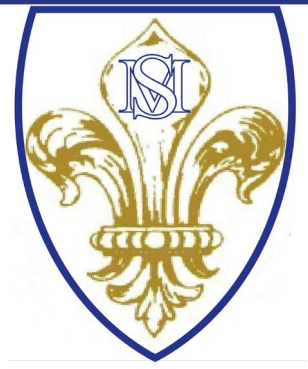


# St Mary's News



20th January 2023

Well the spring term has certainly started with a whoosh! It's been great to see the children looking incredibly smart in their winter uniform and they've been enjoying some fantastic learning. From the five oceans in the nursery to the River Thames in Year 3 and then biomes in Year 6, the children are thoroughly in the throws of the spring term.

## Young Voices

Year 6, once again, took part in Young Voices at the o2 on Monday and they had an amazing experience. Singing and dancing with a huge group of people to an enormous audience is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we're so grateful to the staff who gave up their time to accompany the children.



## Birthdays

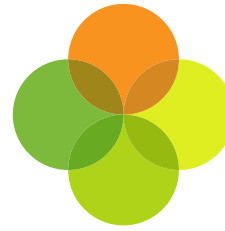
We love birthdays at St Mary's however, we will only distribute a small packet of sweets as a birthday treat per child. We will not give out party bags, accommodate balloons, cakes etc. Thank you for your support in this.

## School Improvement

Andrew Binnell, our school improvement partner, visited us this week to conduct a Deep Dive in Geography. A Deep Dive is an in depth look at the subject – the curriculum content, the teaching of the subject, the resourcing, the children's book, staff and children's views – a real 360 look. The outcomes were excellent – Andrew commented particularly on the high quality of teaching, the articulacy of the children and the confidence of the subject leaders. A very good morning all round!

## Arbor

As you will know we have moved over to Arbor as our system for paying for school meals and other items. Please ensure you've downloaded the app and follow the instructions which can be found on the school website [here](#):



## Industrial Action

Please see the separate letter re the proposed forthcoming Industrial Action by teachers' union National Education Union.

And finally, on behalf of the staff team thank you all for your kind Christmas wishes, gifts and cards.

Have a wonderful weekend – keep warm!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V L McBrown'.

Mrs V L McBrown  
Headteacher



We thank you that we can know you are leading us by your hand.  
Give us your Spirit of understanding so that we may always see  
your mighty and powerful hand guiding us on all our ways.  
Help us where we fall short.  
Help us, for we are weak and are often in situations where we  
cannot help ourselves.  
But you are strong and give light to our hearts.  
Through the Saviour, Jesus Christ, we can direct our lives  
cheerfully, joyfully, and patiently  
Toward the great goal set before us and before the whole world.

Amen.