



Our Christian Value for the term: Courage

'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Mark 12:31

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are well into Term 1 and we are having a busy time at school. Year 6 have spent the week at Morfa Bay in the sunshine, wind and rain - I think they have had all weathers thrown at them but they have had a brilliant time. We look forward to hearing more about their adventures next week. I am sure Year 6 parents will join me in thanking Mrs Danton, Mr Godfrey, Mrs Eke and Mrs Weston for taking them to Wales. Meanwhile at school we have enjoyed Harvest Festival services led by Steve and Pauline from the church. The children have settled really well into their new classes and we are very proud of our Reception children who have been superstars.

All the information you need about class routines and curriculum this term is available on the school website. For Reception classes please visit: https://www.stmarystetbury.com/life-at-st-marys/foundation-stage, for KS1 (Year 1 and 2) please visit: https://www.stmarystetbury.com/life-at-st-marys/key-stage-1 and for KS2 you can go to: https://www.stmarystetbury.com/life-at-st-marys/key-stage-2. Please scroll down the pages to find the class newsletters, topic webs, knowledge organisers, homework, spellings and reading roads.

There seems to be an increase in Covid cases and we have been asked what the protocol is for children who test positive. Please keep children at home if they feel unwell and then return them to school when they are well enough. There is no requirement for children and families to stay at home but we would ask that parents keep children at home for a few days if they test positive just to reduce the spread of the virus. Please do not keep children at home unnecessarily or until they test negative. They should not need to miss more than a few days of school unless they are really poorly.

I am very sorry to say that Mrs Wilmott (Reception teaching assistant) will be leaving us at half term. Mrs Wilmott has been working at St. Mary's for almost 30 years in different roles. In recent years she has providing nurture support in the Dolphin Room in the afternoons along with Mrs Lee and she has been running Twiglets after school as well as working in Reception. Mrs Wilmott has a new job working with the other end of the age spectrum - I am sure she will continue to bring her warmth and generous heart to the elderly citizens of our community, and we wish her all the best.

Forest School

Forest School will be continuing after half term on Fridays and will be run by Emma from Raffles Forest School. Class teachers will inform parents when it is their turn for Forest School sessions. Emma runs Forest Schools for a number of Gloucestershire Primary Schools and is highly recommended. I am sure the children will look forward to their session resuming.

Mrs J Woolley Headteacher









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Community 100th Parkrun

Last weekend, Jacob B in Year 5 completed his 100th Parkrun (alongside his Dad)! What an achievement to reach such a milestone! Jacob also wrote a wonderful report about the event, beautifully describing all of the action and emotion of the day. Congratulations Jacob! We are all very proud of you!

Here is an extract from the report Jacob wrote for Tetbury Goods Shed on the Parkrun webpage. Read the full article at:

https://www.parkrun.org.uk/tetburygoodsshed/news/2023/09/23/event-151-parkrun-report-by-jacob-bowden/

Today was my 100 the parkrun! Oh and Daddy's as well!

At the start we stood near the front and we were off. I ran past Liam and gave him his usual high five and we were on our way out. We were going at a good pace past all of the smiley volunteers.



We went through the Big Gate, Double Decker Gates and before we knew it we were at the Halfway Hairpin. Then on the way back people were saying "Well done Jacob" as we went past them. I said, "Thank you" and Daddy was saying "Well done" to them.

With the Good Shed in sight I blasted away from Daddy. I really wanted that PB! I put on an extra burst as Mummy, Liam, Nanny and Grampy cheered me in and crossed the finish line. I had done it, knocking 20 seconds off my best time. Daddy also did well and got a PB!









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Flu (nasal) immunisation

The Immunisation team will be in school for 3 days from Wednesday 25th October to Friday 27th October. This programme is open to every child in our school.

<u>Please take time to read through the information</u> <u>sent home and return the Vaccination Consent Form with the chosen consent box ticked for **Yes you do give consent** or the **No you do not give consent**.</u>

We do require all parents to complete the form with their chosen yes or no box ticked. If you child's has not brought home a letter please collect a letter from the school office and return as soon as possible.

Swimming lessons - the bus bay must be kept clear for the returning coach every Wednesday afternoon.

Swimming lessons will now be on Wednesday afternoons, taking place at Malmesbury Leisure Centre. The voluntary contribution for swimming is £4.75 per week. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum for PE which says each child should be able to swim at least 25 metres by the end of Key Stage 2.

Elm class children are currently having their lessons which started on <u>Wednesday</u> 20th September **for 6** sessions as follows: 20th, 27th September, 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th October.

Dates for your diary

Ash class lessons will start Wednmesday 8th November -13th December 6 weeks Maple class lessons will start on Wednesday 10th January – 21st February 6 weeks Oak class lessons will start on Wednesday 28th February – 17th April 6 weeks Rown class lessons will start on Wednesday 1st May – 12th June 6 weeks

Secondary School Transfer Year 6

Unfortunately, a recent Gloucestershire County Council website update has meant that weblinks have changed since the Transfer to Secondary School letters were printed and distributed.

If you have been unable to use the link in the Transfer to Secondary School for September 2024 letter sent to parents earlier this term from Gloucestershire County Council - please see the updated link below:

https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/transfer-to-secondary-school-or-from-middle-to-high-school-september-2024/

When making your application - please make sure you have received confirmation of your on-line form submission.

Deadline for submitting your application is 31st October 2023.







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School Photo - Wednesday 4th October



Individual photos and family photos are being taken on 4th October - If you would like your child/ren's photo to be taken with their preschool sibling at our school, please come along to the school office from 8.15am, where you can wait to have your family photo taken. All siblings within the school will have their photos taken together during the school day.

Parents Evening

We will be holding parents evenings over two evening. This is an opportunity to come and meet your child's class teacher, you will also get a chance to view your child's books in their classroom.

- Parents evening will be on Wednesday 24th October 3.30pm 6.00pm
- Parents evening will be on Wednesday 26th October 4.00pm 7.00pm

Information on how to book a slot will be out shortly.

Milk

Reception Children whose parents/carers have registered them for Free school milk (under 5's), are receiving milk, in class at the moment, however it is not an automatic registration. If you would like to take advantage of the free school milk scheme (for under 5's), please register your child at www.CoolMilk.co.uk. As your children turn five, this will become chargeable and an invoice will be sent to the parent/carer from Coolmilk.

If you do not want your child to receive milk in school, the parent/carer will need to cancel it. This should be done via Coolmilk. We are unable to do this in the school office. For further information please look at the coolmilk website or contact the school office.









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Forest Green Rovers Ambassadors for the 2023-2024 - Open to KS2 children

We are excited to be recruiting a new set of Forest Green Rovers ambassadors for the 2023-2024 season! This opportunity is for children in KS2.

By taking on an ambassador role, pupils are able to play an active role within the greenest football club in the world, while developing as people and gaining important life experiences. From assisting the club with matchday roles to spreading news of what we do to schoolmates and their local communities, our ambassadors play an important role as part of FGR community and we are very proud of our ambassadors and the programme. There are also other benefits such as a complimentary FGR Shirt and season ticket, with options to invite their class, school or team to games and potentially have players visit their schools.

About the FGR Ambassador Scheme:

https://www.fgr.co.uk/the-fgr-ambassadors-scheme

FGR will be hosting an induction evening at the stadium on 10th October.



If your child would like to be considered to be St Mary's FGR ambassador, please could they write a letter to Miss Browning and Mr Bartrop explaining why they would be a great ambassador. Please hand your letter to Miss Browning by **Tuesday 3rd October.**









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Free school Meals (FSM)

If your child is not receiving free school meals at the moment and you think you may be eligible – apply now!

Please do not reapply if you are already receiving FSM.

All children in KS1 receive Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) which you do not have to apply for. However, it is worth checking if your child is eligible for FSM. Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, we will received extra funding if your child is eligible, there is a deadline for the end of October for this years school funding, so please apply now, you will need your National Insurance number to hand and your childs date of birth.

Parents can apply for free school meals via the following linkhttps://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schooltransport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/

We receive extra funding for each eligible child registered. So even if you don't want your child to have school lunches, you still need to apply to make sure our school receives all the government funding to which is it entitled – helping us provide your child with the best education and support. If you need any help please contact the school office.



Check to see if your child is eligible using the confidential online portal available on our website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Your child's school receives extra funding for each eligible child registered.





You may also be able to get extra support for free milk, reduced contributions for school trips and uniform grants – check with your school.



EYFS, KS1 & KS2 information and class newsletters

Please remember to look on our website for information regarding your childs class/year group - there is a lot of information provided - more information will be uploaded on Monday.

Please follow the link and choose your childs phase:

https://www.stmarystetbury.com/life-at-st-marys/







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Peripatetic Music lessons available:-

Recorder (year 2 - yr 6), Clarinet and Flute (both yr3 - yr 6) - Tuesday afternoons

We have Peripatetic music lessons available for Recorder (year 2 - yr 6), Clarinet and Flute (both yr3 - yr 6) - our Peripatetic music teacher, Sue Stephens-Hudd, visits our school on a Tuesday afternoon – spaces are available.

If your child is interested in taking up Recorder (year 2 - yr 6), Clarinet and Flute music lessons, please contact Sue direct on: suetheflute@yahoo.co.uk

Sharing 20 minutes lesson £5 per pupil per lesson.

Individual 20 min lesson £10 per pupil per lesson

Piano lessons (year 2 - yr 6), Monday - Friday afternoons

We have Peripatetic music lessons available for Piano (year 2 - yr 6), - our Peripatetic music teacher Jonathan Adkins visits our school every afternoon - spaces available.

If your child is interested in taking up Piano, please contact Jonathan direct for more information on: adkinsjonathan968@gmail.com

Guitar KS2 - Thursday afternoons with Gloucestershire Music

<u>Gloucestershire Music Peripatetic Service – 2023/24</u>

St Mary's C of E Primary School (Tetbury) are offering individual & small group tuition for Guitar, through Gloucestershire Music (GM)

Instrumental lessons are a great way to not only engage your child in music making but are also proven to improve their confidence, concentration and much research has shown the positive effect of music on English and Maths in particular. The time that lessons commence will be decided in due course by your school and the GM tutor who will deliver the lessons. GM staff are DBS checked, and are quality assessed to maintain the highest standards of teaching across the county.

Should your child require an instrument they can be hired form GM. Information on prices for this scheme can be found at www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk







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A <u>student bursary</u> is also available for those who wish to apply for financial assistance. This can cover tuition, instrument hire and exam fees up to £200 per term (based on a 3 term year).

Visit https://www.makemusicgloucestershire.org.uk/schools/mmg-grants-and-bursaries/ or ring us on 01452 427242 for more information. If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium and you are unable to receive a bursary or need more financial assistance, please contact the school to discuss how they might be able to help.

To sign up to our (guitar) music lesson waiting list through our online parent pay system please use the following instructions.

- 1) Visit https://gloucestershiremusic.paritor.com
- 2) Under the School Direct Tuition section select your child's school from the list.
- 3) Select the relevant instrument lesson from the available options.
- 4) Complete the details over the next pages.
- 5) Once you have completed this and created your Schooble account, complete your application.
- 6) Once we have organised the tutor, you will receive an email offering you a place in that music lesson.
- 7) Follow the instructions to accept the place and make your payment.
- 8) Once we have received the payment, lessons can begin.

Group Tuition 3 – 5 pupils 30m	£65.25
Paired Lesson 30m	£97.10
Individual Tuition 20m	£128.90
Individual Tuition 30m	£192.55
Lessons are priced based on 10 lessons a term	

Terms and conditions apply www.gloucestershiremusic.org.uk/youth-groups/terms-and-conditions/ Happy music making!

Nick Steel

Schools' Manager – Gloucestershire Music







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(ptfa@st-marvs-tetburv.gloucs.sch.uk)

Thanks to all who attended our Annual General Meeting last week. It was great to meet some new parents and thank you for sharing your brilliant ideas with us.

One of the things suggested, was to reintroduce ourselves and explain a little more about what the PTFA does for our school and how you can get involved. So we thought we would use the next few Newsletters as an introduction to all things PTFA!

Firstly, what is a PTFA?

Parent, Teacher and Friends Association is a group of parent volunteers who support the school through putting on events for our children and raising much needed funds to provide opportunities, experiences and resources for our school.

Throughout the school year, the PTFA hold various fun events, from ice cream Fridays to Discos, Christmas Fayres to Summer Fetes. Not only do these events raise money to enrich their school life, the children and their families get the opportunity to meet others within the community, have fun and make wonderful memories to cherish forever.

To keep these events going and to be even more successful this year, we do ask for volunteers to help us. Even things like helping us out for thirty minutes on a Friday after school for ice cream selling, printing flyers, making signs or games for our fayres or giving half an hour of your time to help set up or pack away on a school fete day is greatly appreciated. So please look out for PTFA event emails over the course of the school year and reach out to us if you are able to help.

Over the next few Newsletters, we will introduce our PTFA members and some of our amazing helpers.

Please contact us if you have any questions, would like to know more or feel you are able to help out.

St. Mary's PTFA

(ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk)

(Facebook: @wearestmarys)







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Ice Cream Fridays will be back soon. Please keep an eye out on our Facebook page for updates!!

We will soon be selling ice creams again after school every Friday in front of main reception.

- Cones, rocket lollies and Fabs are £1.
- Mini milks are 50p.
- We accept cash or card.
- We start selling at 3pm so please consider buying before you collect your child/ children.

If you are ever able to help sell ice-cream's, please contact us on ptfa@st-marys-tetbury.gloucs.sch.uk, it only takes half an hour of your time.

Easyfundraising.com

Easyfundraising is another easy way to support your child's school at no cost to you!

When you are doing any online shopping, click via Easyfundraising.com to support St Mary's school without it costing you a penny.

Do your online shopping via http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarystetbury/ and the retailer pays a percentage of your total without any charge to you.

Friends and family can also use Easyfundraising as an easy way to support your children's school.

Donate my school

You, your family and friends can continue to support St Mary's School Parents, Teachers & Friends Association by making donations here: https://donatemyschool.com/st-mary's-ptfa-tetbury-2345







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Textile Recycler

The bin is located in the carpark by the Yr 3/4/5/6 playground. All funds raised by St. Mary's PTFA go directly towards benefiting each and every child that attends our school.

Please let the school office know if you find the bin full.



Community

We are writing as a representatives of the '20 is plenty' campaign for Tetbury - a small group of volunteer residents working to try to reduce the speed limit within central Tetbury.

We are preparing to submit a proposal to Gloucestershire Country Council for a Traffic Calming Order and will need the support of our residents. The aim of the proposal is to have the speed limit in central Tetbury reduced to 20MPH (a map detailing where this would be implemented will be live soon).

We would love to involve the children in our community by using their artwork on speed awareness signage around town and this is where I'm hoping you'll be able to help! Please see the above poster (info on what you need to do and where you need to send this below) as well as some basic templates attached.

Fancy your artwork being displayed on new speed awareness signage around Tetbury and be in with the chance of winning a prize? Here's how to enter: Create some beautiful artwork









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(white background & A4 size) or use one of our templates(sent via email earlier this week) to get you started, you can add words too - think about what would make drivers slow down in our town. Send it to us by scanning or downloading and emailing it to tetbury@20splentyforus.org.uk detailing your name and age OR Pop it in an envelope with your name, age and contact details and post to: 2 Charlton Cottages, Tetbury, GL8 8TS

Please do not send your entries into school.

20 is plenty' campaign
Tetbury residents volunteer Group

Community























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Atlas Camp

Our October camps are just around the corner! Atlas Camps will be running their award-winning holiday clubs

this half term with a selection of places still available to book!

Rating Outstanding by Ofsted, Atlas Camps specialise in multi-activity clubs for children ages 4-14. With a focus on fun, activities on offer span everything from arts and crafts to sports and active play, all in a safe, enjoyable environment designed to cater for all.

Highlights include:

- Ofsted rated 'outstanding'
- Childcare vouchers accepted from a variety of providers
- Early drop-off/ late pick-up options
- Sibling discount available

Head to the Atlas Camps website at www.atlascamps.co.uk to book.

















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Families Gloucestershire Magazine

Here is the **link** to the next issue of <u>Families Gloucestershire Magazine Sep/Oct 2023</u> for you to **share with your** parents.

Our **September/October 2023** issue is loaded with useful information for local parents including:

- Free Halloween Activity Pack
- Making the most of Parents' Evenings
- Best new adventure books for kids
- How can AI support dyslexia?
- Celebrating different learning styles
- Phonics resources to assist with reading
- Fun role play ideas for kids
- Autumn outside activities
- Top family friendly museums
- and loads more.....

Copy and paste the link into your parent communication and parents can choose to click on the link to view the magazine. Please reply to this email to let us know when you have shared the link and we will enter your School in the draw to **win a £100 book youcher**.







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Would you like to help people in your local community who are struggling?

Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswold Districts needs volunteers now more than ever to help make a difference to local people. In the last year we have faced an unprecedented demand due to the cost-of-living crisis.

We are appealing for new volunteers from all backgrounds who are looking for a volunteering role that is both challenging and rewarding. We are looking for people who can give 8-10 hours per week, and are currently recruiting for the following roles:

Administration/Triage Assistants. You will provide a professional welcome to callers at the door of our Stroud or Cirencester offices. You will triage callers without an appointment - identifying emergencies and providing information and signposting to other agencies when needed (no advice giving involved). You will also undertake a wide range of administrative tasks, including contacting clients by telephone and text, and handling inward and outbound post.

You must be computer literate but full training in triage and our IT systems will be given.

Volunteer Advisers. You will give advice and information (face to face, by telephone and email) to clients on a wide range of problems. No prior advice experience is necessary as full training will be given. Information sessions for volunteer advisers will take place on 18 October 2023 (2-3.30pm) in Stroud and on 8 November 2023 (1–2.30 pm) in Cirencester. Our next training programme will start on 24 January 2024.

Elizabeth Hall, our Chief Executive Officer said:

"Now more than ever, you can really make a difference by volunteering with us. We're seeing more and more people needing support as living costs spiral. As well as helping the local community, we know people who volunteer their time get a lot back. We'll give you all the training you need and would love to hear from you."

To find out more about these roles or register your interest for a volunteer adviser information session please contact our Learning and Development Officer at training@ca-scd.org.uk. You can also find further information on our website www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk.









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Longfield Community Hospice – Run the Rainbow

Run the Rainbow is our largest event and a perfect day out for all the family. It consists of a 5k course through powdered paint, bubbles, foam, inflatables and even planes! With a ticket for 4 people (whether that's 4 adults, 4 children or any combination) at just £40 – it's a great day out. The event village and course is alongside an active runway, so spectators are also welcome to come along, watch the planes, enjoy some food and cheer on our participants.

Tickets can be purchased at https://www.eventhrite.co.uk/e/rup

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/run-the-rainbow-2023-tickets-549374553077?aff=oddtdtcreator

If you use the following code to receive 10% off **SCHOOL10**

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