

Transition 2021

"Welcome messages from our Transition ambassadors"

Dear Year 6s,
I know that recently, times have been tough, but you can get through it.

So welcome to SMC, hope you are comfy because you'll be spending a lot of time here - it's got great teachers and lovely people. When I was in year 6, I was stressed, scared, nervous but most of all, EXCITED! At school there are lots of lessons to choose from, my favourite lesson is D&T because in some lessons you get to do cooking!

When you get to SMC, don't feel scared or nervous because everyone else will be too busy being scared or nervous themselves.

Have a good year and see you soon.

Best regards,
Thomas, 7YR

Hello future year 7s,
welcome to St Mary's College!

St Mary's College is an amazing school and you will find your way around very quickly, you will also make lots of new friends. At first I felt very nervous, but also very excited at the same time, however there wasn't anything to be nervous about - it was all really exciting. I really enjoyed all of the sport clubs that were offered and my favourite subjects now are: Art, Music, PE, History and Science, but I'm sure you will find that all subjects are enjoyable. My advice to you is: try not to be nervous and to try new things like clubs - this will help you make lots of new friends! The most important thing is to have fun - you will find it very enjoyable!

Olivia, 7YT

Hi, I'm Alex and welcome to St Mary's College and the start of a new chapter of your life. You may have a lot of mixed feelings at present about starting the new school, you're not alone and don't think you are. I was there this time last year so I know how you will be feeling, but give it a few weeks and those feelings will soon disappear as you get to make more friends or recognise familiar faces from different places you may have been to. You may have a feeling that you're a "little fish in a big pond" but eventually you will work out where you are going for lessons, but always remember if in doubt ask!!! Someone will point you in the right direction.

The teachers are all nice even if they come across scary with the first impression, you soon get used to them and discover that they are not as scary as you thought.

There are plenty of different things to do at school I enjoyed going to Geography club and playing table tennis at lunch time

with my mates and occasionally after school going to the gym. I found out about the clubs through my teacher who gave us a list of clubs to choose from.

The best I advise I can give just remember it may be scary but we are all at school together to help each other - if you get lost don't panic you will laugh about it in a few days.

TOP TIPS:-

Make sure you have all your equipment in your bag

Make sure you have money on your dinner card

Pack your bag night before

Make sure your phone is switched OFF and, in your bag

Try and buddy up with someone in your class so you can walk to lessons with them

BEST TIPRelax and enjoy it, as in no time at all you will feel like you have been there for ages.

Alex, 7XR

Dear all year 6's,

Hi, and WELCOME TO ST MARY'S!! I'm sure with the current situation your slightly more anxious of year 7 then I was as you unfortunately haven't been able to have a transition week, but that's where I come in! I have been asked by my personal tutor, Miss Ramsden, to answer as many questions as I can think of, that you may have. Firstly, when I was in year six and going to St Mary's college for the first, I was scared! The reason was, because I had so many anxious thoughts such as 'will I miss the bus?!' and will I 'fit in' Secondary isn't really much of a change except from the major fact it's WAY bigger than primary!

A few questions I can answer that I am pretty sure about is will you miss the bus? NO!! You won't miss the bus as long as you wake up on time (unfortunately this may be quite early) and get to your nearest bus stop, also ON time. Another thing lots of new students are worried about are dreaded detentions. Detentions at this school are given out mainly for not bringing in homework on the deadline date or not having all the equipment needed for a school day. A tip I can give you for equipment check is check you have everything the NIGHT BEFORE. You have probably heard this so many times, but it is so helpful! For homework it's a bit trickier but all I can say is I do the homework the night I've got handed it so that I don't have to worry about doing it later in the week as that is how you can forget about it. Also most importantly, when you've done the homework put it straight in your bag so that you don't have to stress when it's a school morning and you can't find the homework as you can't remember where you put it!

One of the best things about the school is the massive range of activities and clubs you are given as an option of what to do in your break times or lunch breaks. There are sport activities, creative, artistic clubs and many many more! I for example went to a trampolining club and art club and they both were so much fun! Overall, I really hope you enjoy St Mary's and are more excited than nervous to join. Thank you very much for reading I really hope I helped! Good luck Niamh, 7YR

Dear new year 7,

Due to the circumstances we are currently under you will sadly not be able to take place in the events that help with the transition to secondary school, so this message is a way of welcoming you to St Marys.

Starting secondary school is a big change in life but once you are here you will get used to it quickly and will adapt to life at St Marys. It is completely normal to be nervous about starting secondary school especially if you haven't had the time to get used to the school. When I started off in year 7, I was very nervous about how I was going to find my way around school, but I was used to it very quickly. Another thing I was worried about was that my lessons would get much more difficult and I wouldn't be able to keep up, but all the teachers are very supportive and will always be happy to help and talk.

So, I hope this short message reassures you about one of the main worries of secondary school and I wish you the best of luck when you start in September! Millie, 7YP

Hi my name is Jack,

I would like to welcome you all to St Mary's College. I know it is a bit daunting moving from primary school to secondary school but the transition is very enjoyable.

Secondary school is a great way to meet new friends. I know this personally as I was the only year 6 student from my primary school to join St Mary's College. I had no choice but it has been very easy. St Mary's provides new opportunities especially for those who are keen on sport, theatre and music. I would suggest you take advantage of these opportunities.

My first year had been disrupted due to Coronavirus and I am hoping to be back soon. Teacher support during this time has been excellent. Anyone nervous about school lunch, they are better than primary school. My favourite is either a chicken burger or a pizza slice. I am sure you will all settle in very quickly, but to anyone who is nervous, we are a friendly bunch!

Jack, 7XC

Hi future Yr7s! I hope that when we return to school, you will really enjoy it. At first, it is quite hard to navigate around the campus but after a few weeks, it is a lot easier. At school, I find Pe and Maths very fun! If you need any help, dont be afraid to ask. Finally, dont waste your time at St Marys and always try your best! Grace, 7YF

Welcome to SMC! It's great that you are joining us soon. I remember dreading the move from my Primary school to Secondary school. But on the first day I was welcomed by everyone and immediately felt at home and I'm sure you will too. Some see St Marys as a large school but we see it as a massive family. It won't take you long to find your feet.

There are many extra-curricular activities at lunch time and after school so you will have plenty of choice. I've really enjoyed science club and trampolining as in clubs like these you can enjoy practical experiments, meet new people and improve your athleticism.

I'm sure you will enjoy lessons like Art , D&T, Music and Science as you can experiment and have fun, whilst learning. In lessons like English and Maths you will cover many topics and in 2-3 lessons you will have learnt many new things. However, all lessons can help you shape your future.

You will definitely have a unique start to St Marys. There will be plenty of people to help you out and experience what it is like to be a student at St Marys, so don't be nervous. There will also be many people who are in the same place as you, so you will not be alone.

The current restrictions may have affected the very beginning of your journey, but I and many others at St Marys can assure you that it will not affect your future.

I hope you are looking forward to joining us, we and many others are very excited to meet you. Isobel, 7XF

Hi there, welcome to SMC and thank you for joining our community it is a pleasure to have you. When I was in your shoes, I was quite nervous to move to a new school as it was massive and I feared getting lost but luckily there are always people to help you find your way around if you get lost like I did. One of my favourite lessons at St Mary's is Drama as you can get up and do something fun and exciting. Also, one of my other favourite lessons was P.E as you get to some athletic things including football, rugby, trampolining running and many more! This good because you do not sit in a classroom all day. Some advice to take to SMC is that you're not alone and there will always be someone there to help. Also, if you are struggling to make friends, I'm sure people will be willing to let you in their circle of friends as they might be lonely as well. James, 7XM

Welcome to St Mary's. It seems daunting at first but there will be lots of grown-ups and older students to help you find your way around. There are so many opportunities for you to find new hobbies in clubs like trampolining and football. You will meet lots of nice people and new friends especially in your form and at clubs. If you have any worries don't be afraid to ask your tutor for help. Good luck! Lily, 7XR

Dear future year 7's,

Welcome to SMC! You will be moving up to year 7 when we come back to school. Personally, I know how nerve-racking this may feel but I reassure you, there is nothing to be nervous for! There will be many people in your year groups that will be your friends. Alternatively, you may try out some of the clubs this school provides to help you build friendships (football, netball etc). As for a tip, always bring your homework on time and be in your class on the bell. I hope this message has helped you; I wish you a successful life in SMC. Emily, 7XT

Hello future Year sevens,

This letter is to you to talk about coming to St Mary's college next year.

You may have siblings coming to this school at the moment, therefore you've probably seen the size of the school. From the outside the school looks big but once you've started the first days of school, you will be fine. If you do happen to get lost when you are here, don't worry because there will always be someone to help you find your way around. On my first day I was terrified but after a couple of days I knew the place like the back of my hand! There will be teachers and staff everywhere if you need them. And once you are here, you can also sign up to a huge variety of after school activities, you could sign up to activities from football to science. You will have a great time here, and we hope to see you soon! And if you would like to talk to me, my name is Ben and I will be in 8YT next year.

Regards, Ben, 7YT - The Transition Ambassador Team

Hello future year 7!

I would like to welcome you to St Mary's College.

Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus I can't do it face to face.

My advice to moving up is to have confidence and be yourself!

St Mary's may seem like a massive school and extremely hard work at first, but you will learn to love the school and the people around you. Don't worry if you get lost, the teachers and older students are always more than happy to help.

When I started year 7, I was scared and worried about a lot of things, but my main worry was - will I make new friends? The answer was yes! When you get here, you realise everyone is worried and nervous about the same things. I made lots of new friends and the teachers are wonderful and very kind.

There are a lot of after school clubs, lunch clubs and competitions that you can join my favourite are table tennis and trampolining!

I'm sure all of you will be fine! Good Luck!

Oliwia 7XM

Welcome year 6 soon to be called year 7. I know that this is a huge jump moving schools and coping with lockdown, but it's amazing. SMC is a great school and I can tell you that you will love it here because I did. The first thing that will pop into your mind will be how extremely excited you will be but how nervous you will be just like I was but you will make fantastic friends and the staff will be there to support you with anything whether it's to do with school or not. The lessons are a bit different at Secondary but you are more grown up and mature now so don't worry. SMC will keep you on your toes from class to class with great friends along the way. And some of my favourite things at SMC is the food; we have plenty of options from hot to cold food which you can get at breakfast, break (if your wanting a snack) and lunch.

If you're sporty as well there are lots of clubs from a trampoline club, football, rugby and many more but don't worry there's also art club and science club where you can make all sorts of cool things and do experiments etc.

The lessons here are wild, creative and bold so it will make you feel comfortable just like Primary but just a bit more interesting. I hope you settle in very well at SMC and are ready to take a huge step into what it's like at Secondary. The nervous feeling will go away after your first day and you will love it.

The best of luck Year 7 hope you enjoy.

Hope, 7XP

To the new students arriving in Year 7.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to St Mary's College.

I understand from my experience last year that the transition from Primary to Secondary school is very exciting but it can also be a worrying time for some students.

I promise you that you have nothing to fear, you will soon feel like you have always been a St Mary's College and wear your uniform with pride!

Joshua, 7YM

Dear new year 7's

My name is Maya and I joined SMC last year and now I am about to move into year 8. I know how you feel since, I was in the same position as you last year. It is normal to feel nervous before you join year 7 because it is a big change to go from primary to secondary school. One thing you may be worried about is making new friends, but don't worry because there are so many people at SMC that you will be able to find lots of friends really fast! I recommend to just be yourself! This is because there is definitely at least one person that likes similar things to you!

There are also a lot of clubs that you can go to! Some of them are after school clubs while, others are ones that you can attend whilst you are at school, at lunch time. I really enjoy singing and therefore, I decided to join the choir and it is really fun! But it really depends on what you enjoy doing. Don't feel pressured that you have to go to certain clubs which you don't really enjoy, just have fun and try out new things.

Hopefully you have a lot of fun in year 7 and the years after that, Good Luck!

From Maya, 7YM

Hello future student,

Don't feel worried about starting a new school. I was in the same place as you. But I can tell you all the tips and tricks to make the first few terms fly by!

Make sure to always keep your planner on you to look at your timetable and information which you might need in class.

If you feel the need to ask anything any of the staff would be happy to help.

There is a wide variety of different clubs to do at St.Mary's. Or if you want to play a musical instrument you can learn lots of different ones! And make some musical mates who share the same music passion as you. I play the violin, maybe you would like to as well!

I was very nervous when I first started. But if some of your primary school classmates are coming to SMC stick around them for a week or two.

But it is important to make friends and just have a good time. And over the time you are at St.Mary's you will hopefully bond with your teachers and try your hardest in every lesson.

Cosmo, 7XP

Welcome to St Mary's College! I want to share with you my experience regarding the transition from Year 6 into Year 7.

This time last year, I was feeling very nervous about starting St Mary's College. One of the things I was most worried about was getting lost around the school. This worry soon disappeared as after my first few days I knew my way around the full school. It's not as big as it looks!

Here are a few Top Tips for starting SMC:

-Pack your bag the night before. This really helps because it means you don't have to worry about getting a detention for the next day

-Check your timetable regularly. This means that after your first few weeks, you will know exactly where to go each day so there will be no need to worry about forgetting.

-Try to make friends on your first few days. Try not to be shy because the faster you make them, the less scared and more confident you will be!

Do not be nervous, you will love it here!

Alfie, 7YF