



St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School

SCHOOL (Woolwich)

AUTUMN TERM 2023-24 -Newsletter 1



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope that you have all enjoyed a relaxing summer break. We are delighted that our pupils have returned to school with a positive mind-set and have been ready to learn and have a successful year. They have all settled back into class routines very well, enjoying their new classrooms, teachers, and support staff as well as reuniting with their friends. Learning is very much buzzing in every space of our school. Thank you to everyone for supporting us over our first week.

We would like to give a warm welcome to all our new families and are excited to have them and new members of staff joining us this year. We are looking forward to working closely over the coming terms. Please do say hello when you see them on the playground and around school.

Our first collective worship of the year got us thinking about worship and what worship means to us. The children had some thoughtful ideas, one of my favourites was, "We praise Jesus and God in worship." Our mission is to take this important message home and share why worship is important to us. The children also thought about what they want to do differently this year and what they want to achieve. Needless to say, our children have very high expectations of themselves which is wonderful to hear. Our dedicated staff will work tirelessly to support the children in becoming the best they can be.

I wish you all a blessed term.
Mrs Savva-Brown



Meet the Parents evening

- Weeks beginning 11th September and 18th September more information will be shared shortly.

Parent Consultation Meetings

- Weeks beginning 9th October more information will be shared shortly.

Celebration Collective Worship

Fridays 9:05am – different year group families will be invited each week:

Year 6 – Friday 22nd September

Year 5 – Friday 29nd September

Year 4 – Friday 6th October

Year 3 – Friday 13th October

Year 2 – Friday 20th October

Year 1 – Friday 10th November

Reception – Friday 17th November

It Takes a Village to Raise a Child Coffee Morning

- Every Thursday morning at 9.00am starting on 28th September. All parents and carers are welcome.

Internet Safety Week

- Week beginning 11th September

Black History Month

- The month of October – Monday 2nd October to Friday 20th October

International Evening

- Wednesday 18th October

After School Clubs

- Look out for information on clubs in your emails.

This term we will be thinking about **love of learning** and **responsibility**, and how we can be responsible in our lives.

Please talk to your child/ren about them being responsible at home.

Our value this term is:

Love of Learning

I will guide you
and teach you
says the Lord.
I will watch
over you.



Psalm 32:8



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Useful Information

The start and end of the school Day

Gates open for drop off between **8.40 am and 8.55 am** for all pupils. Please try not to arrive too early as we cannot open the gate until 8.40am. Pupils should be collected promptly at the end of the day at **3.10 pm**. Please ensure your child's pick-up arrangements are communicated with the school. Reception pupils are dismissed from the classroom and Year 1 - 4 pupils line up and are dismissed from the MUGA pitch. Year 5 and 6 are dismissed from the amphitheatre.

Attendance and Punctuality

We would like to encourage 100% attendance and welcome your support with this. Children who are not in school by **8.55 am**, miss out on the essential information that class teachers give their children, as well as the settling down time each morning, in preparation for a day of fun, interesting learning.

SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners are FREE to all children in school. Please take up this opportunity. Dinners are prepared and cooked fresh each day in our own kitchen.

PACKED LUNCH

If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please ensure it is healthy and does not include nuts, sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks. All packed lunch bags should be well labelled. Your child will keep their lunch box with them in the classroom rather than using the school fridges. **If your child wishes to change from packed lunch to school dinners, please ensure you let the school office know. This is to ensure all children receive a meal.**

SNACKS

Children in year groups Reception, 1 and 2 are provided with a piece of fruit each day. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are permitted to bring in fruit for a snack at break time – no other food is allowed, especially nuts, we are a **NO NUT school**.

UNIFORM

PLEASE ENSURE ALL CLOTHES ARE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME. Lost property will be given to charity at the end of each term!

Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform. Shoes and trainers should be black.

BREAKFAST CLUB

If your child requires a place at our breakfast club. Please telephone the office/Miss Thomas and speak to them about reserving a place.

WATER BOTTLES

Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school each day. It needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name.

ONLINE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

There are online learning opportunities for your child to engage with that the school subscribe to:

Education City (Reception to Year 6) -<https://www.educationcity.com/parents/>

Purple Mash (Reception to Year 6) -<https://2simple.com/purple-mash/purple-mash-parents/>

Times Tables Rock Stars (Year 2 to Year 6) -<https://ttrockstars.com/page/parentguide>

If your child is unsure of their login details, they can get these from their class teacher.



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A message from the School Chaplain, Rev Dom

This week I have been talking to staff and students about stepladders. I even dragged around some ladders for staff to look at and reflect upon.

I encouraged them to think about us all being on a stepladder in life. Some are starting on the bottom step, whilst others have got to the top and are changing the ladders that they are on.

Our Nursery and Reception children will be taking their early steps on their Primary Ladder. Our Year 7s will be stepping onto their Secondary Ladder. Our older students will be stepping into GCSEs or stepping onto Post 16 and Post 18 courses and apprenticeship ladders.

Even us as adults are on career ladders, life ladders, health ladders or property ladders.

As we reflect on this, maybe consider where you are at the moment and if you are able to offer others a hand up or encouragement to keep climbing. Maybe you could be supporting and praying for your family members who are starting new things, ending certain stages or finding the climb tough.

Our God reaches out to us. Whenever God sent messages they were reassuring messages of 'Do not be afraid'. God strengthens us and guides us when we have faith.

My prayer for you is that wherever you are on Life's ladders, you understand that there is a great cloud of witnesses, in heaven and on Earth, cheering you on and willing you to succeed and find joy in all that you do.

Remember too that if you or your child or young people, are having a hard time – there are people around you (me included) that can support you and pray with you if you would like that. Seek them out or contact me in school and I will be happy to help where I can.

Take it one step at a time. We can do this.

Rev. Dominic Hubbuck

School Chaplain

Koinonia Federation Schools

Assistant Priest with East Greenwich Team





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Safeguarding

Safeguarding and keeping our children safe are very important to us. If you have any suggestion on how we can improve on our safety measures, please do speak with Mrs Savva-Brown.

If you have any concerns about any child's safety or child protection, please see **the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads** – Mrs Amao or Mrs Badesha **ASAP**. If they are not available, please see Miss Thomas, Miss Hoon or Mrs Savva Brown.

There are photographs of the Safeguarding team placed in each classroom, please talk to your children and encourage them to talk to the adults in school if ever they need to.

For information on Safeguarding, please see the Greenwich's Safeguarding Children Partnership website <https://greenwichsafeguardingchildren.org.uk/>



ST. MARY MAGDALENE
C OF E SCHOOL

SAFEGUARDING



Mrs Amao
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Badesha
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Thomas
Designated Deputy
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Savva-Brown
Safeguarding team



Miss Hoon
Inclusion and
Safeguarding team

Keeping Children Safe