

Dates for the Diary




2/3rd September - staff INSET days
4th September - Back to School
28th Oct - 1st Nov - Half Term
4th November - Back to school
20th December - Last day of Term
6th Jan 2025 - INSET day for staff
7th January - Back to School
17th - 21st February - half term
24th February - INSET day for staff
25th February - Back to School
11th April - Last day of term
28th April - Back to school
5th May - Bank Holiday Monday
26th May-30th June - Half term
18th July - Last day of term
21st July - INSET day for staff
22nd July - Summer Holidays!



September

The doors open at **8.45am** every day. Children who come in at that time have the opportunity to read with their teacher, practise spellings and KIRFS and have monitor jobs - they have a full 15 minutes with their teacher before lessons begin. That is 75 minutes of additional learning time every week, about 50 hours a year!! Gates & doors will close at 8.55am, after this you will need to drop off your child at the office.

Toast

In September, please remember to send toast money in an envelope on a Monday (£1 each week). You can do multiple weeks in one go if that is easier, eg it will be £7.60 for the first half term. 

Leavers' Service in Church

Our fabulous Year 4 children led the most lovely Leavers' Service in Church this week - beautiful singing, proud voices and fond memories were shared of their time at St Mary's - very emotional. We will miss them and we know they will be brilliant at middle school.  

Summer Holidays

The staff and I would like to wish you a safe and happy summer break. Thank you for all your support over the year, it is very much appreciated. We look forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday 4th September. 



Newsletter 39

July 19th 2024

ST. MARY'S C.E. (A) FIRST SCHOOL



Learning to love
Loving to learn

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Head Teacher - Mrs Jo Moulton



Croft on the Heath



We have had a wonderful year on our lovely Croft - the new schedule for The Croft will be out on the first newsletter in September, so you can be ready with your wellies!!

After School Clubs

The letters for clubs will go out in the first week of September. Due to the continuing rising costs we face, clubs will be £3.00 per session from September. This is still cheaper than any clubs offered in the area, so still value for money. Please only book your child into a club if they really want to do it, as children become unhappy if they don't enjoy it and then give up after a week!

Unauthorised Absence & Lates - new government guidance

ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week. Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80. **£160**

2 FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN. **IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE** 10 IN 10 5. If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution. **1** Day = **2** Sessions

3 FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS. +£160 +£160 +£160 +£160 4 children & 2 parents = **£1280** Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

4 If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance... **2ND TIME** 2 parents and 1 child = £320, 2 children = 640, 3 children = 960, 4 children = 1280. No discount for early payment. **3RD TIME** A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child. 1 parent & 4 children = £10,000, 2 parents & 4 children = £20,000



A huge thank you to our fabulous PTFA who make such a difference to our school. The events they put on for children and families are amazing.

We would like to thank all of our families who attend all the events, with such enthusiasm and generosity - which raises a huge amount of money which we spend on the children.

The Soiree raised a whopping £1457.96 on the night and that has come from the kindness and generosity of all our amazing families.

In school we have been able to spend the money on:

- Subsidising coaches for all the trips (which cuts down on the cost for families)
- The visiting Poet, which the children loved!
- The Shakespeare Drama day which enhanced Shakespeare Week
- Hundreds of gifts for the DOJO shop
- Naming a star
- Books in school and an outdoor bookcase
- Leavers gifts
- Soiree prizes and ice pops
- Christmas Book gifts

And an additional £467.70 was raised at last night's Summer Disco.

THANK YOU SO MUCH



PE Days for next term

All children are expected to wear their smart school PE kit on PE days (Black shorts/joggers, white t-shirt, black hoodie or red school sweatshirt, white or black trainers) Other colours and/or designer wear is not acceptable and school will provide the appropriate kit for children to change into, if their own kit is not part of the school uniform. A new PE t-shirt is available to buy from our new online stockist (who also stock jumpers, cardigans and book bags)

<https://schoolsuniform.co.uk/product-category/st-marys-c-of-e-first-school/>

Reception (EYFS Ladybirds & EYFS Bears): Thursday

Bears Y1: Wednesday & Thursday

Zebras: Monday & Thursday

Tigers: Thursday & Friday

Giraffes: Tuesday (Swimming) & Thursday

Leopards: Tuesday & Thursday

Crocodiles: Thursday & Friday



All Year 3 and Year 4 children will have one term of swimming lessons at Uttoxeter Leisure Centre. Giraffes swim in Autumn, Crocodiles will swim in the Spring term, and Leopards in the Summer term. More info on the first day back!

Swimming will start on Tuesday 10th September.

PE will start on Thursday 5th September for Y1 Bears, Zebras, Tigers, Giraffes, Leopards and Crocodiles.

Reception Ladybirds & Reception Bears PE will start on Thursday 12th September.