

Friday 14th October 2022

Our Christian Value for the term: Caring

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

Dear Parent/Carers

It is incredible that we are already almost at the end of Term 1 and what a busy term it has been. Year 6 pupils have had a fabulous week at Morfa Bay and children are participating in more after school activities than ever.

We are holding an Open Morning on Wednesday 19th October for families with children due to start school in September 2023. Current families with siblings due to start in September are very welcome to come along. Please see the school website for further details.

If you would like to join us that morning please click on this link to book a place.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/S9T2BV3>

We will be holding parents' evenings in the hall on Tuesday 1st November (straight after half term) and Thursday 3rd November. Please make sure you sign up to take the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with the class teachers.

Please book on-line via the parentsevening website <https://stmarystetbury.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

School will close for October half term on Friday 21st October and will reopen for pupils on Monday 31st. I hope you all have a lovely half term break.

Mrs Woolley
Head Teacher

Year 6 - reminder

All year 6 parents/carers should have received the Secondary School Transfer Letter. Please be aware that applications must be made no later than the closing date of **31st October 2022**.

This is extremely important as any applications received after this date may not be considered until after all the allocations have been made.

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Free school Meals

If you are not receiving Free school meals - apply for Free school meals now - instant decision [Apply for free school meals - Gloucestershire County Council](#)

Milk

Reception Children whose parents/carers have registered for Free school milk (under 5's), are receiving milk in class at the moment. This 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. Please be aware, as your children turns 5, this will become chargeable and an invoice will be sent to the parent/carer from Coolmilk.

All children who receive FSM (not UNFSM) can have school milk throughout their time at primary, if required. Again parents need to register for this.

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.

Sport at St Marys

It's been a great start to the school year with so many children enjoying a brilliant offering of after school sports clubs. With football, tag rugby, cricket, gymnastics, athletics on offer it's been so pleasing to see the enjoyment and confidence the children have gained.

We have explored the London marathon as a whole school with each class running a marathon between them, the autumn sunshine was a great excuse to enjoy the fresh air. To mark world mental health day we encouraged the children to try yoga and as well as the physical benefits it was great to have some time to reflect, slow down and explore spiritual well being.

Over this school year we will benefit from PE lessons with Gloucester Rugby, Forest Green Rovers and England Cricket. Further opportunity for our children to experience a wide range of sports and to give them the foundation's to ensure a lifelong love of sport.

In the coming weeks we will have new sports leaders in year 5, mentored by some chosen year 6 children and lastly we will select our new FGR ambassadors!

Miss Browning and Mr Knight

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Forest School

It's been lovely to have Juniper and Holly at Forest School along with Willow class for the first sessions of the new school year.

The children in year 2 have linked their science to Forest School investigating habitats and micro habitats and all the wonderful creatures that use them as their home. We have seen slow worms, frogs, butterflies and woodlouse amongst others.

The children have created a magnificent minibeast habitat called 'Buggingham Palace', each layer was chosen by the children using the knowledge they have learnt to attract as many different minibeast as possible. Willow class have been exploring the wonder of Trees at Forest School. They have created Tree art using natural materials, measured out the tallest tree in the world, identified trees on our school field and used materials from trees to build a new mud kitchen! We have also learnt how to plant and care for new trees and will be watching with interest as they grow alongside us.

Both classes have enjoyed some of our wonderful books that enrich their experience at Forest School.

We have our last session next week where we will have a toasty celebration fire.

We are extremely grateful to have been donated some firewood by Allan Robertson. The children will benefit from some toasty fires over the winter months.

If you need any fantastic oak wood for the fire please contact him on 07818 640634



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School Photos

On 5th October your child had their individual school photo taken - your child should have brought home a card from Colorfoto, this enables you to register your email address for notification when the photos are ready to order - if you did not receive the card - please contact the school office who will be able to help you. After notification of the photos being ready to order, you will be able to order your photos to school for free - you will have 7 days from the notification date to do this.

Clubs

Faith Explorers

Date; this autumn

We are so sorry about delay in starting Faith Explorers, but we are delighted to be on our way! Now meeting:

- Wednesday 19th October
- Wednesday 2nd November
- Wednesday 9th November
- Wednesday 16th November
- Wednesday 23rd November



This term

This term, our **BIG QUESTION** is: what do we believe? We are exploring our belief in God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and what it means to be God's family. We look forward to sharing this with all our Faith Explorers. **Pick up time: 4.30pm.**

Love from Poppy, Sarah P, Sarah W,
Pauline and Steve

We are still taking books for Faith Explorers, the club is open to year 2 – year 6 - if you would like a taster week next week or would like to attend the club – please book a place (if booking a taster session please mark in notes 'taster') and indicate who is collecting

please book on-line

via the parentsevening website <https://stmarystetbury.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

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Ice Cream Fridays are back!!

We will be selling ice creams 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.

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile is an easy way to support your child's school **at no further cost to you!**

When using the Amazon app or website to make purchases, select our school as your chosen charity and **Amazon will donate 0.5%** of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases at **no cost to you!**

Please be careful to select: St. Mary's Primary School Parents Teachers and Friends Association (Tetbury)

For information on how to set up AmazonSmile please visit:

<https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonsmile>

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

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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.

Textile Recycler

The bin is located in the carpark by the Yr3/4 playground.

All funds raised by St. Mary's PTFA go directly towards benefiting each and every child that attends our school.



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Community

COVID vaccines: how to access first or second doses for children aged 5-17

It isn't too late for children to access a COVID vaccination if they haven't already completed their course.

Children are eligible for:

- First or second dose – Children aged 5 to 11 (paediatric dose Pfizer)
- First or second doses – Children aged 12-17 (Pfizer)
- Third primary dose – Children aged 5-11 who are severely immunocompromised (paediatric dose Pfizer – 8 weeks after second dose), anyone aged 12+ who is severely immunocompromised (Pfizer – 8 weeks after second dose)
- Autumn booster - Children aged 5-11 who are severely immunocompromised or household contact of someone immunocompromised (paediatric dose Pfizer – at least 3 months after previous dose), anyone aged 12-17 who is severely immunocompromised or household contact of someone immunocompromised (Pfizer – at least 3 months after previous dose)

*children aged 5-15 inclusive must wait 12 weeks after a COVID-19 infection to get a vaccination

**people aged 16 or over must wait four weeks after a COVID-19 infection to get a vaccination

To access a vaccination, contact your GP Practice for advice on how to book an appointment at a local vaccination centre, use the national booking system to get an appointment at a community pharmacy or the JabVan at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital (www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination or call 119), or look out for drop-in clinics on the [local COVID information portal](#).

Please make sure to carefully check eligibility before taking your child to a drop-in clinic; depending on their age they may only have specific vaccines which will not always be available at every clinic.

More information about the COVID vaccines for children and young people is available [here](#).

Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust

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ISing Pop

You are invited to join us on Sunday 6th November in St Mary's School Hall for a fun filled hour of chatting, crafting, songs, prayers and a Bible story followed by tea." 4-5.30pm. Please note all children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Tetbury Area Churches together ISingPOP team)



Families First



You can find the next issue of [Families Gloucestershire Magazine](#) via this link.

Our 'Back to School' issue is loaded with really useful information and articles for parents including:

- Getting school support for a child with SEN
- Why education begins at home
- Road safety for children
- Chapter books that encourage kindness
- New term teething problems
- Brilliant first chapter books for early readers
- Screen free rainy day activities
- Enjoying Autumn outside
- Family friendly walks for Autumn
- DIY Halloween costumes



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The cost of living crisis

Here at Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswold Districts we are seeing an increase in demand for our services as a result of the cost of living crisis.

Over the last three months we have seen a 92% increase in requests for charitable help from the same period last year, with people seeking help with food, fuel or hardship fund payments. Whilst the Energy Price Guarantee announced on the 8th September comes as a huge relief to households, energy bills are still very high. In winter 2021, the energy price cap was set at £1,277 for typical use. The new Price Guarantee starting on 1 October for households on typical use will be £2,500 a year.

We are very concerned about how vulnerable residents will cope this autumn and winter when temperatures drop and they need to turn their heating on. Many of our clients have been unable to afford their essential costs during the summer months. We have already had clients on prepayment meters who do not have enough credit to run medical equipment that relies on electricity; clients who cannot afford to heat their water; parents who are skipping meals to feed their children and pensioners unable to afford their fuel bills. In our largely rural districts, many residents rely on oil for heating and hot water and we have been contacted by people who cannot afford the cost of the minimum order.

What to do if you are worrying about money

If you are worried about paying your bills there are a few simple things you can do:

1. Work out your budget. Find out exactly how much you have coming in, and what's going out, and think about where you may be able to make savings. There is a useful budgeting tool on the national Citizens Advice website (<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>) to help you.
2. If you don't think you can pay your energy bills, contact your supplier. There are schemes to help customers but if you don't tell them you are struggling then they can't help you.
3. If you have debts, look at the guidance on debt on the national Citizens Advice website.
4. Check if you might be entitled to any benefits. If you have internet access you can use Turn2Us, Entitledto or Policy in Practice benefit calculators to check what you might get.

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5. Make sure you have received any cost of living payments that you are entitled to. If you are in council tax Band A-D property you should have received a rebate on your council tax and if you are a pensioner, on benefits or disabled there are various payments that you should be receiving.

If you cannot access the internet please call us on our freephone number 0808 800 0510 to access advice.

If you are really struggling and don't have enough food to eat you can call the Trussell Trust

Help through Hardship Helpline on **08082 082138**.

Please do ask for help – we understand that these are worrying times.

You can get advice by calling us on our freephone number (**0808 800 0510**) and email advice through our local website (<https://www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/>) under the Get Help section. We are also seeing clients by appointment in our Stroud and Cirencester offices and in the community at various venues across both districts – currently Dursley, Paganhill Community Hub, Stonehouse APT, Wotton under Edge and Moreton in Marsh and Tetbury.

We are also looking for new volunteers to train as admin assistants in both our Cirencester and Stroud offices – if you are interested please email info@ca-scd.org.uk. We also welcome donations to support our service – find out more on our website <https://www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/>).

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 **01666 502336**
8.30am-5pm
Monday to Friday
(closed on public holidays)



To keep our patients and visitors safe we are wearing masks again.
If you are visiting the hospital for an appointment or treatment please wear a mask.
If you don't have one we can provide one at the entrance.



We are here for you and your families
We can now treat illnesses as well as minor injuries in our
Minor Injuries and Illness Unit

Minor Injuries and Illness Unit (MIU)

8.30am - 4pm Monday to Friday
(closed on public holidays)

Minor cuts and lacerations, including infected wounds
Dog and cat bites
Bruises
Strains and sprains
Simple fractures and dislocations
Minor burns and scalds
Head injuries (if the person has not been unconscious or intoxicated)
Minor eye injuries
Splinters and other foreign bodies in the skin, eye, ear or nose
Insect bites and stings
Minor illnesses including earache and sore throat

Unsure if we can help— Call us on 01666 502336 (during opening hours) **or 111** (24-hour service)

Other Services at Tetbury Hospital

- **X-ray Department**
- **Outpatient Clinics**
- **Procedure Room** (outpatient procedures)
- **Day Surgery Unit**

Read about our treatments and consultants at www.tetburyhospital.co.uk

NHS patients - Ask your GP for a referral to Tetbury Hospital

Private patients - Contact us on 01666 501773

Find us: GL8 8XB



Free parking available

Reg Charity No 1008926



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ATTENTION PARENTS

BACK TO SCHOOL CLASSES STARTING NOW
St Mary's Primary School

IF YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO:

- ✓ Have **CONFIDENCE** to overcome the anxiety of a new school year / setting
- ✓ Build **COMMUNICATION SKILLS** to make new friends
- ✓ **FOCUS** to be able to listen and learn from their teacher and achieve better grades

OUR MARTIAL ARTS CLASSES CAN HELP!



WHAT DO PARENTS SAY?

96.3% of parents said they saw an improvement in **FOCUS**
97.7% of parents said they saw an improvement in **CONFIDENCE**
92.3% of parents said they saw an improvement in **SELF-DISCIPLINE**
99.2% of parents said they saw an improvement in **RESPECT**

MIGHTY MATT'S 3-6 YEARS



Our award winning Mighty Matt programme is designed specifically to aid children's development between the ages of 3 - 6 years old. Our instructors are highly trained on how to bring the best out of your child and help to lay the foundations for them to lead a successful life.

JUNIOR & FAMILY 7 YEARS +



Our Junior & Family classes are for everybody aged 7 years and above. Suitable for children or adults training by themselves and for any adults who wish to train with their child. We've noticed that it can be increasingly difficult to find positive enhancement activities where you can progress & share the experience with your child and our family class provides this.

Claim your place by visiting
www.mattfiddes.com
 DON'T WAIT, OUR CLASSES ARE FILLING UP FAST!