



# ST MARY MAGDALEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter - Autumn 1 | 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Welcome back to the start of a new school year; I hope you and your children have had a happy and healthy holiday. It was wonderful to see the children returning to school with such enthusiasm after the summer break. Lots of smiling faces and a particular well done to those who might have felt a little nervous but came in and made a super start to the year anyway. Thank you to everyone for arriving so promptly so that school could start at 8.40am it really helped ensure that the children felt calm and settled.

## Communication

We have had useful feedback regarding communication and we will be working hard this year to try and make sure that our communication is clear, consistent and concise. We will be using Google Classroom to share information with you and this will also enable you to easily access information and resources when you need them.

The classrooms for this year have been set up and you can access them using the links below if you have not done so already. Your child has been reminded of their login and password but, if they can't remember it, please contact the school office [admin@st-marymagdalens.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marymagdalens.richmond.sch.uk)

Year 1 - <https://classroom.google.com/c/NTQ00TU4NTQ4NzAx?cjc=uv2ybit>

Code: uv2ybit

Year 2 – <https://classroom.google.com/c/NTQ00TU4MzU3OTUx?cjc=nwtxjti>

Code: nwtxjti

Year 3 – <https://classroom.google.com/c/NDg5MTk0MjM2MDMz?cjc=iarxrs4>

Code: iarxrs4

Year 4 – <https://classroom.google.com/c/NTM3ODYyMDM4ODE2?cjc=lsbawdr>

Code: lsbawdr

Year 5 – <https://classroom.google.com/c/NDg5MTk0MzI3MjI5?cjc=ypf36ki>

Code: ypf36ki

Year 6 – <https://classroom.google.com/c/NTQ00TU4Nzc2MjEz?cjc=zgg4yyx>

Code: zgg4yyx

## Parent Teacher Meetings

At the start of every year, we look forward to meeting with parents to talk about the year ahead. This year, the meetings will be in person, after drop off in the hall on the dates shown below. The presentations will also be put into Google Classroom for parents who are unable to attend.

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September – Year 6  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September – Year 5  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September – Year 4  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September - Year 3  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September – Year 2  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Year 1  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September - Reception

### **Return to School – Attendance and Punctuality**

Whilst we no longer have to operate under any restrictions in relation to COVID we will continue to emphasise the importance of hand hygiene and encourage the children to “catch it, bin it and kill it”. Along with ensuring good ventilation throughout the school, we hope this will help the children to stay as healthy as possible and ensure excellent attendance.

Prior to the pandemic, the average attendance within the school was 97%. Over the past few years, we have seen attendance decline and the number of pupils going on holiday during term time increasing. Whilst children will get sick from time to time, taking time off school for any reason is very disruptive and impacts not only children’s academic progress but also their well-being. Please be aware that term time holidays will not be authorized and that we monitor attendance closely. Most children have fantastic attendance, with some pupils even attending school every day last year. However, we will contact you if you child is persistently absent so that we can work together to ensure their attendance improves. In cases where attendance does not improve, we are required to refer families to the Education and Welfare Service.

Similarly, punctuality is very important. Arriving 10 minutes late every day means that your child will miss the equivalent of one lesson each week. Over the course of the year, this means they are missing out on a whole week of learning. Lateness also undermines children’s self-esteem as they join a lesson once it has already begun and, as all our lessons are carefully structured to ensure clear, planned progression, they can feel confused and embarrassed. As well as the impact on the child who is late, lateness is also very disruptive for other children so please do ensure that your child is on time and in class ready to learn at 8.40am. Lateness will be monitored this year and we will ask to meet with you to discuss improving your child’s punctuality if they are regularly late to school.

### **Term Dates**

Below is a reminder of the term dates this year:

#### **Autumn Term**

Thursday 1 September: autumn term begins  
Half Term: Monday 24 October – Friday 28 October  
Monday 31 October: Inset Day – school closed  
Tuesday 1 November: Inset Day – school closed  
Friday 16 December: school closes for Christmas holidays (1pm)

## Spring Term

Tuesday 3 January: spring term begins

Half Term: Monday 13 February – Friday 17 February

Friday 31 March: school closes for Easter holidays (1pm)

## Summer Term

Monday 17 April: summer term begins

Friday 28 April: Inset Day – school closed

Monday 1 May: May Day Bank Holiday

Friday 26 May: Inset Day – school closed

Half Term: Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June

Monday 5 June: Inset Day – school closed

Friday 21 July: school closes for summer holidays (1pm)

## Clubs

Clubs will start the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> September. You have been sent all the information about the clubs and how to book them, this information is also on our website.

## Uniform

Our uniform is a great source of pride for us. Please see the table below with information regarding our school uniform. There will be some “pre-loved” items out in the playground on rails next Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September. There will be buckets available for you to make a donation of your choosing.

Winter (autumn 2 and spring term)	Summer (autumn 1 and summer term)
white shirt school tie short/long light grey trousers or light grey skirt or pinafore dress red school v neck jumper or cardigan white or grey socks or tights sensible black shoes red/white, hair ribbons/bands.	white open necked short sleeved school polo shirt (no tie) short/long grey trousers or light grey skirt or pinafore dress red/white candy stripe dress (not checked) red school v neck jumper or cardigan (if needed) white or grey socks sensible black, red or white shoes – closed toes and heels school sunhat red/white hair ribbons/bands.
PE	navy and red polo shirt navy and red shorts or navy and red tracksuit bottoms or plain navy shorts red sweat shirt socks trainers or plimsolls Optional item: red fleece. PE bag  PE Uniform should be worn to school on the days when children have PE lessons. Your class teacher will share these days with parents at your information meeting.

We are very short of second-hand PE kits and white polo shirts so if you have any that no longer fit your children please bring them to the school office so they can go into the sale on Friday.

### **Parent Survey**

At the end of the year we asked for your feedback in order for us to continue to develop the school. Thank you to the five families who have responded. If you can please take a few moments to complete this year's parent survey it would be greatly appreciated. <https://forms.gle/HsqJemYNdrNsY1jf8>

Thank you in advance for your continued kindness and support. We are looking forward to a wonderful year together,

Catherine Hughes,  
Headteacher