



St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Buckfast

Headteacher – Mrs Sophie Kerswell

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Tel: 01364 642389. 30th June 2025



Dates for your diary. 😊

Friday 6 th June pm to Friday 18 th July.	Swimming for Burrator & Fernworthy
Friday 4 th July	Y6 Diocesan Mass- Plymouth Cathedral. Y6 children will be transported by coach. Please note – no swimming for the Y6 today. Apologies for the unforeseen clash.
Sport's Days: SUNCREAM PLEASE! Key Stage 2 - Tuesday 1 st July 9:30-11:30am Key Stage 1 - Wednesday 2 nd July 9:30-11:30am EYFS - Wednesday 2 nd July 1:30-3pm Back up Sport's Day 1: Tuesday 8 th July & Wednesday 9 th July Back up Sport's Day 2: Tuesday 15 th July & Wednesday 16 th July	
Wednesday 23 rd July. 9:30am	Leaver's Mass at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Buckfast Abbey.
Wednesday 23 rd July 10:30am	Y6 Leaver's Special Tea for parents and Y6 children, in the Medieval Guest Hall, Buckfast Abbey.
Wednesday 23 rd July	Last day of term. Jumper or t-shirt signing for the Year 6 children.
Thursday 10 th July	Brass Concert 2:45pm performed by our wonderful musicians!
Wednesday 3 rd September	First day of the Autumn Term.

Summer Fayre and Fun Day

Well TEAM WORK did make DREAM WORK!

What an effort, and what a wonderful day. It really brought families and friends together, and never more so than in the preparation and the tidying away afterwards. New connections made, smiles and laughs had, and great memories created. Not to mention over £1400 raised to support our beautiful school.

Thankyou! 😊

Dear Families and Friends, and especially our new families that have recently joined us.

Last week, we were delighted to welcome to St. Mary's our Trust Director of Education, Kevin Butlin, our SEN Lead, Suzie Franklin, and our School Improvement Officer, Charlotte Targett.

They spent the day getting to know our school — visiting lessons, speaking with children, looking at books, meeting leaders and new staff, and observing the children as they played and moved around the school.

It was a very positive day, and Kevin Butlin shared a conversation that he had with the children, explaining that it was possibly one of the most deeply moving and profound he has ever experienced as a leader and Ofsted inspector.

During a discussion with Kevin, Ella and Inigo made links between the burial practices of the Shang Dynasty and the Anglo-Saxons. Kevin then asked, "Why are Christians not buried with all their possessions?"

The children paused thoughtfully. Ella responded, "Jesus died on the cross with nothing. If it is good enough for Jesus, then it is good enough for us."

Inigo added, "Possessions are second — we first need to make sure that we have loved and cared for each other. That is far more important than any possessions. Ella then concluded, "St. Mary's is like one big family. We are all different, and we're supposed to be. We're all meant to do different things. That's what makes us all special. God made us that way."

Well said Ella and Inigo, and Mr Butlin wanted to say a personal thank you for your very special words. Mrs Sophie Kerswell -Headteacher

CHILDREN'S VOICE

"St. Mary's is like one big family. We are all different, and we are supposed to be. We are all meant to do different things. That's what makes us all special. God made us that way."

Ella – Y4 Fernworthy

Summer Term Attendance Challenge!

There are only 18 school days left in the summer term. Our current attendance is now 94.9%, which is 0.2 % up from 3 weeks ago! WOW! What a combined achievement. Our school target is 96%. One last push. The children are exceptional.

Thank you for your continued support. 😊

THANK YOU

We would like to thank Mrs Green for her generous donations of LEGO, spinning chairs, and BASC craft supplies. The children are already enjoying everything you've provided -thank you!

BLP Award:

Alfie SG, Virginia, Aisha, Harrison G, Libby

WOW Award:

Toby T, Archie R, Lupin, Lexi, Bridie

Times Tables Stars: Anya, Maisie, Emily

Other Awards:

Frankie – Football Trophy

Ava Y- Darts Trophy

Harrison G – Golf Trophy and Medals



Home-time Collection- people still using the bottom gate who should not be.

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.**



In every force. In every school. For every child.

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

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