



ST MARY'S BRYANSTON SQUARE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Family Update – Friday 13th February

Dear Families,

As we approach the end of this half term, there is much to celebrate. We have seen lots of high-quality learning taking place both inside and outside of the classroom, and our learning has been enriched by a range of workshops and visits.

This half term we have welcomed new families to St Mary's and will also say goodbye to two families who head back to their countries of origin. As we know, change happens all the time and yet, at St Mary's the constants in our lives are our school vision of 'Excellence with Compassion' and our six Christian values: Love, Honesty, Curiosity, Forgiveness, Feeling Safe and Respect.

Our school vision and values drive all that we do here at school as we work to ensure that every child makes great progress: academically, socially, spiritually and in the pursuits of their interests (such as music and sport). Our hope is that every child, member of staff, and families flourish as a result of being part of St Mary's.

We would like to wish everyone a wonderful half term break, and look forward to welcoming families back to school on Monday 23rd February.

Music at St Mary's

Over the past 5 years, the musical life of the school has gone from strength to strength. After the pandemic, a small St Mary's Choir was formed and through partnership with the Tri-borough Music Hub, we began our programme of small group and 1:1 violin and cello lessons. There were a handful of keen singers in the choir and all of our string players were complete beginners.



This week, I was reminded of the Bible verse, "Do not despise the days of small beginnings" from the book of Zechariah (4:10). When at the school service on Wednesday, a 28-strong choir stood up to perform. They were expertly led by Mrs Igbinoba and sang beautifully. The harmonies were rich and strong. Scan the QR code to hear the choir's performance.

On Thursday, the St Mary's string ensemble played at the annual LDBS service of thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral. The ensemble has been rehearsing since the start of this half term and their hard work has definitely paid off. Led by Miss Amalia, they performed beautifully as the congregation of over 1600 people processed out of the cathedral.





We are incredibly proud to be the lead primary music school in Westminster for the Tri-borough Music Hub. Last week, it was confirmed that Sinfonia Smith Square (our partner orchestra), will be working with us for the next three years on a bespoke programme that ensures every child in the school will work with the orchestra every year.

From very small beginnings, we now have a thriving musical life. Thank you to all of the children for their hard work, learning of songs and learning of musical pieces. Their drive for excellence enables the light of the school to shine brightly.

New Parent Governor



The school governors and the senior leadership team would like to congratulate Mrs Carla Abou-Haydar on becoming our new parent governor.

We look forward to Mrs Abou-Haydar being part of the governing body of the school and sharing her skill set with the school leadership over strategic insight of the school, in line with its Christian values.

LDBS Annual Service at St Paul's – A Joyous Celebration (a word from Mrs Schroer)

Our Faith Councillors, from Years 3,4,5 and 6, were delighted to attend this year's London Diocese Board of Schools' Annual Service at the beautiful St Paul's Cathedral, joyfully accompanied by Kirstine too, alongside pupils and staff from its primary and secondary schools. The church was filled with a wonderful sense of peace and awe, its beauty providing a perfect setting for such a special occasion.

The theme of the service was The Power of Forgiveness: Restoring Relationships. Through the story of Peter, attendees reflected on the importance of forgiveness and how it can help to heal and strengthen our relationships with others. Being one of our school's values, the children fully understood the thoughtful and inspiring message for everyone present.

The congregation joined together in joyful worship, singing hymns, watching dramatised Bible passages, prayers, readings and reflections. The uplifting music echoed beautifully around the cathedral. This year, each school contributed a creatively designed jigsaw piece. These were brought together to form one large, stunning artwork symbolising forgiveness and restoration, and showing how all our schools are united as a community.

We are incredibly proud of our Faith Councillors who represented our school beautifully and enthusiastically supported our wonderful school's string section. It was truly a joyous and memorable occasion for all involved, reminding us that through forgiveness and unity we are able to "live life in all its fullness".



Half Term Activities



CHURCH STREET COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE

Will be offering children's Active Antz Bouncy Castle Sessions

This February Half Term
£3.45
 Monday 16th February
 10:30am-11:30am and 11:30am-12:30pm
 Wednesday 18th February
 10:30am-11:30am and 11:30am-12:30pm
 Friday 20th February
 10:30am-11:30am and 11:30am-12:30pm
 Book via the app, website or in-centre!

www.everoneactive.com @everoneactive

Saturday 14th February - Symphony of Folk Stories - Smith Square Hall

Once upon a time there was an orchestra...

Join Sinfonia Smith Square for an adventure into the world of Folk and be spun a musical yarn around our oldest traditional tales inside the 18th century walls of Smith Square Hall.

You'll experience works by the composers inspired by folksongs, including Benjamin Britten, Florence Price and Aaron Copland. You might even meet some familiar fairytale faces along the way...

With opportunities to join in with the story, meet the musicians and get a little closer to their instruments, it's a perfect day out for the whole family!

Sending you home ... happily ever after.

Friday 20th February - CBeebies Wildlife Jamboree - Southbank Centre

Spot creatures with Bluey at The Creek, earn Wildlife badges with Duggee and the Squirrels, and find a myriad of creatures from the jungle to the desert.

Join lots of CBeebies friends and animals to celebrate the natural world in music and song at the spectacular Wildlife Jamboree with the Sinfonia Smith Square orchestra.

With songs, music and lots of fun, join presenters Puja Panchkoty, aka Jen, and Chantelle Lindsay to meet new wildlife friends!

Your families can use the discount code CBEEBIES15 to get 15% off the ticket price.

Find the details and book for the event here:

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/cbeebies-wildlife-jamboree/>



BOOKING REQUIRED

LET'S DO THIS!

EDUTAIN⁺ FEBRUARY

HALF TERM CAMP 2026

Let's make education a blast!

Kick, dance, draw, act, swim, and explore to your heart's content with our multi-sport activities, arts and crafts, drama, and Friday trips.
 8 - 16 y.o.

10am - 3pm
 Tuesday 17 Feb to Thursday 19 Feb 2026

Academy Sport
 Torquay street W2 5EW

£1 / day*

*Cost for non-Free School Meals
 Children and Young People: £1.00 child/day
 BICP are required

Scan the QR code or contact us to book your space
 leonard.lionel@sportwestminster.org - 07891 386 688

ACTIVE WESTMINSTER City of Westminster



FOR FAMILIES - ALL AGES

TOUR

February half-term: Part 1

Tuesday, 17 February 2026

In Gallery | The Roden Centre for Creative Learning

Free



FOR FAMILIES - ALL AGES

WORKSHOP

February half-term: Curious shadows and creative light

Various dates from 17 February 2026

In Gallery | The Roden Centre for Creative Learning (Clare Art Studio)

Free



FOR FAMILIES - ALL AGES

WORKSHOP

February half-term: Creative Space

Various dates from 17 February 2026

In Gallery | The Roden Centre for Creative Learning (Creative Space)

Free

There are a wide range of free events at the National Gallery.

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/events?>

What an Exciting Half Term for EYFS!



Reception had a magical adventure at the London Aquarium, experiencing their fantastic Polar exhibition as part of our 'Arctic Environments' topic. It was a wonderful day of exploring Arctic environments and exotic sea life!

The children thoroughly enjoyed the exploration of our fascinating 'Journeys and Transport' topic,



Nursery & Preschool

We welcomed a local vet and veterinary nurses to our classroom as part of our 'People Who Help Us' topic. The children listened as the vet talked about caring for animals, using special tools and introduced us to their puppy, Otter 🐶

We were also very excited to welcome a fire engine and real firefighters to school. We explored the fire engine, saw the equipment, and learned about how firefighters keep us safe.



Our school Chef Julie visited our classroom to talk to us about her job. The children listened and asked questions about what she does each day. We learned that Chef Julie needs to order food, prepare ingredients, and cook meals for all the children in our school. We all thanked her for keeping everyone healthy and happy.



Attendance

Well done to Year 3, our attendance winners this week!

Congratulations Year 3, on your strong start to the term. Keep it up!

Class	Attendance figures
Nursery	83%
Reception	90%
Year 1	88%
Year 2	96.5%
Year 3	98.9%
Year 4	97.8%
Year 5 /6	97%

Dear God,

We give thanks for our school. Thank you that you are with us each day as we learn, play and grow.

Thank you that you bless the work that goes on here and that through our knowledge and love of you, we grow closer as a school family.

We pray that this half term will be a time of rest for all of the children and adults who make up our school community. Help us to take time to enjoy the world around us and keep us safe.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen

Dates for Diaries

Important events for the remainder of the academic year. All of these dates are also on our school website calendar here: <https://www.stmbs.org.uk/diary/grid/2024/09/>

Date	Time	Focus	Led by/who is invited
Mon 2nd Mar	am	Year 6 Junior Westminster Event	Year 6
Thurs 5th Mar Change of Date	All day	Dress up for World Book Day	Whole School
Mon 9th – Fri 13th Mar		Science Week	Whole School
Thurs 26th Mar	3.15pm	FoSMA Easter Bake Sale	Whole School
Wed 18th Mar	2.30pm	Church Service	Whole School
Fri 27th Mar	1.30pm	End of Term	Whole School
Easter Holidays Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April			
Mon 13th Apr	8.45am	Start of the Summer Term	Whole School

11th -15th May		Key Stage 2 Assessments	Year 6
Mon 18th May	11.30-1pm	Mother's Day Lunch (belated)	Whole School (one female relative per child/family unit)
Wed 20th May	2.30pm	Church Service	Whole School
Half Term Holiday Monday 25th May – Monday 1st June			
Tues 2nd June	8.45am	Start of the Summer Term	Whole School
8th – 12th June		Year 1 Phonics Check	Whole School
Wed 10th June	8.30am-6pm	Year 2 Trip to West Wittering Beach	Year 2 + 1 parent per child
15th to 19th June		Art Week Art exhibition at School Wednesday 17th June (3.30pm -4.30pm)	Whole School
15th June	11.30-1pm	Father's Day Lunch	Whole School (one male relative per child/family unit)
22nd to 26		Science Week	Whole School
Mon 29th June		Class Photos	Whole School
Wed 1st July	10am	Sports Day at Paddington Rec	Years 1-6
Thurs 2nd July	9.30am	Sports Day In school	Nursery and Reception
Fri 3rd July		End of Year Reports to Parents	
Fri 7th July	3.30pm - 4.30pm	Parent Report Drop in	Whole School
Thurs 9th July	2pm - 5pm	Summer Fair	Whole School
Mon 13th July		Year 6 Show	Year 6 parents
Tues 14th July	4pm – 5.30pm	Year 6 BBQ	Year 6 pupils
Wed 15th July	2.30pm	Year 6 Leavers' Service	Whole School
Fri 17th July	1.30pm	End of term and the start of the summer holidays!	Whole School