



No: 1 – 9th September 2022

UNCRC Article 1 – Everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the convention. We have the responsibility to respect the rights of others.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope that you all managed to have an enjoyable summer holiday. It has been lovely to see the children back in school and they have all settled back well to the daily routines and their learning.

The teachers have been hard at work over the summer planning for the New Year and there are lots of exciting opportunities planned already. **In order to share further information about your child's learning this year we will be holding year group curriculum meetings on the following dates starting at 6.00pm:**

Year 3 13.9.22

Year 4 20.9.22

Year 5 21.9.22

Year 6 15.9.22

We operate an 'open door policy'. If you have any concerns, please call or email the school office who will put you in contact with the class teacher. If it is an urgent matter, please pop in to the school office.

With our unpredictable weather it is important to ensure that your child comes to school with a suitable coat every day. We do try, whenever possible, to go outside at break and lunchtime which will include periods of light drizzle. The children really benefit from the chance of more freedom to run around in the fresh air which makes them far more ready to start work in the afternoon than on days they have to remain indoors. In school we also operate the daily mile and therefore it is vital for both this and playtimes that children have safe, waterproof shoes, with a good grip and some form of fastening to keep them securely on their feet!

Please don't forget that tonight is 'meet the teacher' for all year groups. This will take place straight after school - please collect your child first and re-enter via reception.

Home learning

We will be continuing to use Google Classrooms for weekly home learning. This platform allows pupils to complete and upload work which can be seen by class teachers and then necessary feedback can be given. The benefit of using this platform to set our weekly homework will be that in the event of pupils having to self-isolate and access homelearning, the platform for this is already in place.

Reporting Absence

As usual we would please ask that if your child is ill and cannot attend school that you let the school office know before the start of the school day, if possible. Please take time to read the below information regarding Measles, Chicken Pox and Shingles as it is vital that any cases of these illnesses are reported to the school as soon as possible:

Measles, Chicken Pox and Shingles

One of our pupils is receiving medical treatment for cancer, which makes them more susceptible to infections. They are particularly at risk if they are exposed to measles, chicken pox or shingles. Please help us by letting us know immediately if your child is suspected of having measles.

Our pupil is also at risk from chicken pox and would need to be given treatment within three days of contact. If your child is suspected of having chicken pox, you should let us know immediately.

It is also important that you let us know if there is measles, chicken pox or shingles in your household.

Our pupil is also at risk from other infections too, but generally exposure to coughs and colds can't be avoided. May we take this opportunity to remind you that our policy for diarrhoea and vomiting is that your child must not have had diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours before returning to school.

Your child is not at any risk whatsoever from this situation. However, the health and well-being of our pupil who is at risk, does depend on the co-operation of all other parents and we hope you can help us.

With many thanks.

Attendance Policy

Thank you so much for a fantastic start to the term, we have consistently achieved 99% attendance this week. As we do each year, the attendance policy has been updated together with the infant school in order to ensure a consistent approach. The full policy can be found in the policies section of the website:

<https://www.st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies%26%23160%3B+%26amp%3B%26%23160%3BPremiums&pid=22>

Also attached to this newsletter is our annual letter about attendance from myself and Mrs McCarley.

Open Days for prospective parents 2023

Do you or do you know someone who has a child due to start Year 3 in September 2023? We will be holding two Open Days in the autumn term for prospective new parents. These will give you the opportunity to tour the school and see us in action, as well as finding out more about what you and your child can expect from St Mary's.

This year's dates are:

13th October 2022 starting at 9.30am and finishing around 11.00am

7th November 2022 starting at 1.30pm and finishing around 3.00pm

If for any reason you are unable to make one of these dates, please contact the school office on 01256 465092 or adminoffice@st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk, and we will try our best to arrange an alternative date. Please note that applications for places will need to be completed online through the Hampshire admissions website and applications close in January 2023.

Data-checking exercise

In previous years we have sent home the current data (address, contact details etc) we hold on your child for you to check and update. In light of a recent review of GDPR, we will no longer be doing this. Please can you ensure that all of your contact details are kept up to date with the office and that we hold at least two contact numbers in case of an emergency. Email the office if you need to make any changes. We will shortly be sending out blank data checking sheets to Year 3 parents to ensure we have up to date contact information.

Focus Week

We have started the year with our values focus week. The aims of this week are as follows:

- To Introduce new children and remind others of our core values and concept of One Family
- To remind children that if we all work together we can achieve more
- For all children to be responsible for making the most of their opportunities and enjoy their rights to be safe, to be healthy, to be treated fairly and to have a voice in decisions that affect them, and to encourage others to do the same.

This week we have looked at how being kind to others is also beneficial to ourselves. We hope you can catch your child being kind to others at home too! We will endeavour to share outcomes of work linked to our values week and act of worships on the website.

Behaviour Policy

In addition to our annual review of this policy, we have now updated it in line with recent DfE guidance. The policy now also includes information about incidents of poor behaviour outside of school (including online) and details about searches should these be deemed necessary.

You can find the full policy on our website by following the link below:

<https://www.st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies%26%23160%3B+%26amp%3B%26%23160%3BPremiums&pid=22>

F.O.O.B.S. news

Hi from F.O.O.B.S.! We hope you had a great summer! We're really excited to get started with this term's events. Kicking off with the F.O.O.B.S. 10k and 5k(ish) trail runs and 2k fun runs on Sunday 9th October. Head to our website www.foobs.weebly.com for more details and to enter. Be quick and use discount code BACKTOSCHOOL for 15% off! Unfortunately we have had to reschedule the Quiz Night previously planned for 17th September. I hope to have a new date to announce in the next newsletter. If you are interested in becoming involved with F.O.O.B.S. or just finding out more about us, there are lots of opportunities coming up. You do not have to be a committee member or volunteer to attend, we'd love to see you there!

*Monday 12th September at 7:30 - the first Committee meeting of the year via Zoom. Please contact friendsofoldbasingschools@gmail.com to request the Zoom login details.

*Tuesday 20th September 1-2:30pm Volunteer Information Drop In. At the F.O.O.B.S Chair's house in Lychpit. Please contact friendsofoldbasingschools@gmail.com to request the address.

*Tuesday 4th October at 7:30- the F.O.O.B.S. AGM will be held at Old Basing Infant School. There are a couple of ways you can raise money for F.O.O.B.S with very little effort! If you shop with Amazon you can select F.O.O.B.S. as your Amazon Smile charity. Similarly, doing your online shopping through the Easy Fundraising website generate a small percentage donation to us.

Finally, if you have any last minute uniform needs, we have stock of second hand Infants and Juniors branded items priced at £2 each, as well as grey trousers, dresses, skirts and shorts, priced at £1 each, in various sizes. If you have any outgrown uniform in a saleable condition (no rips or stains) you would like to donate it would be gratefully received. Please contact friendsofoldbasingschools@gmail.com to arrange.

Voluntary Contribution

We have already planned in a full programme of enrichment opportunities for all year groups to enhance their learning opportunities. These include visitors into school for workshops etc. and trips out throughout the school year. These are only possible through the annual voluntary contribution. We understand that things are really tight for all of us at the moment and pressures are really on schools as well, we would like to be able to maintain all of our enrichment activities and would appreciate your support in this matter.

Permission slips

When your child started at St Mary's the following permission slips and forms were completed:

- Multimedia consent form
- Group and Individual Photographs (to enable external photographers to take your child's photo)
- Email/text consent form
- Local permission letter
- Hampshire county council medical questionnaire

If you need to make any amendments to the permissions you granted please contact the school office by phone or email.

Your child would have also received and signed the following:

- Pupil internet agreement (Year 5 pupils will be bringing home a new upper school agreement to sign, please return to class teachers next week)

These are available in the policies section of the school website and it would be timely to go through these with your child again. They can be accessed via this link.

<https://www.st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies%26%23160%3B+%26amp%3B%26%23160%3BPremiums&pid=22>

Medical/Special Dietary needs

Should there be any changes to your child's health/medical needs during the year, please contact the school office so we can update our records. For special dietary requirements, please complete the form using the following link:

<http://documents.hants.gov.uk/HC3S/MedicalSpecialDietForm.pdf>

Dinner money

The cost of a school dinner is £2.60 a day, payments for lunches are to be made through SCOPAY, please ensure that your account is in credit at all times.

Free School Meals

If you think you are eligible for free school meals, please register your child by using the easy online facility which has been launched by Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S). You can now check your eligibility for FSM. This self-service option is available at:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants/>

For this online service, all you need to do is enter your name, National Insurance number or Asylum number, address and your child's details. Then press submit and find out if you are eligible. If the result

comes back found, this means your child is eligible for FSM and the system automatically tells the school. You no longer have to find the paperwork and go into school to get it checked.

PE Lessons

Children need to come into school wearing their kit on the days that they have PE:

Year 3 – Monday and Wednesday

Year 4 – Monday and Friday

Year 5 – Tuesday and Thursday

Year 6 – Wednesday and Friday

PE kit comprises of: green shorts, white t-shirt, trainers, green/black or dark blue tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt. On cooler days, shorts should be worn under tracksuit bottoms as they must have shorts for indoor PE lessons. We also ask that if your child is unable to remove their earrings that you provide them with tape so they can be covered during PE sessions. Thank you for your cooperation in this.

Long Sleeve Shirts for Art

If you have any old spare long sleeve shirts at home that you no longer require, please send them in for us to use for art lessons. Thank you!

Lost Property

Please ensure that your entire child's uniform and other property – especially fruit and lunch boxes - are clearly marked and that you check them on a regular basis. Many items that make their way into lost property have clearly been marked at some time but have become illegible! All named items will be returned, any unclaimed and unnamed items will be recycled or disposed of at the end of each week.

Governors Corner

I would like to welcome back to St Mary's all of our returning pupils and extend a very warm welcome to all of the new pupils starting St Mary's for the first time this week. I am sure that the children are already settling into their daily school routines and pleased to see their friends and teachers again.

While we have been away St Mary's has been a hive of activity as the playground has been completely resurfaced complete with new markings for a range of games and activities. Lunchtimes and breaks should now be an even more fun-filled time for pupils. The parents and visitor's carpark has also received a much needed renovation. As there is no longer a risk to our car's suspension, I would encourage all parents to use the car park if they can.

I am pleased to see that St Mary's continues to offer a wide range of after-school clubs including the ever-popular sugar-craft, pottery, Spanish, various sporting activities and much, much more.

Dates for your Diary

9th September - Meet the teacher 3:30pm
12th September - After school clubs start
12th September – F.O.O.B.S virtual mtg 7:30pm
13th September - Yr. 3 Parents Briefing 6:00pm
15th September - Yr. 6 Parents Briefing 6:00pm
16th September - Individual School Photos
19th September - Yr. 5 trip to Old Basing House
20th September - Yr. 4 Parents Briefing 6:00pm
21st September - Yr. 5 Parents Briefing 6:00pm
27th September - Yr. 6 Calshot Info Mtg 6:00pm
29th September – White Sharing Assembly 2:45pm
3rd-7th October - Yr. 6 Bikeability
4th October - Yr. 3 Church visit 2:30pm
4th October - F.O.O.B.S AGM @ infant school 7:30pm
5th October -Yr. 4 Oxenwood visit into school (Nelson)
6th October - Yr. 4 Oxenwood visit into school
(Wellington)
7th October - Yr. 4 Oxenwood visit into school (Paulet)
9th October - F.O.O.B.S Fun Run
12th October - Yr. 3 Iron Age Day
12th October - Parents' Evenings (no clubs)
13th October - Parents' Evening (no clubs)
13th October - Open Day for New Yr 3 Parents (2023)
9:30am
17th-21st October - Yr. 6 Calshot Residential trip
18th October - Yr. 4 Church visit 2:30pm
20th October - Paulet Sharing Assembly 2:45pm

24th – 28th October – half term

31st October – INSET DAY

16th December – Last day of term

For even more news, updates and photos, don't forget to visit our website:

<https://www.st-marys-jun.hants.sch.uk/>

And the Facebook page if you need to check events on the go.