

Newsletter No. 18
29th April 2022



St Mary's
Church of England
Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you all safe and well and that you had a restful Easter break. The beginning of the summer term at St Mary's marks the start of our traditional May Day season and the children have already begun rehearsing, starting with Y6 who unplaited the ribbons of the May pole last Wednesday.

May Day 2022: Friday 27th May

You will have received a text asking you to fill in a short form to let us know about lunch arrangements on the day. The majority of children go home and return at school at 1.15 for a 1.30 start to the event. If you haven't already done so, please respond to the message as soon as possible.

What to wear:

- Traditionally, girls have worn white dresses. This year we would like to offer girls the option of wearing something colourful and as this year is the Queen's Jubilee, they might like to wear a red/white/blue dress. Please note that the children need to be able to skip and kneel in their dresses, **so they should not be too long or too short**. If you would like to borrow a dress for the day, please give us a ring. We have a small stock of white dresses that have been donated to the school.
- Boys will need to wear a white shirt or polo shirt and dark grey school trousers or shorts. They can also wear a school tie which is £3.50 and can be purchased via School Money.
- All children will need to wear suitable footwear for skipping; no sandals please. Plimsolls or canvas shoes are most ideal.

We will share more details about the event nearer the time. We are so excited about having a full May Day celebration with a live audience!

Renovations, Restorations... and Visualisations!

- Over the Easter holiday, the roof over the infant side of the school was successfully resurfaced, thanks to a grant from St Albans Diocese.
- The wooden boat in the Jubilee Garden has been completed rebuilt, in keeping with its original design and structure. It's a work of art! All of the children have already enjoyed playing in it. A big thank you to the Friends of St. Mary's for funding this.
- Another thank you to the Friends, but this time for a learning resource that is now in every classroom... the Friends have purchased equipment called visualisers that enable staff to demonstrate and share learning using the interactive whiteboards. These are just two examples of how fundraising for the school directly enriches the children's experience at St Mary's.



Summer Fayre:

Another event that we are really looking forward to! **Saturday 25th June** will be our first summer fayre since June 2019. This is one the biggest fundraising events of the school year and we can't wait to fill the playground with colourful stalls and other wonderful sights and smells! Watch this space for more information...

Does your child have a bike that might not be in the best shape?

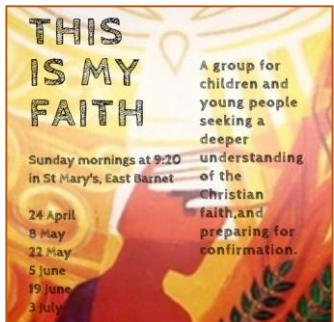
Dr Bikes are back in Barnet thanks to funding from Public Health. At the Dr Bike sessions, experienced mechanics check everything on an individual's bicycle from wheels, brakes, gears and tyre pressure to lights, racks, pedals, saddles and more. Any minor adjustments can be made there and then, **all for free**.



The first 2 Dr bikes are as follows:

- **Tuesday 3 May 2022, 4pm to 7pm in East Finchley**
Opposite East Finchley tube station, High Rd, East Finchley, N2 0NW
- **Saturday 7 May 2022, Midday to 3pm in Burnt Oak**
Outside Burnt Oak library, Watling Ave, Burnt Oak, Edgware HA8 0UB

A full list of the 24 Dr Bikes taking place up to March 2023 at Barnet's tube/train stations and Town Centres can be found at <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/roads-and-pavements/cycling/free-dr-bike-sessions-barnet>



A few notices from St Mary's Church:

There will be a group for children wishing to be confirmed, meeting at St Mary's at 9:20am on every other Sunday from 24 April - 3 July. If you would like to find out more about confirmation groups, please contact the church using this email address administrator@stmaryseastbarnet.org

St Mary's Church are hoping to start a Sunday Club, meeting straight after services on Sunday morning for crafts, stories, snacks and fun. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact administrator@stmaryseastbarnet.org. If we can form a small team to assist Alec to start the Sunday Club, then more details will be shared.

Update on remote learning:

Schools are no longer required to provide remote education for children that are absent from school following a positive Covid test. For that reason, Google Classroom will now primarily be used for home learning rather than being used to set online learning. Here's a reminder of the latest Covid guidance regarding absence:

- *Children who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 3 days. They can go back to school, when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.*

Staff news:

Finally, we wish Miss Antoniou and her husband-to-be Sav, many congratulations ahead of their wedding this weekend! I'm sure you will join us in wishing them all the very best for their future together.



From all of us at St Mary's primary school, stay safe, stay well and our love and prayers are with you as always.

Maria Constantinou
Headteacher

