

Friday 28th April 2023

# ST MARY'S NEWS

The latest news from St Mary's CE VC First School

## KEY DATES

**Monday 1st May**

Bank Holiday

**Thursday 4th May - 9am**

Oak Class Assembly

**Friday 5th May - 1:30pm**

Coronation Celebration!

**Monday 8th May**

Bank Holiday

**Thursday 11th May**

Class Photographs

**Tuesday 16th May**

Y4 Trip to Poole Lighthouse

**Thursday 18th May - 9am**

Willow Class Assembly

**Thursday 25th May - 9am**

Linden Class Assembly

**Friday 26th May**

Final day of term

**Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June**

Half Term Holidays

**Monday 5th June**

First day of term

**Wed 14th June - 7:30pm**

New Parents' Evening

**Thursday 15th June - 9am**

Beech Class Assembly

**Monday 19th June - 9am**

Potted Sports Morning

**Mon 26th to Wed 28th June**

3:30pm - 4:30pm

New Reception Inductions

**Friday 30th June**

Reports home to parents

**Tues 4th & Wed 5th July**

Parent-Teacher Consultations

**Thursday 6th July**

DASP Transfer Day

**Sunday 9th July**

Charminster Family Fun Day

**Monday 10th July - 1:15pm**

Sports Afternoon

## Note from Mr Homer

*What a wonderful week we have had here at St Mary's!*

*This week, a number of children took part in Bikeability workshops, joined the hockey and dance clubs, and amazed us with how quickly they have been able to learn two songs, ready for our Coronation Celebration next week. We look forward to seeing you all here next Friday at 1:30pm. Please remember that children (and yourselves!) are welcome to wear British clothes or colours for this event.*

*I am very much looking forward to teaching some of our children next week. Throughout the remainder of the term, I will be teaching in every classroom to enable me and the children to get to know each other better.*

*Throughout my time, here at St Mary's, I have conducted a whole-school review to ensure that I have a clear understanding of how St Mary's operates and which areas of school life we need to focus upon. Through my observations and meetings with staff and children, I have concluded that our focus throughout the summer term will be on further developing our curriculum and reimagining our school's vision and values. I will keep you updated throughout the term and, at every possible opportunity, I will be actively seeking the input of our school community.*

*On a fairly cheeky, random note, I wondered if we had any Roofers amongst our families who would be willing to re-felt the roof of our gardening shed. Please contact us if you can help out (and are insured to do so). Thank you!*

*Finally, I'd like to thank everybody who supported Funky Hair Friday. The upcoming Fun Day (July 9th) is sure to be a great event and I look forward to meeting with the School Association on Tuesday, here at school from 7:30pm.*

*Have an awesome bank holiday weekend!*

*Mr Homer*





Introducing our  
Parent Governor:

**Andy**



*I am Andy, one of the Parent Governors for St Mary's. I took up the role at the beginning of this academic year in September 2022 In order to support the school and to bring the views of parents to the table.*

*I grew up in Bradford Peverell and have returned with my family to live in Charminster, where we have a great community. My son is in Beech class and my daughter will be starting at the school later this year. If you would like to contact me with any views or suggestions for the Governors, or about your child's experience at the school, you can reach me at [andybranch@charminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:andybranch@charminster.dorset.sch.uk)*



Our school attendance for this academic year is currently:

**94.8%**

*Last week's winners were...*



We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised  
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



*Note from our Reading Leader, Mrs Joslin*

Thank you to all those families who rose to our challenge, set in last week's Reading Corner, to read for 5 minutes at home, daily! Who else is up for the challenge this week!?

Following our Scholastic Book Fair during the Autumn Term, each class has been given a range of new books, today!

Thank you all for supporting this event.

Next week, we will begin to make regular use of our school library following a recent revamp. Our hope is that these books will further develop our children's love of reading.

# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



Our focus for collective worship this half term is 'Friendship'.

This week's BIG QUESTION is:

**Why do we need friends?**



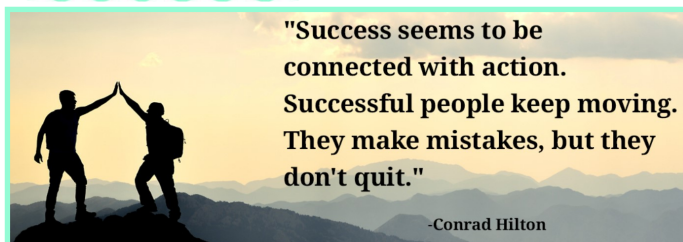
*Two are better than one, for if either of them falls, one can help the other up.*

*Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*



This week's quote was chosen by...

**Lucia in Linden!**



We continue our hunt for some 'education-inspired' quotes and we need your help! If you or your child can find a famous quote which will inspire us all to grow and flourish, then we would love to hear them. Please send them in via class teachers, or via the office email and we will choose a different one, each week, to appear on our newsletter. Thank you to everybody who has already sent some in!

*This Week's  
Cracking Caterpillars*





# This week in pictures



Have a lovely weekend





# Are you concerned about a pupil?

If you are worried about a child,  
you must share your concern without delay.



**Mick Homer**

Headteacher

**Designated  
Safeguarding Lead**



**Lisa Thornicroft**

Teacher & SENDCo

**Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead**



**Karen Bennett**

Parent Support Advisor

**Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead**

**Our Safeguarding Governor is Reverend Pene Kennedy**

If you are concerned about a child's welfare or worried they  
are being abused, you can make a referral directly to:

**Dorset's Children's Advice and Duty Service**  
Call: 01305 228866

**In an emergency, or if you believe a child is at  
immediate risk of harm, call the police on 999.**