



St Mary's C of E Primary School
New Road
Northchurch
Berkhamsted
Herts
HP4 3QZ

Tel: 01442 389040 Fax: 01442 390589

Email: HYPERLINK

"mailto:admin@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk"

admin@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Miss Sarah Gray

Date: 8th of September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 6. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break and are ready to begin this final stage of the learning journey at St. Mary's School. This year will be one of hard work, new challenges, exciting opportunities, and memorable experiences. I am very much looking forward to working with the children and supporting them as they prepare for the transition to secondary school.

We are particularly excited about our visit to Wembley Arena in February, where we will take part in the Young Voices concert. This is always a highlight of the year and a truly memorable experience for pupils (don't forget the glow sticks!).

Curriculum

Maths and English will continue to be at the heart of our learning.

In **Maths**, we will focus on times tables, written methods for addition and subtraction, problem-solving, and reasoning. We will also revisit key areas taught in Year 5 to strengthen understanding. To support your child at home, regular practice of times tables is invaluable.





In **English**, we will be inspired by a range of rich and engaging texts. These include *Night of the Gargoyles* by Eve Bunting, *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* by Chris Van Allsburg, *Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror* by Chris Priestley, and *Wisp* by Zana Fraillon, which will stimulate our narrative writing. For non-chronological reports, we will use *Planetarium* by Raman Prinja and *Dr Maggie's Grand Tour of the Solar System* by Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock. Persuasive writing and speeches will be developed through *Talking History* by Dr Joan Lennon and Dr Joan Haig.

In **Science**, we will study living things and their habitats, as well as light. Our **History** topics will be the Mayan civilisation and the Second World War. As part of our Maya topic, we are very happy to be hosting a **chocolate workshop**, which will allow children to learn more about how the Maya first used chocolate and to link this to their wider understanding of history.

In **RE**, we will explore Christianity and Buddhism. **Art** and **DT** will include drawing and cooking, and in **Computing** we will focus on coding and online safety. **PSHE** will cover families, relationships, and health and well-being. In **French**, we will explore *la date* and *ma famille*. In **Music**, we will rehearse for Young Voices.

Supporting Your Child at Home

- **Reading:** Please ensure that your child reads regularly at home. They are expected to keep notes of what they read, collecting effective vocabulary and phrases for their own writing.
- **Spellings:** Accurate spelling is particularly important in Year 6, both for the SATs spelling test and in everyday writing. You will receive the relevant spelling lists early this term. These will be practised in class and set as weekly homework.
- **Homework:** Each week, children will receive one writing, spelling, SPaG, and maths task, along with additional assignments in science, French, or topic work. These will be set on Google Classroom and are designed to support preparation for secondary school.





PE and Art

PE lessons will take place on **Monday and Wednesday**. On these days, children should arrive at school dressed in their PE kit. We will be playing tag rugby and handball this term. Children should also have an art shirt in school at all times—an old, oversized top or shirt works well to protect clothing during practical lessons.

Equipment

Having the correct equipment is very important in Year 6. Children are encouraged to bring a pencil case to help them take responsibility for their belongings. Ideally, this should be a clear plastic case containing:

- Pencils
- A blue handwriting pen (not biros or gel pens, as these do not support correct letter formation)
- A ruler (30cm)
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener
- Colouring pencils
- Whiteboard pens
- Red pen

Each child should have only one pencil case and must also bring a named water bottle every day.

We are all working towards the same goal: to ensure that your child develops educationally, emotionally, and physically in a safe, supportive, and happy environment. If you have any concerns





or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the Year 6 email address to arrange an appointment or share important information, such as changes to pick-up arrangements.

I look forward to working with you and your children this year to make their time in Year 6 as rewarding and successful as possible.

Yours sincerely,
Maria Paros
Year 6 Class Teacher

year6@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

