



St Mary's Church of England (Aided) Primary School

St Mary's Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 7BU

Tel 01322 665212 Fax 01322 662114

Headteacher Mrs Amanda McGarrigle MEd, BA(Ed)hons, NPQEL, NPQH

Email office@st-marys-swanley.kent.sch.uk

Website www.st-marys-swanley.kent.sch.uk

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Dear Parents/Carers

School Update

I thought I would write a quick update for you on everything that is happening in school at the moment.

Classroom Refurbishment

You may be aware that we have been refurbishing classrooms in the school, starting with Years 5 and 6. We have followed the principles of therapeutic classrooms, which are not traditional, and you will notice that children no longer necessarily have a static seat in the classroom. We are encouraging pupils to make good choices in where they sit, and who they work with to support their learning. We have noticed that this brings the noise down in classes and makes a pleasant and comfortable learning environment. All classes will have new carpet, new furniture, and will be repainted using our colour scheme.

Air Conditioning

Our building can be very hot in the Summer months, which is not conducive to learning and can make the children tired. The first phase of air conditioning throughout the school was completed last weekend. Any parent who has attended prize night will be glad to hear that the hall will be fully airconditioned! In addition, Year 1, our warmest classroom and closest to the kitchen, now has air conditioning.

After phase 1 of this project is completed, classrooms that have been refurbished will have air conditioning fitted. We hope that this makes the Summer months much more comfortable for the children.

School Hall

In addition to the air conditioning, the school hall will have a refurbished wooden floor, new lunch tables and seating (being made for us at the moment); new wall bars for gymnastics, and new benches and horse. The equipment will be used and in place as soon as it arrives.

Playground

The playground marking and equipment has been delayed because of some potential building work which could take place. In preparation for this (more information to follow) the broken buggy and bike storage will be moved over the Easter holidays, and will be repaired. We ask that parents putting buggies into the storage collapse them in future, so that we avoid any further repairs. Please make sure you are not encouraging the children to use this storage whilst it is being repaired.



Nursery Walkway

We are aware that moving between buildings during the school day can be difficult when it is raining, so over the Easter holidays we will be having works carried out which will join the Nursery building and main school with a sheltered walkway. This will help Nursery children coming over to use the library or the hall; and children in the main building who need to attend clubs and lessons held in the Nursery building.

Glazing

In partnership with the Diocese of Rochester, we are aiming to replace glazing (windows and doors) throughout the school. This work should start over the Summer, with a small number of doors and windows being replaced before this time.

Allotment

Our sustainability group have decided that the allotment theme this year is 'gardens around the world'. Please ask your child's teacher how you can get involved/help with their contribution to the competition.

If you have any questions, as always, please call the office or speak to your child's teacher.

Yours Sincerely



Amanda McGarrigle
Headteacher