



ST MARY'S BRYANSTON SQUARE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Family Update – Friday 10th October

Dear Families,

I think we can all agree that it has been a rather eventful start to the academic year. I have been particularly impressed by the adaptability and resilience of children, staff and families over the past two weeks.

As a school community, we have pulled together to ensure that children continued their learning throughout the brief period of school closure. The staff team and I were overwhelmed by all the offers of support and assistance that have come from families. Our focus has been on ensuring children were able to get back to face-to-face learning with their teachers. Once the new routines and rhythms of school life are embedded, we will be in touch with ways in which families can help.

We also owe a huge debt of gratitude to the staff and pupils at Gateway Academy, who generously opened their school and their hearts to us. When we talk about our vision of Excellence with Compassion, we always refer to the biblical verse which underpins it, from the book of Mark 12:31 "Love your neighbour as yourself". The team at Gateway have demonstrated that they are indeed our neighbours, with the love and care that they have shown us.

It has been wonderful to see how well children have settled into their new classrooms and environments and continued to focus their attentions on the business of learning. As members of the Senior Leadership Team visit classrooms on both the St Mary's and Gateway Academy sites, it is clear to see that our value of Curiosity remains intact, and that the love of learning was not washed away with the flood.

We know that it will take time for the building to be restored, but give thanks that the children have been at the forefront of showing us how to make the most of life in all circumstances. This week in Collective Worship, we have discussed what it means to be resilient and reminded children that resilience is about the ability to recover from difficulties or to keep going when things are tough. We have also talked about resilience not being a solo venture, but something that is lived collectively.

We continue to pray for our neighbours on Enford Street and in the surrounding streets, some of whom have lost everything they own. Over the weeks and months to come, we must look at how we can help those around us to flourish as we do.



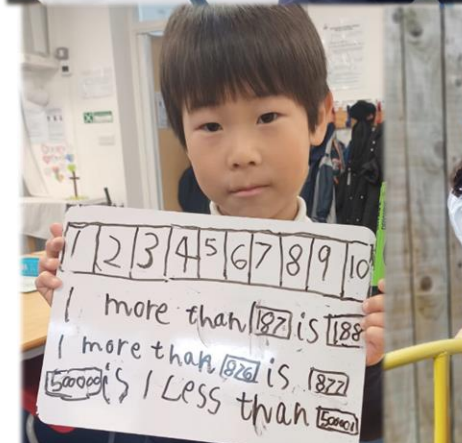
Year 6 Residential



Music Tuition



Learning off site



Working and Playing



The Westminster Mile

Black History Month 2025

As a school, every October we celebrate Black History Month. The theme for Black History Month UK 2025 is "Standing Firm in Power and Pride". This year, children across the school will connect with the stories, achievements, and legacy of Black British figures who have made an impact on our nation in a wide range of ways. These individuals are from different fields (arts, sports, activism, media) and represent strength, pride, and impact. They each embody "Standing Firm in Power and Pride" through their contributions, courage and confidence in their identities.

Restrictions to the use of the building mean we will not be able to invite parents and carers to the Collective Worship where we share our work, but please do speak to your children about the key figures they are learning about and as ever, we will share some of our learning in our family update and through our social media.

Harvest Church Service

At this time of year, along with the wider church family, we turn our attention to the festival of Harvest. It is a time of thankfulness, sharing and caring for those around us.

This year, our celebrations will look a little different but the sentiment will be the same. As many of you know, St Mary's Church was also affected by the flooding that took place on September 25th and currently cannot be used. Reverend Kirstine and the team have kindly agreed to lead our church service at St Mary Magdalene Church, Munster Square, NW1 3PH as a joint service with our partner school, Christ Church NW1.

Children and families from Years 1-6, are warmly invited to join us for this service. More information about this will be sent home in a separate letter.

Mrs Stepinska, will lead a separate Harvest service for Nursery and Reception children.

The service will be held at **St Mary Magdalene Church, Munster Square, NW1 3PH** on **Wednesday 22nd October** at **10am**. This is a special time for us to give thanks for the food we eat and celebrate the gifts of the harvest.

As part of our tradition of sharing and caring, we will be collecting donations for **The Social Supermarket**, which is run by St Mary's Church. This gives families who need it, the opportunity to purchase food and household essentials for £3 (or a donation).

Please consider bringing one or more items from the list below, **to school** on Monday 20th of October or Tuesday 21st of October. We look forward to celebrating with you!

- *Canned vegetables (beans, carrots, peas, sweetcorn and potatoes etc)*
- *Canned meats (tuna, corned beef, chicken etc)*
- *Canned fruit (peaches, pears, pineapple, prunes etc)*

- *Canned soups (chicken, tomato, vegetable etc)*
- *Drinks (any teas, coffee, squash, etc)*
- *Cereals (weetabix, corn flakes, rice krispies etc)*
- *Sauces (tomato, mayonnaise, brown, pasta, curry)*
- *Rice*
- *Lentils*
- *Biscuits*
- *Chocolate*
- *Cooking Oil*
- *Jams and marmalades*
- *Chocolate spread and peanut butter*
- *Honey*
- *Cleaning products (washing powder, washing up liquid, cleaning sprays, bleach etc)*
- *Personal hygiene (toothbrushes, toothpaste, body wash, soap, shampoo and conditioner)*
- *Feminine hygiene products*
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A Change to the Front of School



At the end of next week, new hoardings will be erected at the front of school, to show that we are still very much open for 'business' and directing visitors and contractors to different entrances.

A photographer is coming to school at the start of next week, to take photos that will go up on the signage. If you do not want your child to be photographed, please send an email to office@stmbs.org.uk **by 4pm on Monday 13th October**. We will use a selection of the photos taken, but not every child will appear on the hoarding.

Attendance

Well done to Year 3 and Year 5/6 our joint attendance winners this Week. Both classes achieved 100% attendance.

Congratulations to both classes!

Class	Attendance figures
Nursery	92.2%
Reception	97.5%
Year 1	94.6%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	100%
Year 4	98.9%
Year 5 /6	100%

Dates for Diaries

Due to the restrictions to the use of the building, we have had to postpone some events and make alterations to others.

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
Wed 22 nd Oct	10am	Harvest Church Service at St Mary Magdalene Church, Munster Square, NW1	Years 1-6
Fri 31 st Oct		Secondary Application Deadline	Year 6
Mon 27 th Oct – Fri 31 st Oct		Half Term	
10 th -14 th Nov		Anti-Bullying Week	
17 th -21 st Nov		Maths Week This will include a business fair on Friday 21 st November where children can come dressed in business attire.	Business Fair 21 st November 2.15pm -3.15pm. Parents can purchase items from 3.30pm -3.45pm.
Monday 24 th Nov	2.30pm - 6pm	Parent Teacher Meetings	Nursery to Year 2
Tues 25 th Nov	2.30pm - 6pm	Parent Teacher Meetings	Years 3-6
Mon 8 th Dec	3.30pm	FOSMA Christmas Fair	Whole School
Mon 15 th Dec	9.30am	Early Years Christmas Show	Nursery and Reception parents
Tues 16 th Dec	9.30am	Year 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Show	Year 1, 2 and 3 parents

Dear God,

We give thanks that through all that has happened over the last two weeks, that you have been with us. We are thankful that we are all reunited with our friends and teachers.

We pray for our community and those who live in the homes and businesses around our school, that they will know your comfort and your wisdom.



We pray for us, that you will help us to have a spirit of hopefulness as we move forward, and that our value of Love will keep us working together and caring for one another.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

TOUCAN ROAR



HALF TERM PERFORMING ARTS CAMP

CIRCUS - A COMEDY MUSICAL

When the vibrant "Colourful Circus" is suddenly shut down, its performers, from sword swallows to magicians, ventriloquists to cannonball acts, must find a new place to belong... They join Dave's Circus, but not everything is as it seems, and the troupe must work together to bring back the joy, magic, and colour of performance.

When: Monday 27th to Wednesday 29th October 2025

Where: St Johns Wood Primary School, Upper School Site, Bridgeman Street
St John's Wood, London, NW8 7AL

Times: 10am - 4pm

Ages: 5-13

Cost: £120 per child

£10 sibling discount applies

Payment plans available



We will be running a half term performing arts camp where the children will be rehearsing and working alongside professional singers, dancers and actors to put on an original, show stopping musical for you to see!

It will be performed on stage with costume and lights on Wednesday 29th October.

Email to book your place, please state **HALFTERM** in the subject line and provide your child's name within the email to clubs@toucanroar.com. Payment can then be made online at www.toucanroar.com or we can confirm payment details for a BACS transfer if you would prefer.

Toucan Roar is a creative company providing performing arts to schools across the UK. We equip young people with life skills through acting, singing and dancing. We believe in fun, laughter and above all a child's self-worth, confidence and well-being.

We hope to see your child ROAR with us this October!

I CAN
YOU CAN
TOUCAN ROAR

clubs@toucanroar.com

www.toucanroar.com

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

