



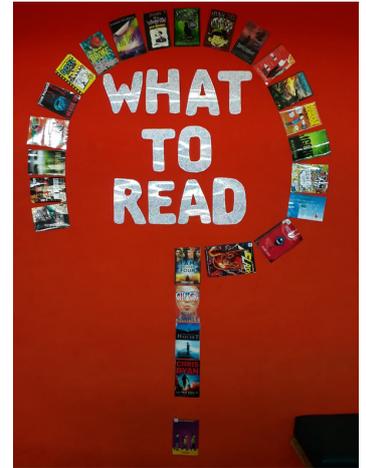
Have a great summer break and come back refreshed and ready to learn.

Get ready for your new school year

After one of the strangest transition weeks in the history of St Mary's, you are finally ready for a well-earned break. We look forward to welcoming you all back in September where you will be fresh faced, bright and enthusiastic Year 7 students. Transition is over, and now the real work of secondary school life begins. We had the pleasure of chatting with Miss Ramsden and asked her the basic questions which she feels you should know when it comes to getting it right and making a great first impression. Her key tips for success are going to bed early, waking up early and, most importantly, homework. Miss Ramsden added "as you start coming to school you should think about going to bed at a reasonable time, as you will have a lot of work to do and will be very tired". She was also quick to remind us of the importance of equipment. If you pack your bag the night before, then you will be 100% certain you will have everything you need. Quite a few teachers have children at the school and say the same thing. There's

nothing worse than rushing around trying to find some vital equipment or homework as you're rushing out of the door in a morning. Miss Ramsden reminds us that "it's never good to do anything last minute". Miss Ramsden also noted the importance of homework and how those who do their homework regularly often make the greatest gains in attainment. It's a great way of recapping the ideas from your lessons and ensuring that all important information is secure. You'll have a lot more homework than you're probably used to when you arrive, so it is also a good idea to set yourself chunks of time to do it so you don't get too far behind. Mr Dale also told us to remind you about homework club which runs every lunchtime, so if you are struggling, there's always somebody to help you. So, there you have it; lots of great advice from those in the know to make sure your time at St Mary's is as successful and productive as it can be. We look forward to seeing you all in September.

Explore St Mary's LRC



- St Mary's is proud to boast one
- of the best Learning Resource
- Centres in the city (the LRC as
- you will come to know it). At first
- glance, it looks like a library, but
- it is much more than that. Not
- only does it offer a variety of
- books for you to get your teeth
- in to, it also offers computers to
- complete work and research, a
- quiet place to work and also a
- place where you can buy any
- equipment you may have lost.
- All of the computers also have
- online reading programs such as
- Sora and Accelerated Reader,
- so if you prefer your texts on
- screen, then they are just as
- accessible. There's also comfy
- seating and bean bags so you
- can relax whilst you lose yourself
- in fiction or fantasy. Whatever
- your taste in reading, the LRC
- has something for all, whether
- it be Alex Rider, Twilight, David
- Walliams, Anime or classic Mar-
- vel and D.C, there's something
- to suit your taste. The only rule
- we have in the LRC is that it is
- a quiet working space. People
- tend to come in to chill out and
- get lost in a book. It's also a
- quiet place where you can reflect
- on your homework or do some
- work.

Advice



**Mr Midgley -
History**

"Don't be afraid to ask for help if you are stuck. All staff are really friendly and will help you all they can".



**Mr Knott -
Computing**

"If you're worried about starting in September, remember, everyone will feel the same. Try to talk to someone and you'll make new friends in no time"



Miss Hamer

"No one is perfect – that's why pencils have erasers – if you make a mistake, you can always correct it whether it be in work or behaviour".



**Meet
the
tutor**

Miss Shinkwin will look after you and guide you in her role as a year 7 tutor.

Meet Yr 7 tutor Miss Shinkwin,

Heading into Year 7 as a personal tutor this year is Miss Shinkwin, one of our most experienced tutors and former head of year. Having taken a year group from Year 7 all the way through to year 11, if anyone knows the importance of a personal tutor, it's her. Always waiting with a winning smile, a clam demeanour and a welcoming aura, Miss Shinkwin can't wait to meet her new tutor group and is really excited to be involved with our new students.

We caught up for a quick chat and asked her why she thought the role of a tutor was so important; what the expectations of you as a tutee will be and why she feels Year 7 is so special.

One of the best qualities she believes a student can have is enthusiasm. Miss Shinkwin noted how a positive attitude and outlook to your study makes for a brilliant tutee. She also highlighted how organisation is also key to success. She asked us to remind you about the importance of your

planners and equipment – especially for equipment check days.

She feels her role as a personal tutor is to set you targets to make sure you can achieve and be the best you can at St Mary's. These could include academic targets for subjects you are finding difficult; social targets such as joining a club, or getting involved in events or charity work and health and wellbeing targets, ranging from sporting/exercise or even healthy eating goals -all of which are aimed to put you on the correct path to success.

Miss Shinkwin also likes the rewards part of being a tutor and is excited about the tutor group competitions. She is hoping her group will have the most Good News Friday nominations and gain points for the most college merits. She hopes to have very few yellow cards as these are really frowned upon at St Mary's. She also loves it when all of the hard work is rewarded in the end of term and end of year rewards assemblies.

Tips for tackling your first term

We thought it would be a good idea to include some tips for these first few weeks back in September, so here they are from the Head, Mr Perry.

If you find it hard to get up in the morning, set an alarm or even two to wake yourself up. Mr Perry said "if you are finding yourself constantly late then try getting up earlier or set off to go to school earlier." Mr Perry also advised "if you are

in any trouble you should follow the instructions of the teacher, stay calm and wait patiently as staff will always give you time to reflect." Some might be asking when the best time to do homework is, well the answer is to "find a routine that you are comfortable with, maybe on a weekend or after school or even come to our homework club!" "We hope that this helps you as you start your new life at St Mary's"