms Mitchell or Ms Jackson.



St Mary's C of E Primary School

Parent Questionnaire Spring 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your helpful comments. Your views and those of your children are very important to us. They help us move the school forward and are an effective way of checking that we are getting things right. School leaders take them into account when we are planning for the future of our school.

We were very heartened once again by the huge number of positive comments about St Mary's. Positive comments really help staff to keep motivated and to keep doing their best for your children.

We were glad to hear all parents say that their child enjoys coming to school. One parent commented, *'The school cultivates a positive atmosphere where students feel safe and supported.'* Parents said that the school has clear expectations and promotes good behaviour through the Golden Rules and school values. Many parents told us that the school teaches children to have good manners and helps children learn how to develop socially.

Many parents told us that they find the school a welcoming environment with a community feel. Parents felt that they are welcome to discuss any questions or concerns with the school and feel comfortable doing this. One parent commented, *'The staff are very cooperative and helpful if I ask about anything and they are interested if my child has a problem.'* Many parents commented on the positive relationships that staff have with children and how children are treated fairly.

Many parents commented on how well organised the school is and how clear communication is with parents. Parents told us that they appreciate the ways that school provides excellent communication with parents and regular information through the weekly newsletter, text messages, Academic Review Days, after school meetings with the class teacher and Parent Information Coffee Mornings. One parent commented, *'The school is very well organised and we are kept well informed'*.

A few parents asked how they can have more updates on their child's progress. We welcome parents to book a meeting with the teacher whenever you want to. Teachers are pleased to meet parents to answer questions, to talk through the child's work and offer advice for things to work on at home. Parents do not need to wait for Academic Review Days to do this. Do phone the school office to ask to arrange an appointment to see the class teacher. Ms Mitchell and Ms Jackson are also available on the gate at the start and end of the day to answer any quick questions or queries.

Parents were pleased that the school has a high-quality curriculum and that teachers teach the children well and help them to do their best. Many parents commented on how well the staff understand the needs of the children and how the school is an *'inclusive environment'* in which all can be successful. Parents commented on how staff notice when children are not feeling their best and when they need help.

In terms of what we might do to make the school even better, a few parents commented that they would like to see a wider variety of after school enrichment clubs. We try to have some different clubs each term so that across the year, there are a variety of enrichment clubs that are on offer. We have to balance the number of different clubs we can offer with giving our support staff time after school to feedback and plan with teachers for the pupils' learning. We are pleased to be able to offer computing club and athletics club next term. We will look at what other clubs we can introduce for the next academic year.

A few parents requested that their children get to go on more trips. We have carefully chosen our visits out and visitors to school to match our high-quality curriculum so that every visit will enrich the children's learning. Please take a look at our curriculum map on the website to see the intended trips for each subject.

We had a few parents think there should be more homework and a few who think homework should be harder. Evidence shows that homework is most useful for children to reinforce and practice learning they have already completed in class that week. It provides an opportunity for parents to work with their child at home and sets good habits for children. Parents are always welcome to choose other materials to work on at home in addition to school homework.

Thank you for your helpful suggestions for Parent Coffee Mornings, which will help us to plan for the future. We've taken your suggestions and have planned some of these in for the summer term. Look out for these being advertised in the newsletter.

Many parents said that they could not think of anything to improve and that the school should keep doing what it does well. This is reassuring to hear, but we don't pretend to be perfect so if there are things that you think we could do to improve, do pop in to meet me and let me know.

We try our hardest to be a really good school.

Best wishes,
Ms Mitchell

Questionnaire responses

We received 126 responses representing 164 children
N.B. Returns of less than 1% are not included

1. My child enjoys coming to school

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
73%	27%			
Overall 100% positive				

2. My child feels safe at school

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
75%	23%			2%
Overall 98% positive				

3. My child is making good progress

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
54%	44%			2%
Overall 98% positive				

4. Most children behave well at St Mary's

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
68%	30%			2%
Overall 98% positive				

5. I am kept informed about how my child is getting on

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
56%	42%	2%		
Overall 98% positive				

6. I feel comfortable about approaching the school with a question or a problem

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
71%	29%			
Overall 100% positive				

7. Staff expect my child to work hard and do his/her best

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
63%	37%			
Overall 100% positive				

8. Staff treat my child fairly

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
58%	39%	3%		
Overall 97% positive				

9. The school is led and managed well

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
70%	30%			
Overall 100% positive				

10. The school provides appropriate homework

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
53%	44%	2%	1%	
Overall 97% positive				

11. The school helps children to succeed through its Christian vision: 'Go shine in the world, and live as Jesus lived'

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
48%	44%	3%		5%
Overall 92% positive				

12. The school provides opportunities for my child's spiritual development (for example through learning about God and faith, whoever God is to them).

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
42%	52%			6%
Overall 92% positive				