



the children are at the heart of everything we do

Spring

Spring 1 Half Term: Blein Vie Noa diu! Happy new year to all our families. Welcome too to all our new families joining us at St Mary's. I hope you all have had a lovely Christmas and New Year.

Staffing; we welcome Miss Corkill who will be teaching St Valentine for the remainder of the academic year.

New Starters for Sept 2025: If you have a child due to start in reception in **September 2025**, please register at the office as soon as possible. The deadline for registration is the **31st January**. If you know any parents who have a child due to start here, please pass the message on to register ASAP.

Projects this term: Your child's termly class letter will be emailed out by Friday 10th January. This contains information about what exciting learning will be taking place this term and key dates.

Dinners/Milk: Dinners this half term are £2.55 per day. Please keep your account up to date on parent pay. Items such as new ties and book bags can also be purchased on parent pay.

FOSMS Thanks: A huge thank you to the FOSMs who have held several fabulous events for the children during the first term, especially over the Christmas period. The children are very lucky to have lots of dedicated parents who fundraise for the school. FOSMs have already subsidised several trips for classes to reduce costs for parents and to allow the children to access educational visits. Many thanks to parents who attended events and supported them with donations.

PE Kits: **Please can all the children have correct P.E. kits in this week. P.E lessons have started from the first day back.**

Swimming: If your child is not swimming a written note must be provided by parents each week. Swimming is compulsory and part of the KS2 P.E. curriculum. It can not be missed as a precautionary measure. If your child is not well enough to swim, they shouldn't really be in school for that day.

Sporting Events: Last half term we were runners up in the inter schools Badminton competition. Well done to all the children who took part. Well done to our girls too, who took part in the non competitive Girls' Football competition. All represented the school tremendously. Many thanks to Mrs Quinn for organising and accompanying the children to the events.

Website: We have a comprehensive school website. Each week photos are posted on the blog. Each class has their own page too. All letters are on there and photos of what the children are doing in class. All newsletters and policies are on the site. All forms - leave of absence, administration of medicine forms can be downloaded from the website and emailed into school. This is a huge source of parental information. <https://stmarys.sch.im>

Absences: Please fill in a leave of absence request if your child is off during term time. All absences need to be authorised. Term time holidays will effect your child's attendance percentage. If attendance falls under 90% it will be monitored and an email will be sent to parents if attendance then drops under 80%.

90% attendance equals 19 days (4 weeks) off school.

80% attendance equals 38 days (6 weeks) off school.

Illness - please email or phone the office on each day of absence to inform us that your child is off with illness. This also ensures we know the children are at home, safe, and not missing from school.

Lates - if you child arrives after 9am they will receive a late mark in the register.

Reading: We are continuing to have a focus on Reading. Please read at home each week with your child. At school we ensure that every child is heard read once a week by an adult. If you could give any time to come in and read with children on a regular basis, please get in touch. We would love your help!

Reading Eggs and Mathletics can also be accessed at home. Log in details are stuck in the front of your child's planner. Reception children will be getting their log in details this week.

Curriculum: This term the focus for the next project will be Discover (History focus). Your child will be immersed in researching and learning about a specific period in time. We deliver each termly project using a mastery model where children can explore content in increasing depth and complexity as they move through school. Propositional and procedural knowledge are developed through termly projects that are framed with a philosophical enquiry question. This approach allows us to make connections across the curriculum, whilst also developing the children's understanding of what makes each subject distinct and unique. If you would like to read more information about our curriculum, please read here: <https://stmarys.sch.im/pages/index/view/id/8/Curriculum%20>

Christmas Concerts: These were great success and the children were all brilliant. Thanks again to all the adults who came to watch and all the staff for their hard work in putting these together.

Parental Access in school: To ensure the children are kept safe in school all external gates are locked by 9.15am and external doors are swipe card access. This ensures that all visitors have to access the school via the main door. Please can we ask that parents always report to the office during the school day and not access the building at other entry points.

Astro: The children are allowed on the astro turf each day. Around the astro is extremely water logged and very muddy. The children are told to keep on the astro and not to go off the path or the surface. Unfortunately, this doesn't always happen and the children are getting very muddy. If you could also remind your child to stay out of the mud, this would help our cleaners!

Please see below important dates for your diary for this half term.

Regards,
Mrs Martin



Spring 1 -Dates for your Diary

DATE:	EVENT:
Monday 6th January	All P.E. Kits in school
Tuesday 9th January	MSR Club - 12.00 - 12.30 - Year 5 and 6 boys football
Wednesday 8th January	Swimming Y3 to Y6 - if you child is not swimming please provide a written note
Friday 10th January	Termly class letters to be emailed home
Thursday 16th January	Weekly Isle Listen Sessions start in Year 4/5 & 6 Isle listen in Y6 - 30th Jan and 6th Feb
Friday 17th January	Tag Rugby Club for Y2 and Y3 - in school time
Friday 24th January	Open the book assembly
Friday 31st January	Starters for September 2025 must be registered by today
Thursday 6th February	Years 2/3/4 cricket sessions - IOM cricket
Friday 14th February	Open the book assembly LAST DAY OF HALF TERM
Monday 24th February	School Reopens

