



St Mary Cray Primary Academy
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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful, restful, and enjoyable summer break with your families. As the holidays draw to a close, the St Mary Cray staff team is filled with immense energy, warmth, and excitement for the academic year ahead. Behind the scenes, there has been exciting work happening at the school and we cannot wait to welcome all of our returning pupils back through the school gates tomorrow; we are especially thrilled to welcome our newest cohort of Reception children who are joining Amethyst Class!

A new school year brings a fresh chapter of learning, growth, and opportunity. At St Mary Cray Primary Academy, we are passionate about inspiring every single child to achieve their best. To make this year our most successful yet, we want to start as we intend to go on: by setting high expectations and upholding high standards in everything we do. When we take pride in ourselves and our school, we build a strong, supportive community that every child can feel proud to belong to.

To help us achieve a smooth and positive start on day one, please take a moment to review these important updates and reminders:

Important Change: Morning Arrival & Gate Access

Following feedback from our community and to better safeguard our children as they arrive at school each morning, there will be a slight change to how you access the site:

- **Mornings:** The main car park gates will remain closed. Access to the school will be exclusively through the **pedestrian gate**. (Reception pupils will enter the school site via the Breakfast / After School Club door at the front of the school).
- **Afternoons:** The car park gates will open as usual for parents to collect children from their classrooms at the end of the day. Reception pupils will be collected from the same location as drop off in the morning.
- **Timings:** Please note that school drop-off and collection **timings have not changed**.

Please rest assured that staff will still be present on the school gate each morning and afternoon to ensure the safety of our pupils.

Uniform Reminders

- **Uniform Expectations:** Please ensure your child arrives in full school uniform, including flat black leather shoes. Trainers are for PE only (medical exceptions require medical evidence provided to the School Office). Please review our full dress code on the our



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website: www.stmarycrayprimary.co.uk/parents/uniform and contact the class teacher should you have any questions or concerns.

- **What Not to Wear:** A quick reminder that smartwatches (with cameras or messaging capabilities), jewellery (other than plain studs), large hair bows, leggings, and football kits for PE are strictly not permitted. Should a child arrive in clothing that does not match our policy, we may contact you to discuss this or ask for the correct item to be brought in.
- **Forest School Days:** On Forest School days, children will need welly boots and old clothes with long sleeves and full-length trousers that you don't mind getting muddy or dirty.
- **Label Everything:** Please ensure **all** uniform, PE kits, water bottles, coats, and bags are clearly labelled with your child's name so lost items can be returned quickly.

Thank you in advance for your support—it makes all the difference when school and home work together in true partnership. We are so proud of our school, and with your support, we know this year is going to be extraordinary.

Kind regards,

Mrs T Artmann
Acting Headteacher



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