



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Buckfast

Headteacher – Mrs Sophie Kerswell

Email: [admin@st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk)

Tel: 01364 642389. 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025



## Dates for your diary. 😊

Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June pm to Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July.	Swimming for Burrator & Fernworthy
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 (Y5) Bikeability
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Class Photos – Josh Iskander. School Uniform no PE Kits
<b>THIS Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Sport's Themed Mufti Day- donations please in aid of the Catholic Children's Society and for our tombola.</b>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>St Mary's Bake Off!! Please bake away for our fete.</b>
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	<b>St Mary's Summer Fayre &amp; Fun Day. 1-5pm. All hands-on deck!</b>
<b>Sport's Days:</b>	
Key Stage 2 - Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 9:30-11:30am	
Key Stage 1 - Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 9:30-11:30am	
EYFS -Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 1:30-3pm	
Back up Sport's Day 1: Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July & Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	
Back up Sport's Day 2: Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July & Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Brass Concert 2:45pm performed by our wonderful musicians!
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Leaver's Mass and Assembly. Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Buckfast Abbey. 9:30am. Families of Year 6 invited back for a special tea.
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	First day of the Autumn Term.

## Welcome Back to Our Final Half Term!

Dear Families and Friends,

Welcome back to the final half term of what has been a fantastic school year so far. It's wonderful to see our children return looking so smart and ready to learn. Across the school, there's a real buzz of excitement with lots of lovely learning happening in every classroom.

Please take a moment to ask your child about our school rules: **Ready, Respectful, Safe**. This whole-school approach is rooted in our Gospel Values — treating others as we would like to be treated. We encourage all our children to be *ready* to learn each day, which includes getting a good night's sleep and enjoying a balanced diet to help both body and brain grow and thrive.

At St. Mary's, we celebrate difference and encourage every child to be the very best version of themselves each and every day — always respectful, always safe.

Last Friday, we welcomed our Trust Safeguarding Lead and the Executive Headteacher from Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's for our annual safeguarding audit. They were incredibly impressed — not only with our robust safeguarding systems, but especially with our children: how they behaved in lessons, how they moved calmly and respectfully around the school, and how beautifully they played together on our field.

The most meaningful feedback we received was this: *"There is a strong sense of calm and connection — your school feels like a family."*

And so, to our new families joining us this week — a very warm welcome. We're delighted to have you with us and look forward to sharing this journey together.

**Mrs Sophie Kerswell - Headteacher**

## CHILDREN'S VOICE

*"We do phonics every day and it's my favourite subject – I can read so many words now!"*



**Zeke – Y2 Butterbrook.**

## Summer Term Attendance Challenge!

There are only 32 school days left in the summer term. Our current attendance is 94.7%, our school target is 96%. This is creeping up! A huge thank you for all your efforts. As a School we are judged on our attendance levels and held to account.

Please continue to help us to improve our attendance.

## SATs and Safeguarding

Thank you to our wonderful children and team for being so brilliant during our SAT's week. Our Y6 children were calm and focused, and the rest of the school were so respectful about being particularly calm and quiet for them.

Thank you too, for being so wonderful for our safeguarding audit – you showed that you were 'ready, respectful and safe' and that is all we can ask of you. 😊

## BLP Award:

Audrey, Charlie B, Lacey, Adeline, Sonny and Alfie B.



## WOW Award:

Arlo, Frankie, Zach A, Daisy, Annabelle, Ava Y.

**Lunchtime Award:** Rory and Edward.

## Other Awards:

Ava W – Gymnastics Medal  
Toby T – Football Trophy  
Freddie – Football Trophy

## Suncream and hats

Thank you for remembering and naming these, along with coats and jumpers! Top tip, if you know the UV is high that day, get your child or you to apply suncream to your child **BEFORE** they leave the house - faces and necks most importantly. Then they **only** need reapply if they are particularly fair, or are outside all day.



## Summer Fayre and Fun Day.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to this lovely day- on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 1-5pm.**

If you are able to help setting up, running a stall, or packing up, please do contact our chair on the email address below. [chair@fosms.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:chair@fosms.onmicrosoft.com)

**TEAM WORK= DREAM WORK!**

## Home-time Collection

Please note **that the bottom gate is not to be used at the beginning or end of the school day**, as it is not our main, 'official' entrance, and cannot be supervised or indeed managed safely. There are some **EXCEPTIONAL** circumstances where permission has been received from me to use the gate – including a few families that are walking from the other end of Buckfast Road, towards the A38. Otherwise, **this entrance is NOT to be used at these times.**

We are reviewing our end of day arrangements for September. Watch this space...

If you or a family member find it difficult to manage the hill in the evenings due to health reasons, we may be able to arrange for your child to be brought up to the top gate. This arrangement must be agreed with the school in advance.

Thank you for your understanding and support **in keeping everyone safe.**



## Safeguarding

We are an Operation Encompass School. For more information click on the link: <https://www.operationencompass.org/>

If a staff member has concerns about a child, they must report this to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). At St Mary's, the **DSL is Mrs Kerswell** and the Deputy Designated Leads who are responsible in Mrs Kerswell's absence are **Mrs Jessica Hutchinson and Mrs Kayleigh Teeder.** We have a specific email address for any safeguarding concerns: [safeguarding.stmarys.buckfast@plymouthcast.com](mailto:safeguarding.stmarys.buckfast@plymouthcast.com)

**If you are concerned** that a child has experience, or is at risk of, harm, you can make a referral yourself to MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) through the link below, by calling 0345 155 1071 or by emailing [mashsecure@devon.gov.uk](mailto:mashsecure@devon.gov.uk)