



St Mary's C E Primary School
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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Victoria Woods

Monday 22nd April 2025

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the Summer term at St Mary's.

Over the holidays we have completed the final stage of upgrading our site security with the installation of further CCTV on the site and our new electronic gates at the main entrance. As with all new systems, they will take some getting used to, with new technology and routines. There are bound to be some teething issues and we ask you to work with us as we get the new systems up and running.

- Please wait in the gathering area in front of the new gates in the morning, our team members will come down and open the gates at 8.35am.
- At the end of the day, please wait in the same place and the gates will be opened shortly after 3.15pm by a member of staff, for everyone to walk up to the playground to collect the children.
- Parents collecting Nursery pupils at 11.45 should wait at the green gates and the children will be brought to you.
- The main gates will be open for breakfast club arrivals from 7.30 as usual, please go straight to the Flight House.
- Collections from after school club, please buzz the bell on the key pad and the office will open the gate for you to go to the Flight House and collect your child.
- If you want to come into School for a reason during the day, please buzz at the green gate and speak to the office. You will then need to buzz at the playground gate also.
- As you leave school during the day, there is a big green exit button on the fence of the nursery just before the pedestrian exit. Press this and the gate will open.
- Cars will not normally be admitted, unless there is an exceptional reason, or the driver has a blue badge for the occupants for the car.

Thank you for working with us whilst we bed in the new system and routines. Over the coming week or so, we will assess how things are working and make changes as necessary, letting you know as needed. All of this work makes our site more secure and safe for your children and our team.

With regards to parking. As with many other schools, vehicle access to the school site at the start and end of the day is a challenge. Our school is the oldest in Banbury and the roads have all developed around it. This means we have a variety of neighbours, and it is important that we protect our own children and families from traffic issues and also keep the people who live around us safe and able to enjoy their homes.

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The accommodation in School Lane, is housing for older residents and their carparks are NOT available to anyone other than them. In recent weeks there have been issues with members of our community parking on the pavements, along School Lane and across access paths which mean our elderly and sometimes vulnerable and disabled neighbours can not get in and out of their property, use their mobility aids easily and ambulance access is restricted. This is not safe.

School Lane is NOT available for parking at any time. The Manager at the accommodation and I are both clear, all illegal parking will be reported to the police. It is dangerous to our families and also the elderly residents.

Parking is also not allowed in Bluecoats Close and Compton Lane or in Coopers Gate, in fact ANYWHERE that has double yellow lines! It is illegal!

Our school is not as badly accessible as some schools locally and we do have carparks near by. We will continue to call the police and traffic wardens to enforce parking restrictions and ask that you walk to school or park safely and legally away from school so that all of our children and our neighbours can be safe and traffic free at the start and end of the day. Thank you.

Finally, as we get ready for a new term of exciting learning. Just a reminder that children need to be prepared for all their learning. This is important for PE where they need to have a full change of kit, meeting the school uniform expectations, in school at all times. Please make sure your child has the correct kit. Details can be found here: <https://www.banburystmarysschool.co.uk/school-uniform.html> along with a link to the stockist for T-shirts. Football kit, random leisure wear or no PE kit at all, is not acceptable.

Children need their reading books, musical instruments (if relevant) homework and occasional other items on the correct days. The class teachers will be sending home their class newsletters for this term and these will contain a reminder of what you children need when. If you are facing difficulties getting items, we can always help, please speak in confidence to Ms Bailey, Michelle or your class teacher.

Everyone is working hard to bring exciting learning to each classroom over the coming weeks and there are lots of trips and events such as Sports Day to look forward to. As ever, the dates have been updated below. Please make a note in your diary.

Yours Sincerely

Victoria Woods and the St Mary's Team

Expected Dates

(changes are possible so please always check the most up to date version)

23-04	Year 5 and 6 trip to the Bletchley Park
25-04	Year 2 and Year 3 Victorian WOW Day, in school
29-04	Girls Football V Hill View

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01-05	Kites trip to the Bank of England Museum – more details to follow
05-05	Bank Holiday Monday School closed
06-05	Boys Football V Hill View
08-05	Y2 Multi Skills Banbury VE Day celebration Y5 Boys Football V William Morris
12th to 15th - 05	Y6 SAT's Week
19-05	Class Photos
20-05	Y5/6 Cricket at Banbury cricket club Girls Football V Hornton
23-05	AM - May Day VE Day Revels – all welcome, details to follow Big Summer Sing for Choir Details to follow 3.15pm School CLOSES for Half Term.
	Half term
2-6	Summer term 2 starts School OPENS 8.35am
12-6	KS2 Quad Kids
18-6	Y6 Planting in Park
24-6	Sports Day – Details to follow, families welcome to join the afternoon races.
26-6	KS2 Inclusion and Transition Rounders
8-7	SATS results Music Show Case – St Mary's Church
11-7	Art Exhibition Annual Reports home

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14-7	Wizard of Oz show and workshop
17-7	2.00 Leavers Church Service
18-7	<p>11.00 Christ Church Retirement service – Signing Choir</p> <p>12.15 Leavers Assembly</p> <p>1.30 School Closes</p>

Here are the term dates for 2025 – 2026.

2025	
Autumn Term 1 School opens	Wednesday 3rd September 8.45am
School Closes	Friday 24th October 3.15pm
Autumn Term 2 School Opens	Wednesday 5 th November 8.45am
School Closes	Friday 19 th December 1.30pm
2026	
Spring Term 1 School Opens	Monday 5 th January 8.45am
School Closes	Friday 13 th February 3.15pm
Spring Term 2 School Opens	Monday 23rd February 8.45am
School Closes	Friday 27 th March 1.30pm
Summer Term 1 School Opens	Tuesday 14 th April 8.45am
School Closes	Friday 22 nd May 3.15pm
Summer Term 2 School Opens	Monday 1 st June 8.45am
School Closes	Friday 17 th July 1.30pm

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