



St Mary's CE VC First School

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Newsletter 8 - 2022/23

9th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that 2023 has started well for you and your families. It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school for our spring term. We talked about 'courage' in our first Collective Worship of the year last week and the children had many good ideas and thoughts around the importance of courage and perseverance when facing a new year with new challenges and learning.

We have been delighted to welcome Miss Webster to Maple Class, the children have been very helpful in ensuring she is settling in happily to our community. At the end of last term we have been pleased to welcome Mike McMahon and Andy Branch to our Governing Body. Both Mike and Andy are parents at the school.

Please support your child by arriving promptly for school each day. Our doors open at 8.30am and children should be in school by 8.35am with gates being locked at 8.45am. If you arrive after 8.45am please report to the school office to register your child as 'late'.

Curriculum letters from your child's teacher will be emailed home this week so that you can talk with your child about their learning this term. Please log on to School Gateway and pay a voluntary contribution if there is one. We are delighted that our School Association have paid for the forthcoming pantomime this month which means that parent contributions are not required.

We have recently reviewed our Home learning Policy which should be helpful in providing detail and clarity of expectations for this in all year groups. A copy is attached to this email. I hope that you find this useful.

Our new website is up and running with new and updated information added weekly. Please use this resource for school information. If you click on 'Pupils' on our Home Page and scroll to Class Blogs, all teachers will be adding a weekly blog this term to keep you up-to-date on the learning and events in class. We hope that you will take time to look at these!

Yours sincerely

Suzanne Garner



Headteacher Recruitment Update from Lyn Paine - Chair of Governors

The governors and administrative staff have been busy behind the scenes with headteacher recruitment. Following our November advert we had a positive response and I showed several interested people round the school in December. They were all impressed by the warm, friendly welcome and the way in which the children talked about their learning. We are currently shortlisting from a good range of applications and are confident that we will find the right person to lead the school. Mrs Garner has set the standard high! Interviews take place on 19 January.

Hot Lunch Taster Day - Reception, Year 1 and 2

We will be holding a 'taster' day for our hot school lunches on Thursday 19th January. Mrs Hayes will order a meal for all Reception and Key Stage 1 to encourage the children to try a meal. This will be a pork and apple burger. If you do not wish for your child to have a hot meal on this day, please let the school office know. This is an excellent opportunity for your child to try a hot school lunch, please encourage your child to do so!

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra - date for your diaries - Year 4

Mrs Joy has booked a trip to take our Year 4 children to a children's concert in Poole by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra on 16th May. The performance is in the afternoon which means that the children will need collecting from school later on that day, probably around 4pm. Further details will be sent nearer the time.

Future Dates:

2 Jan	BANK HOLIDAY
3 Jan	Term begins for children
20 Jan	Class Assembly -Linden- 9.00am
24 Jan	M & M Productions - Beauty and the Beast Pantomime -school hall
26 Jan	Class Assembly -Maple- 9.00am
26 Jan	Year 4 Romans' Trip - Dorset County Museum and Roman Townhouse
31 Jan	Year 3 Romans' Trip - Dorset County Museum and Roman Townhouse
2 Feb	Class Assembly - Willow - 9.00am
7 Feb	Safer Internet Day
8 Feb	Hooke Court Residential Trip - Information Meeting - 6pm
9 Feb	Class Assembly - Ash - 9.00am
9 Feb	Last day of school for children
10 Feb	Staff Training Day - no school for children



Spring Term Clubs

Clubs offered this spring term are listed below and available to book on our School Gateway if they are a free club. **Please note that to attend Ukulele Club with Mrs Joy and Mrs Joslin children will need to provide their own ukulele.** All clubs are 3pm-4pm unless otherwise stated.

Premier Sport's Gymnastics Club is 3.15-4.15pm and can be booked via their website at: <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/19786/?location=dorchester>

Mr Stork's Dodgeball Club is 3pm -4pm and has already begun but places can still be booked at:

<https://eolasplus.co.uk/category/after-school-clubs/st-marys-first-school>

Day	Name	Year	Staff Member	Dates
Mondays	Sewing	Year 3/4	Suzanne Garner	16 th , 23 rd , 30 th Jan, 6 th , 20 th , 27 th Feb, 13 th , 20 th March
Monday	Comic book	Year 3/4	Lisa Thornicroft	16 th , 23 rd , 30 th Jan, 6 th , 20 th , 27 th Feb, 13 th , 20 th March
Monday	Lego	Year 1	Josh Holt	16 th , 23 rd , 30 th Jan, 6 th , 20 th , 27 th Feb, 13 th , 20 th March
Monday	Lego	Year 4	Mel Laval	16 th , 23 rd , 30 th Jan, 6 th , 20 th , 27 th Feb, 13 th , 20 th March
Tuesday	Art club	Year 4	Mandy Joslin	17 th , 24 th 31 st Jan, 7 th , 21 st , 28 th Feb, 14 th , 21 st March
Tuesday	Dodgeball (Hall)	Year 3 and 4	Liam Stork	10th, 17th, 24th 31st Jan, 7th Feb.
Wednesday	Gymnastics (Hall)	Year 3 and 4	Premier Sport	4th, 11th, 25th Jan, 1st, 8th, 22nd Feb
Wednesday	Gardening*	Year 1 and 2	Vickie Lawford	22 nd Feb, 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th March
Thursday	Gardening*	Year 1 and 2	Vickie Lawford	23 rd Feb, 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th March
Thursday	Wigglets (Hall)	All year groups	Fiona Russell	19th, 26th Jan, 2nd, 9th, 23rd Feb, 2nd, 9th, 16th March
Thursday Lunchtime 12.20 - 12.40	Ukulele	Year 2	Mandy Joslin and Jane Joy	19 th , 26 th Jan, 2 nd , 9 th , 23 rd Feb, 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th March
Thursday	Choir	KS2	Jane Joy	19 th , 26 th Jan, 2 nd , 9 th , 23 rd Feb, 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th March
Friday	Bee-bot (programming skills)	Year 1 and 2	Caroline Drysdale	20 th , 27 th Jan, 3 rd , 24 th Feb, 3 rd , 17 th March

*Gardening Club will begin following the half term break



