

Friday 26th May 2023

# ST MARY'S NEWS

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

## KEY DATES

**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

**W/C Monday 19th June**

New-Reception Home Visits

**Thursday 22nd June - 9am**

Oak Class Assembly

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

**3:30pm - 4:30pm**

New Reception Inductions

**Thursday 29th June**

Ash Ukulele Assembly

**Friday 30th June**

Reports home to parents

**W/C Monday 3rd July**

Scholastic Book Fair

**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

**Thursday 13th July - 1:30pm**

DASP Citizen Awards

**Thursday 20th July - 9:15am**

Leavers' Service

**Friday 21st July**

Last Day of Term

**Mon 24th July to Thurs 31st Sep**

Summer Holidays

**Friday 1st September**

INSET Day

## Note from Mr Homer

*I cannot believe how quickly this half term has flown by! I am looking forward to catching my breath after what has been a very busy, yet uplifting, six weeks.*

- Our school is starting to look much fresher as the team strive to make our learning spaces more inclusive.*
- We held a Coronation Celebration event which was extremely well-supported by all of you.*
- We have conducted a thorough review of our Maths curriculum and are looking forward to building upon this in the coming months.*
- Our 'Little Wandle' phonics scheme has been put to the test by our English Hub support network and it's already looking likely that an additional 20% of children will pass the Phonics Screening Check this year, as a result.*
- We have a shiny new roof on our gardening shed, thanks to the generosity of HuxBux Gardens, and some wonderful new planters in our Reception area, thanks to the generosity of my dad, Mr Homer 'Senior'!*

*All in all, I'm extremely grateful to the team, here at St Mary's, for their level of commitment to our children's care and education. The children have amazed me on a daily basis with their positive attitudes and determined approach to learning. I hope that everybody gets some much-needed rest and enjoys their family time over the coming week.*

*Have a fabulous half term break!*

*Mr Homer*

*Our INSET days for next academic year are as follows:*

*Friday 1st September 2023*

*Monday 30th October 2023*

*Friday 9th February 2024*

*Monday 22nd July 2024*

*Tuesday 23rd July 2024*

*Full term dates can be found here: [LINK](#)*



Sports For Champions®

By now, you will know that we have a double mini-trampoline athlete coming to visit our school very soon! The date of this visit has now been pushed back to Monday 12th June, which gives us a little more time to raise some much-needed funds for our school and unsponsored athletes:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/stmaryscofefirstschool>

We ask that all children try to collect a small amount of sponsorship to complete a fitness challenge, in school, which will be led by Maddi, our visiting athlete.

All children will need to wear their PE kits on this day - Monday 12th June.

Thank you to everybody who sponsored our children, so far!



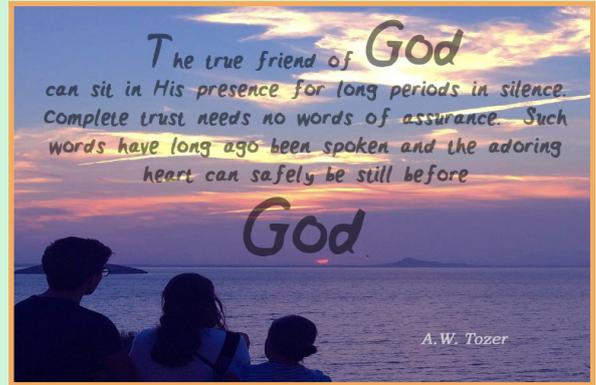
# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



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

This week's BIG QUESTION is:

**What does it mean to be a friend of God?**



Our school attendance for this academic year is currently:

**94.5%**

Last week's winners were...



## Note from Mrs Garner

Dear Parents and Families,

I wanted to write to thank you all for the wonderful gifts, cards and messages I received during the last week of the Spring term. It was a very special last few weeks and I will treasure those memories forever!

Thank you to all of you who contributed to my gifts; the Apatchy handbag, Leavers' Hoodie, Emma Bridgewater Jug, Prosecco and voucher for Summer Lodge Country House Hotel, Restaurant and Spa. I thought I would list them as I was unsure if everyone knew what the gifts were.

I have worn my Leavers' Hoodie many times already and made good use of my new handbag! I shared the Prosecco with my family on Easter Sunday and am looking forward to visiting Summer Lodge soon!

As I come into school now as a parent dropping off my daughter each day, it is lovely to see so many children and other parents. I have chatted to many of you this half term.

Thank you again for all of your kindness and generosity, Suzanne Garner



## Half Term Reading Challenge!

This half term, we challenge our children to read in the most radical of places! Whether it's at the park, in the woods, under the bed or in a paddling pool, the more radical the better! Just stay safe!

Please take a photo of your child radically reading and send it in to our office email address, so that we can enter them into our competition!

Our School Ambassadors will help to choose a winner from each class who will receive a prize and certificate!

## This Week's Cracking Caterpillars





**SPORTS**  
**EXPLORERS**



# SPORTS CAMP

**MAY HALF  
TERM**

**EARLY BIRD  
DISCOUNT**

**DBS159**

Discount Code

Use code above  
before 20th May

**YR 1 TO 4**

9 AM - 3:30 PM

EARLY AND LATE DROP OFF  
AVAILABLE

8AM - 4:30PM



**CHARMINSTER COMMUNITY HALL**  
[WWW.SPORTEXPLORERS.CO.UK](http://WWW.SPORTEXPLORERS.CO.UK)

**Sport Explorers Ltd**  
[www.sportexplorers.co.uk](http://www.sportexplorers.co.uk)

**More Information**

Call 07983 097 149

@sportexplorersdorset





# 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.**