



## Dates for your diary

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Mon 6th - Fri 10th June  
**Year 6 School Journey to the  
Isle of Wight**

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Thursday 9th June 9:15am  
**New Reception Class  
(September 2022)  
Welcome meeting**

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Monday 13th June 3:30pm  
**Community Conversation**

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**FRIDAY 17TH JUNE  
SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET**

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W/B Monday 27th June  
**Careers Week**

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W/B Monday 4th July  
**Health Week**

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**WEDNESDAY 20TH JULY  
END OF TERM  
SCHOOL CLOSING AT 1PM**

## RESPONSIBILITY

### Genesis 1:27

*'God said to human beings,  
'Fill the earth with people  
and look after it. Care for all  
that I have made'.'*

### 2 Timothy 1:7

*'For God gave us a spirit not  
of fear but of power and love  
and self-control.'*

# St Mary's Happy News!

News for our families and friends

[www.st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk)

Monday 6th June 2022

Volume 56

**"Personal Development at St Mary's is Outstanding" - Ofsted Dec 2021**

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope that you and your family remain safe and well. Firstly, I am delighted to share with you that St Mary's continues to be an extremely popular school of 'first choice' as we have again been massively over-subscribed for our Reception class places in September 2022, with over one hundred children on the waiting list.

I would like to say a warm welcome to all of our new Reception class children and to their families, I look forward to meeting you all on the 9th June at 9:15am.

I would also like to share how proud I am of the St Mary's children who have been taking their SATS tests recently. Year 6 enjoyed a special breakfast each day before doing their best on their Reading, Grammar and Maths papers. Year 2 have also been busy with their tests, working with their class teacher in small groups. After half-term, I wish good luck to Year 1 with their Phonics and Year 4 with their Multiplication Tables Check.

Community continues to lie at the heart of our school. St Mary's were blessed to be chosen to host the Lewisham Citizens Assembly, where local community groups challenged the Lewisham Mayor and shared their vision. Our children continue to support many local and global communities through their class projects, campaigning and supporting those in need. Our Year 5 class produced a wonderful eco-warriors video which you can watch [HERE](#).

I hope that many of you can join us on **Monday 13th June at 3:30PM** for our **Community Conversation** - an opportunity to share your thoughts on tackling racial inequality within our community, focusing on housing, health and education. Continuing on the theme of community, please can I remind you that when dropping off and collecting your children, we ask you to be considerate of our neighbours when driving, by ensuring that you park or pull in respectfully, do not block our resident's driveways and that engines are turned off when parked.

Other highlights of a busy half-term included eight of our children receiving their First Communion at St Mary's Church, a special occasion for them and their families. We have successfully renewed our Inclusion Quality Mark for another three years, recognising our work to include and support everyone in our community. The children have been working hard to continue to make progress in their learning as they enjoy our exciting and engaging curriculum and our plans for a Forest School continue to move forwards.

Finally, we finished the last half-term in style with our Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The children enjoyed dressing in red, white and blue for a picnic in the playground, with music, dance and games to make it a special day. I hope that you and your family enjoyed the half-term break and Jubilee bank holidays. As always, I extend my thanks to our team of staff and governors for their commitment and care for every child in our school community.

Best wishes,

Christine Graham, Headteacher



Respect

Peace

Love

Forgiveness

Responsibility

Faith



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
EDUCATION OFFICE

St Mary's is an Excellent School



Values-based Education  
VbE Quality Mark



### Lewisham Citizens Assembly

St Mary's school were proud to host over 150 Lewisham Citizens for an inspiring evening as they shared their experiences and challenged the Mayor of Lewisham, Damien Egan, and the Conservative candidate, Caroline Attfield. The main themes were Housing and Immigration and the event was led by our Headteacher, Mrs Graham and our School Home Support worker, Mrs Tildesley. Children from St Mary's Year 5 class were the stars as they emerged from a 'house' to share their thoughts and their vision for a fairer world. In partnership with Lewisham Citizens, St Mary's continue to encourage our children and parents to campaign and know that their voice will be heard.



### First Communion

A very special service was held at St Mary's Church as eight of our children from St Mary's School celebrated their First Communion. We are blessed that Father Max has spent the last 2 months preparing the children, meeting with them each week and leading them in a programme of study and reflection. The children were welcomed by the St Mary's Church congregation and it was a special day for the children and their families.



### Year 2 love books!

The children enjoyed the story 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' so much that they went to the playground to act out the story. They explored being all of the different characters in order to bring the story to life.



### Punctuality

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who have been on time at the beginning (8:45) and end of the day (3:15). If you are late for school in the morning, you will need to sign in using the electronic screen in the school lobby. Late charges of £5 per 15 minutes apply for any child not collected by 3:30.

### School Fund

Thank you to all the parents who have already paid this vital funding, which we rely on to maintain the school premises. Please pay via Parent Pay - £30 for the year or £10 a term, sibling discounts are available.



### Ducklings hatch in Nursery!

Our youngest children have been learning about animals and life-cycles as they have been observing our baby ducks hatch from their eggs. The children have taken responsibility for the ducklings and they have ensured they are fed, watered and given a lovely, clean place to live. Before saying goodbye, Nursery class were thrilled to watch their fluffy friends take their first swim in our water tray!



### Sports Stars!

Our children have competed with skill and shown great teamwork and respect. As well as our Girls football team enjoying regular matches, Year 4 have enjoyed cricket lessons every week and two teams from St Mary's competed against other schools in a Hockey festival. Well done everyone!

### Year 4 Poetry

The children have published some lovely poems on the theme of Love, having reflected on Jesus' commandments in their Religious Education lessons. Why not visit their [learning blog on our website](#) to enjoy all of them?

Dear Lord,  
Help us to care about our community and try not to hurt one another when they've done something to us. Help us to forgive others who have harmed us. Help us keep the world safe and fill it with respect. In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen.

By Maximilian



### Community Projects

Each class have been active in leading a project to support our local, national and global communities. St Mary's children have supported the homeless, the elderly, local food banks and local community gardens, as well as becoming eco-warriors and raising money for our link school in Ghana.



### Trip to the Horniman Museum

Year 3 and Year 4 enjoyed interacting with the exhibits on their museum trip.



### Super Parenting!

If you are interested in parenting classes you can ask Mrs Tildesley or refer yourself via this link: <https://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/parenting/>

### We are here to help!

If you have any concerns related to your family's wellbeing, finances or practical issues, please get in touch by emailing the school at: [admin@st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk) or by ringing the school on 0208 6902613.

### Our Vision

To be a learning community that promotes the unique gifts, wellbeing and potential of every person. Our work is founded on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, building on His message of equality, peace and justice, guided by His words 'As I have loved you, so you must love one another' (John 13:34).







# PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION

To celebrate the Queen's 70 year reign, the children at St Mary's enjoyed a special party. Earlier in the week, Mrs Graham spoke to the children about the Queen's life of service and the responsibility that she has. On Friday 27th May, the children dressed in the colours of the Union Jack - red, white and blue. Everyone enjoyed a delicious picnic lunch in the playground, with specially decorated cakes, music, dance and games.

Our Year 6 class have been focusing on the Global Community as their Courageous Advocacy project. They have a link school in Ghana and to raise money they planned and organised a Fair, which included a cake sale and lots of fun games and activities. To learn more about the Queen and the historical events of her lifetime, every family was given a gift of a special book about her life.









**ST MARY'S LEWISHAM  
C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Friends of St Mary's  
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**Parents news**

We welcome all parents to join the Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) and support the school with fundraising events and other ways to improve the school for our children. Email at the above address or speak to a member of staff to find out more!



**HELP AND SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS**

**E - Safety**

Please continue to be aware of what your child is doing online, especially at this time when they may be spending extra time learning and socialising online. Support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online includes:

- [National Online Safety](#) - register your St Mary's account
- [Internet matters](#) - support to keep children safe online
- [Net-aware](#) - support for parents and careers from the NSPCC
- [Parent info](#) - support to keep children safe online
- [Thinkuknow](#) - advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - advice for parents and carers
- [Kiddle](#) and [KidRex](#) - child friendly search engines

**Mental health and Wellbeing**

Please can we ask you to keep the school up to date with any concerns you have regarding your children's mental health and wellbeing. If your child is finding it hard to cope with the changes to their lives, or a family member is ill or has died, please let us know. St Mary's school are here to work with you to support our children's emotional needs in any way that we can. Here are some links to places where families can find additional support:

- [Loneliness and Re-connection](#) - information and a toolkit for parents about what loneliness is and what help can be found
- [Mental Health Resources](#) - the Department for Education have provided this webpage with links to many resources for children and parents
- [Every mind matters](#) - mental health advice from the NHS including a section on looking after children during the coronavirus outbreak
- [Government guidance for parents and carers](#) - supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing
- [Corona virus guide for children](#) - this guide has been produced for Autistic children and offers a simple and visual guide to what is happening
- [How to wash your hands safely](#) - BBC Newsround video
- [Children's Commissioner](#) - a guide for children and links to resources
- [Childhood Bereavement Network](#) - support around dealing with the coronavirus pandemic for all children, specifically those that have experienced the death of someone important to them

**TERM DATES**

**Summer Term 2022**

**HALF TERM - Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June**

**Monday 6th June - Wednesday 20th July**

**INSET DAY - Friday 17th June**

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2022 / 2023**

**Autumn Term 2022**

**Monday 5th September - Thursday 20th October**

**SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 21st October (deferred Bank Holiday)**

**HALF TERM - Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October**