

# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



A hidden gem in the heart of Brook Green



## Parent Welcome Pack

St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Masbro Rd  
W14 0LT  
Phone: 020 7603 7717  
Email: [admin@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk)



# Welcome

Allow me to extend a warm welcome from all governors, staff and children of St Mary's Catholic Primary School. With around 180 pupils on our roll, we are a small primary school based near Brook Green in West Kensington. Over many years, through the dedication of teachers and staff, we have developed an ethos where every single one of our children matters and is inspired to fulfil their potential.

It is our belief that children from St Mary's Catholic Primary School should be able to grow up and be successful within their own city. We want our children to aspire to be the lawyers, doctors and professionals that work in our city every day and to give them experiences to inspire their self-belief. The key to ensuring our children succeed both while pupils at the school and in the future is having a caring, stimulating and stable environment in which to enjoy their early years. We work hard to ensure the school allows our pupils to grow into happy, caring members of the community.

Our most recent Ofsted Inspection captured where we are as a school, highlighted how we live out our school mission every day and in everything we do. The behaviour of the students is exemplary and our results show our pupils achieve above the national average by the end of key stage 2.

Everybody associated with St Mary's Catholic Primary School is extremely proud of what we achieve everyday together with our children and I hope that you will take the time to come and see our school and experience for yourself the warm and welcoming atmosphere that we have developed.

Yours Sincerely,  
Miss Black

[CLICK HERE](#)   
**OFSTED REPORT**



# The school Curriculum

## Early Years

At St Mary's, we believe that the early years are the foundation of lifelong learning and development. Our dedicated staff, nurturing environment, and engaging curriculum create the perfect setting for your little ones to blossom! 🌸 ✨

From exciting play-based learning activities to fostering creativity through art and music, we ensure every child feels valued and supported. Together, we spark curiosity and inspire a love for learning that lasts a lifetime. 📚❤️

Join us in making magical memories as we watch our children grow, explore, and develop essential skills in a fun and safe environment.



## Reading

We believe that every child deserves to experience the joy of reading, and that's why we're passionate about the teaching of reading! ✨ As a school, we follow the Read Write Inc. programme. We kick off the day with a lively phonics session that helps children decode words with confidence. This foundation sets them up for success as they explore a variety of texts! From Y3-Y6, Students engage in Shared Reading lessons, reading high quality novels, enhancing their comprehension skills while collaborating with their peers.

Our curriculum is designed to expose children to a wide range of genres and themes, fostering a love for reading that extends far beyond the classroom! 📚 ✨ We're proud to nurture a generation of enthusiastic readers who are well-equipped for a lifelong journey in literacy. 💙📖



## Writing

✍️ ✨ At St Mary's, we believe that great writing begins with the fundamentals. That's why we've adopted a sentence stacking approach, focusing on quality over quantity. Our dedicated teachers guide our pupils through crafting sentences that are rich and meaningful, rather than just lengthy.

But that's not all! We place a big emphasis on letter formation and developing beautiful handwriting. We understand that clear, elegant writing not only showcases our students' hard work but also boosts their confidence as they express their thoughts and ideas.



## Maths

🇬🇧🌟 Every child has the potential to master mathematics! Our mastery approach ensures that each student not only learns arithmetic but also develops essential problem-solving skills. We focus on building a deep understanding rather than rote memorisation. Students explore concepts thoroughly and develop a strong numerical foundation, paving the way for confident mathematical thinking. We break down complex calculations into manageable parts, allowing students to grasp fundamental number operations. Children engage with real-world problems, encouraging critical thinking and resilience. Our lessons feature engaging challenges that make maths relatable and fun! 🌟



## Religious Education

Religious Education is central to the curriculum at St Mary's and is at the heart of the philosophy of Catholic education. It teaches about our faith in the context of a school which proclaims the Gospel, and invites the individual to respond to the message of Christ. As the individual responds to this invitation, growth in faith and knowledge helps the pupil to respond to the call to holiness and understand the fullness of what it is to be human.

### School Mission Statement:

The Family of St Mary's School strives to grow in God's love and care by learning together and valuing the uniqueness of each person.



## Music

At St Mary's, we believe that music is not just an art form – it's a language that unites us all! 🌍🌟 Our comprehensive music curriculum nurtures creativity, fosters collaboration, and ignites a passion for performance.

From learning to play instruments to exploring various music genres, our students have the opportunity to express themselves and develop their talents in a supportive environment. 🎻🎹 We are very fortunate to have a music teacher named Miss Howard who teaches each class every Thursday as well as drumming teacher.



## Science

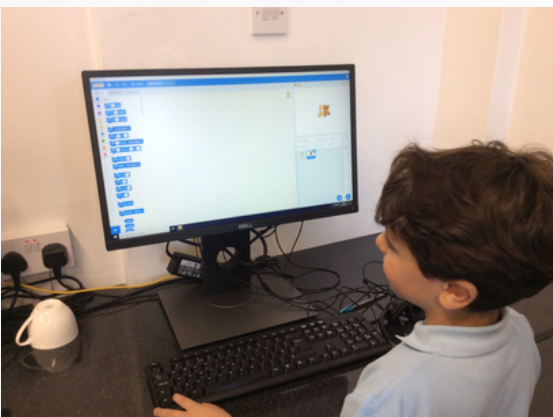
Science education is more than just textbooks and theory; it's an exhilarating journey of discovery! 🌍🔬

From hands-on experiments that spark curiosity to engaging lessons that ignite a passion for the natural world, we ensure our students are equipped with the critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for their future. Our dedicated teachers create an inspiring environment where pupils are encouraged to ask questions, explore new ideas, and foster a lifelong love for learning. 💡🔍



## Computing

🌟💻 We teach the national curriculum through a high-quality computing program that provides pupils with the skills needed to adapt to an ever-changing technological world. We teach our pupils how to use the Internet and email safely and responsibly, both in school and outside the school environment. Computing at St Mary's guides pupils to being confident creative and independent learners who can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation.



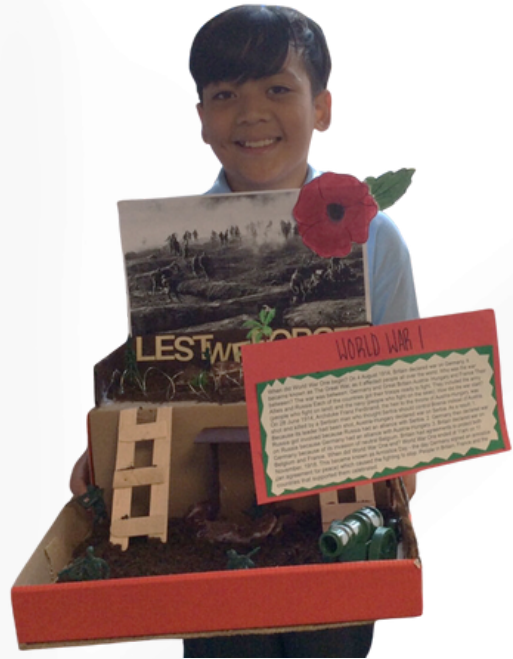
## Design and Technology

It is our aim for the D&T curriculum in our school to inspire the pupils to be creative, logical, problem solvers with the confidence to learn and explore through the use of a variety of materials, textiles and ingredients, equipping them with lifelong skills which will enable them to know that they can make a difference to the wider world.



## History

🎓📖 We want our children to be confident and knowledgeable historians, who develop their knowledge, skills and understanding in History through the engaging and high-quality curriculum that we offer. We strive to ignite pupil's inquisitiveness about the history of Britain and the wider world through our history curriculum where pupils will explore and discover: developing an understanding of how the past has impacted our future. By learning about people's lives, the process of change, the diversity of societies, and relationships between different groups, as well as their own identities and the problems of their era; our history lessons help children develop a sense of identity and an understanding of differences, uniqueness, and values.



## Geography

Our Geography curriculum is not just about maps and capitals; it's a thrilling journey through the diverse landscapes of our planet! 🌿🏔️ From learning about climate change to exploring cultural diversity, our students develop a profound understanding of the world around them.

Each lesson is filled with engaging activities, interactive projects, and field trips that inspire curiosity and critical thinking. 🚀🔍



## Art

We believe that every child deserves the opportunity to express themselves through art!



🖼️ From painting and sculpture to digital media, our students explore diverse artistic techniques and learn to communicate their ideas visually.

This fosters not just creativity, but critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are vital in today's world.

🧠 Art education also promotes emotional wellbeing, providing a safe space for self-expression and reflection.



## Physical Education



Physical education is not just about staying active; it's about discovering passions, building teamwork, and developing lifelong skills. Our students can take part in an exciting range of sports, from the finesse of Tennis 🎾, the rhythm of Dance, to the energy of Football ⚽ and the grace of Gymnastics 🤸.



## Modern Foreign Language



🌍 We aim to provide a Spanish curriculum which fosters pupil's curiosity, deepens their understanding of the world whilst opening them to other cultures and teaches them that they are a necessary part of a multi-cultural society. Our Spanish teacher is named Mrs Saraci and she is passionate about the teaching of languages. 📖

## SEND Provision

We believe that every child deserves the opportunity to thrive! Our commitment to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) inclusion ensures that each student feels valued, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. 🌟

From personalised learning plans to specialised resources, our dedicated team works tirelessly to create an inclusive environment where all students can shine. We celebrate the unique strengths and abilities of every child, fostering a culture of acceptance and understanding within our vibrant school community. 💛

Contact our SENCO Mrs Emanuel at [kemanuel@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk](mailto:kemanuel@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk) if you would like to talk through your child's needs.

## Bereavement Programme

We understand how challenging it can be for our youngest learners to cope with loss. That's why we are proud to offer a dedicated bereavement programme designed specifically for primary school-aged children experiencing grief. 🌈

Our supportive programme provides a safe space for children to express their feelings and share their experiences. With guidance from our trained staff, participants will engage in age-appropriate activities fostering healing and connection. ❤️



## ELSA Programme



Tailored specifically for our primary school children, this initiative is designed to provide essential support for those facing emotional and social challenges. Through bespoke, caring sessions, our trained ELSA will help children develop vital skills such as self-awareness, empathy, and emotional regulation.



## Sensory room

Step into a world of relaxation and exploration as our students engage their senses in this space. From calming lights to interactive tactile experiences, our new Sensory Room is designed to provide a therapeutic environment that promotes well-being and learning. 🌈🧩

Whether it's a quiet escape or a group activity, our students will benefit from a range of sensory stimuli that cater to their individual needs and preferences.



## Lego Therapy

Lego Therapy combines the creativity of building with essential social skills development. Through collaborative play, children will learn to communicate, share, and work together, all while having a fantastic time! 🎉

Our staff are here to guide your little builders, helping them to express their emotions and build confidence. Every session promises not only smiles but also personal growth and enhanced friendships.

# Wider Curriculum Offer

All Saints Food Tech visit



Artist in Residence



Specialist Drama Teacher



Y6 Residential Trip



Visits from Fr Richard



Drumming lessons



Trip to Nazareth House



Trip to Kew Gardens



Trip to Wagamamas



BBC Earth



Into University workshops



All Saints Science Week

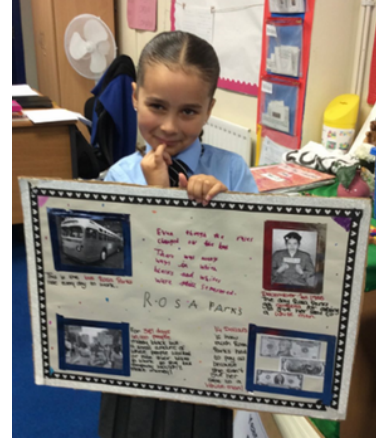


# Autumn Events

**International Evening**  
Autumn term



**Black History Month**  
Autumn term



**Lower Phase Nativity**  
Autumn term



**Upper Phase Carol concert**  
Autumn term



**Christmas Fair**  
Autumn term



# Spring Events



**Mothers Day Breakfast**  
Spring term



**Mary's Procession**  
Spring term



**Y3 Easter Production**  
Spring term



**Pancake morning**  
Spring term



**Character book parade**  
Spring term



# Summer Events

## Reception Graduation

Summer term



## Y6 Prom

Summer term



## Concert for Selected Musicians

Summer term



## Y6 Mass

Summer term



## Summer Fair

Summer term



## Sports Day

Summer term



## Lower Phase Music concert

Summer term



## Upper Phase Production

Summer term



## Parent information

### The School Gateway

Schoolgateway

CLICK HERE



Your one-stop digital portal to stay connected with all things school-related! 🙌 The school gateway is parents way of interacting with the school. Its is a app designed to allow parents to give permission for trips and make important payments as well as receive messages from the school. When joining the school, you must give your email address and phone number to the front office (these must be written clearly). You can only sign up to the app the day your child starts school and their details are on our system. Once the app is downloaded, you need to register as a new user. Fill in your email and mobile and agree to terms and conditions. You will then get a text with a pin which you enter and this will take you to the homepage.

### Pantry

🍽️ Pantry School Catering Service, dedicated to providing nutritious and delicious meals for our lovely students! ❤️ The day your child joins St Mary's, We will send Pantry their details with parents name, email and phone number. Pantry will contact you via email to set up an account. Once this account is set up, you can sit with your child of an evening and choose what lunch they would like to have. This can be done weekly or termly but it must be done before 9.00am of the morning you need lunch. If you have not heard from Pantry before your child starts school please email [office@thepantrycatering.co.uk](mailto:office@thepantrycatering.co.uk) and give your child name, the year your child is in and the school name: St Mary's Catholic School Masbro Road W14 OLT.



### Class pages

📖 See the class pages on our school website for updates and curriculum information for your child.

CLICK HERE



### Clubs

Clubs are for Y1-Y6 and each term there is a letter sent out about the clubs on offer. We have a variety of clubs, such as: Art, cooking, football, homework, computing which run from 3:15 to 4:15. You can book these through the school gateway and then pay online after. Book first, pay second.

### After School Care - Bluebird

We also have an afterschool club for Nursery to Y6 which is open until 6:15pm for working parents. This is run by Miss Lipinski and it is a very popular service, so book quickly to secure your place and avoid disappointment. Collection is at the Reception gate on Masbro Road.

There is a form you must complete before starting the after school club, please collect this from the school office or on our website. Contact details:  
Phone number 07387 974377  
Email: [afterschool@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk](mailto:afterschool@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk)


### Class WhatsApp Group



Each class has a parent WhatsApp group which is designed to give parents an opportunity to communicate better with one another. There is a barcode on each of the classroom doors as well as the school notice board, by scanning these you can join the group.

# Uniform






It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending St Mary's Catholic Primary School and when participating in school-organised events outside of normal school hours. The school governors and leadership team consider personal appearance of the greatest importance and all pupils are expected to be in full school uniform at all times. It is the responsibility of all parents to ensure that their child arrives at school in accordance with the School Uniform Policy. All items of uniform must be labelled with your child's name.

Boys Winter Uniform		Girls Winter Uniform	
Light blue long sleeve shirt		Light blue long sleeve shirt	
Grey trousers		Grey pinafore(Y1&2 only) / Grey skirt (Y3,4,5,6)	
School tie*		School tie *	
Grey jumper with school crest*		Grey cardigan with school crest *	
Grey socks		Black/grey tights/socks	
Black school shoes			

Ask the front office for a copy of the full uniform policy or visit our school website

## Children in the Early Years wear the PE kit only

Summer PE Kit/Early Years Uniform		Winter PE Kit/Early Years Uniform	
White T-shirt		White T-shirt	
Black shorts		Grey tracksuit	
White socks		White socks	
Trainers	White or black	Trainers	White or black
Blue PE kit bag with/without school crest		Blue PE kit bag with/without = school crest	

Boys Summer Uniform		Girls Summer Uniform	
Light blue Polo		Blue/white gingham checked dress	
Grey plain shorts			
Grey jumper with school crest*		Grey cardigan with school crest *	
		White socks – ankle or knee length	
Black school shoes			

## Second-Hand Uniform

You can buy second-hand uniform from the school office, depending on if we have your child's size in stock.



For prices, see the bottom of our Uniform page.

**Buy brand new uniform from Sogans**



# The School Day

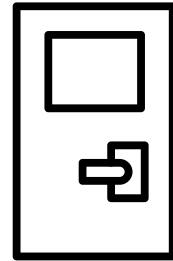
Breakfast club is a free service open from 7:45 onwards in the school hall. We serve bagels, beans, a selection of cereals, crumpets or toast. Entrance for this is through the carpark on Masbro road. Please ring the door bell to be let in.



**The bell rings at 8:45 am**



Y3 to Y6 line up on the big playground and the class teacher will bring them up



Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 - parents drop to the classroom door at 8:45.



The children have a morning break for 15 minutes and an hour lunch from 11-12pm. We encourage parents to send in a healthy snack for their children to have at morning break. No nuts please.



If you would like a trusted adult to collect your child - you must inform the school office first

If you want to speak to the class teacher in the morning, please keep it brief. For a longer conversations, contact the school office to arrange a meeting/phone call with the teacher



**The school day finishes at 3:15pm**

# Newsletters and Notices

## NEWSLETTER



St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Masbro Rd  
W14 0LT  
Phone: 020 7603 7717  
Email: admin@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk

September and October 2024

### Welcome!

Welcome back to a brand new school year!

We hope you all had a wonderful, restful summer filled with fun, laughter, and cherished memories. As the new academic year begins, we are excited to see familiar faces and meet new ones as we embark on this exciting journey of learning and growth together.



### New teachers

We would like to welcome our new teachers who are:

Year 4 - Miss Sheehan



Year 3 - Miss Whaley



Year 6 - Mrs Gleason



Year 2 - Miss Hankins



Year 1 - Miss Joseph



Reception - Mrs Bensoussan



A newsletter is sent out every Friday - please ensure you read for the latest notices and important dates

Star of the week assemblies are held on Fridays

If your child has been nominated by their class teacher, a text will go home on Thursday. You are then invited to come the assembly to see your child be awarded their certificate



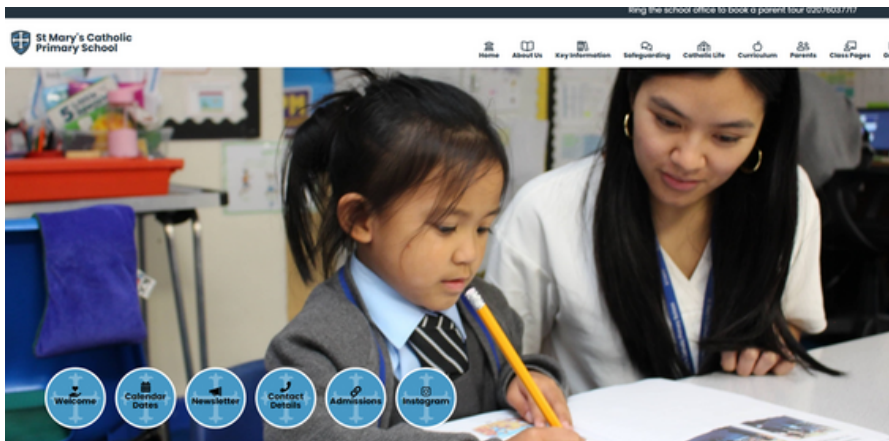
stmarysw14

St Mary's Brook Green ★



STMARYSW14

CLICK HERE!



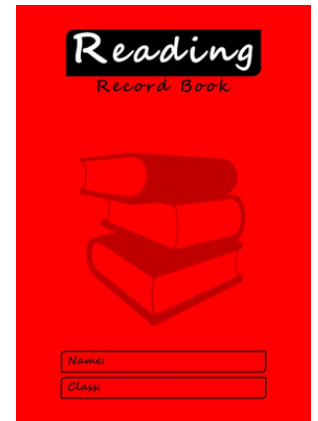
Please also visit our school website for more information at:

<https://www.stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk/>

# Reading

## Reading Record

Children across Year 3 to Year 6 are sent home with a reading record on a weekly basis. This is updated weekly with the name of the book being sent home and the date. Children need to return both their reading book and reading record signed by an adult at home in order for their book to be changed.



## Phonics Pack

Children across Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are sent home a Phonics pack every Friday. This Phonics pack includes the following: a copy of the Phonics book your child has read that week, a Read Write Inc book bag book and a book from their classroom library.



## PM benchmarking

The PM Benchmark Kit is a comprehensive reading assessment resource. At the beginning of the academic year, teachers from Year 3 to Year 6 use the PM Benchmark Kit to assess students' reading abilities. It's an essential resource to accurately track and assess pupils' reading progress, ensuring consistent and accurate levelling in reading. The PM Benchmark Kit includes 30 accurately levelled texts ranging progressively from emergent level to Reading Age 12. Children's reading book levels are based on data from this assessment.



## Phonics assessment

At the beginning of the academic year, children's phonetical knowledge from Reception to Year 2 is assessed by the reading lead. The data from these assessments are used to stream children in up to eight Phonics groups. The groups are in relation to the sounds that they can recognise alone and read within words. Children are assessed at the end of each half term and regrouped according to the data from these assessments.

Read Write inc.		Assessment	
Phonics			
Purple Group			
	kiss	quick	habit splash
	crell	penk	chash strack
Pink Group			
	tray	creep	sight throw
	zoom	brook	
	skay	spoom	dight fleep
Orange Group			
	spark	porch	pair house
	joy	dirt	
	norg	ouf	firb stoy

# Tests

## Reception Baseline Age 4-5

The reception baseline assessment was introduced in England in September 2021 and is designed to give an overview of your child's early mathematics, language, communication and literacy skills when they first start school. It's an informal, activity based assessment and is carried out by your child's teacher within the first 6 weeks of them starting Reception.

Phonics is a method used in all English schools to help children learn how to read and spell. In this test, which is usually done 1-to-1 with a teacher in June, your child will be asked to read out 40 words (some real and some made-up) to see if they have a good grasp of phonics or if they need more assistance.

Do parents see the results? Yes, teachers will share your child's score with you in the last half term of Year 1.

## Y1 Phonics Screening Age 5-6

## KS1 - End of Y2 Age 6-7

At the end of Year 2, if your child is in an English primary school, they may be tested in reading and maths and assessed by their teacher in writing, speaking and listening and science. These assessments are now non-statutory, meaning schools can decide for themselves whether to do the tests or not. The reception baseline assessment has replaced the KS1 SATs as a measure for judging progress throughout primary school.

An online test of 25 questions that will check your child's understanding and recall of times tables, up to  $12 \times 12$ . Your child will have 6 seconds to answer each question and the whole test should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. It will take place in the first couple of weeks of June.

## Multiplication Y4 Age 8-9

## KS2 SATS Y6 Age 10-11

In Y6, students across the country will sit a series of paper-based tests in spelling, punctuation and grammar (Spag), reading and maths that are marked externally. The results are primarily used to measure how your child has progressed throughout primary education and to make sure that your child has mastered the basics expected at this level. The results can be used to signal to teachers which children may need extra support as they move into Year 7.

**Each class from Y1 to Y6 will sit an arithmetic and problem solving test every term. These will be sent home for parents to see scores.**

# How you can help your child?



## Daily Reading



Read for a minimum of 20 minutes a day with your child. This is crucial for your child's reading development. Did you know 1 in 4 children in the UK do not reach the expected national reading age by the time they are 11 years olds?

Reading with your children isn't just a bedtime routine; it's a journey that strengthens bonds and promotes learning!

- 🌈 Builds Vocabulary: The more you read, the bigger their word bank! Engaging with diverse texts introduces new words in a fun way.
- 👨👧 Quality Time: It's not just about the stories; it's about connection! Snuggling up with a book creates cherished memories.
- 🌟 Encourages Imagination: Reading sparks creativity. Let their minds roam free as they explore different worlds and ideas!
- 📖 Boosts Academic Performance: Children who read regularly tend to perform better in school. It's never too early (or too late) to start!
- 💬 Fosters Discussion: Reading opens up conversations about feelings, morals, and experiences. It's a wonderful way to learn together!

## Weekly spellings practice

Spellingframe

CLICK HERE 

Set aside time each week to log on to spelling frame and go test your child on their weekly spellings. The log in details will be stuck in to your child's reading record book from Y1-Y6

This has many benefits:

Improving Literacy Skills: Regular spelling practice enhances your child's reading and writing abilities, ensuring they're well-prepared for school assessments. 📖



Building Confidence: Mastering spellings can help your child feel more confident when communicating, both in class and with friends! 🗣️💪

## Times tables Every day for 10 minutes

1	$2 \times 3 = 6$
2	$5 \times 1 = 5$
3	$7 \times 3 = 21$

Confidence Boost 💪: Mastering your times tables makes maths much easier, leading to more confidence in tackling challenging problems!

Real-Life Applications 🌍: From shopping to cooking, knowing your times tables helps in everyday situations. Think of all those times you'll need to double a recipe or calculate discounts!

Foundation for Future Learning 📚: A strong grasp of multiplication sets the stage for learning more complex math concepts—higher maths will thank you later!

Speed & Agility ⚡: Practising regularly helps you respond faster during class, making you a maths whizz in no time!

# Want to support the PTA?

PTA stands for Parent Teacher Association. Our PTA is named 'Friends of St Mary's' - it is a registered charity.

## Note from the Friends of St Marys:

We are a group of St Mary's parents, carers and staff of children attending the school and now welcome friends (over the age of 18 years) who would like to support by joining our committee group. As parents or carers of a child/ren in St Mary's you do not need to join you are automatically a 'Friend of St Mary's' and you are always welcome to attend our meetings and support our events. We encourage all parents/carers to take part in which ever ways suit them best, support can come in many different ways, from donations, fundraising, attend meetings, helping out on a stall for an event, becoming a class rep and many more.

As 'Friends of St Mary's' we have two main aims:

Firstly, to raise money for equipment, resources and activities to help enrich the education for children of St Mary's. This is achieved by organising and fundraising events throughout the year such as our Christmas Fair, Valentines Disco, Parents events, cake sales and many more.

Secondly, we aim to bring a sense of community to the school giving people the opportunity to get together, meet new people and make new friends. If you are a parent/carer and would like to help out on any of our future events, please contact your class rep or the school office.

If you are part of our wonderful community outside of the school and would like to become a 'Friend of St Mary's' committee member please email [admin@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysrc.lbhf.sch.uk)



**Join the PTA WhatsApp**

Scan below to join to be part of the Friends of St Mary's WhatsApp group. Here you can support on the planning and organisation of upcoming events

Friends of St Mary's PTA WhatsApp group

The graphic features a blue background with the PTA logo in the top left. It includes a QR code for joining the WhatsApp group, flanked by two stylized yellow and green flowers. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a hand holding a smartphone.

