



Friday 23rd June 2023

ST MARY'S NEWS

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

KEY DATES

Mon 26th to Wed 28th June

3:30pm - 4:30pm

New Reception Inductions

Thursday 29th June - 9am

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

Thursday 6th July - 3pm-4pm

Meet your child's new Teacher

Sunday 9th July

Charminster Family Fun Day

Monday 10th July - 1:15pm

Sports Afternoon

Thursday 20th July - 9:15am

Leavers' Service

Friday 21st July

Last Day of Term

Mon 24th July to Thurs 31st Aug

Summer Holidays

Friday 1st September

INSET Day

Monday 4th September

First Day of Term

Friday 20th October

Last Day of Term

Mon 23rd to Fri 27th October

Half Term Holidays

Monday 30th October

INSET Day

Tuesday 31st October

First Day of Term

Friday 15th December

Last Day of Term

Mon 18th Dec to Mon 1st Jan

Christmas Holidays

Note from Mr Homer

What a crazy start to the week we had on Monday! My St Mary's initiation is well and truly underway, following a morning of Potted Sports! Cheering on 165 children as they squeezed water into a bucket from a sponge was certainly a different way to begin a week and, in fact, I would highly recommend it! Seeing the children's joy and their parents'



pride was fantastic and I thank all of you who came along in support. Thank you to Miss Thornicroft and Mrs Bessant for organising this event and to Mrs Middleton for asking the children to shoot 'me' with water canons!

Sticking with the sports theme, I'm really pleased to announce that from this week forward, we have moved over to a new provider for our PE sports coaching. Richard Watts of Sports Explorers will now be leading our Tuesday and Friday PE lessons. Some of you may know Richard from his work at the Community Hall. We are confident that this change will increase the quality of our PE provision and provide our teachers with the expertise they need to further develop their own weekly PE lessons.

Just 16 days to go until Charminster Fun Day!

We are all getting very excited to welcome you all on Sunday 9th July for this year's Fun Day. Our awesome School Association and Fun Day team are working tirelessly to make this event as big a success as it has been in recent years. We thank each and every member of the team for volunteering their time for the good of all St Mary's children. Thank you, also, to those of you who have already sold raffle tickets. The sale of these tickets raises a substantial amount of money for the school each year, so we encourage everybody to please sell as many as you can! There are additional tickets in the school office if you run out. Please place ticket stubs and money into the white box in the front entrance, in a sealed envelope. Thank you!

Have a restful weekend! Mr Homer

Nearly New SALE

We are looking for donations of your 'nearly new items' for our Charminster Family Fun Day.

Items can be donated every Friday from 9th June at 3pm at Fab Friday shack.



YES

- Toys
- Complete Games/ Puzzles
- Soft toys
- Books
- Household items
- Sports Items

NO

- CDs
- DVDs
- Videos
- Electrical items
- Clothes
- Bedding



WHATSAPP GROUPS

It is now common practice for parents to set up a WhatsApp/Messenger group at the start of an academic year to facilitate the sharing of contact details and reminders of upcoming school events. Recently, we have had some concerns raised about such groups, so we encourage everybody to ensure that they use them for their intended purpose. Although these groups are in no way affiliated with St Mary's, may I suggest that 'Group Admins' look to establish a Code of Conduct to ensure that these continue to be supportive and positive for all. Here is a possible example:

- * The group should not be used as a platform to air views/grievances regarding the school, a teacher, child or parent.*
- * The group should not be used to discuss incidents which have happened during the school day.
- * At all times, group members must be culturally sensitive and maintain a high level of mutual respect between all its members.

*Please speak with your child's teacher, the school office, Karen, or myself if you have any worries, concerns or grievances which you wish to discuss.

Regular events at St Mary's in Term Time (for families and adults)



Tuesdays:

9am to 12noon - T@SM (Community Café) in church
3pm to 4pm - T@SM afterschool session in Community Centre
4.30pm to 6pm - 4UP! Youth Group (year 4's upwards)

Wednesdays:

11am - Choir (open to all)
2.30pm - Prayer Group

Thursdays:

8.40am to 9.40am - School Run Café for parents and tots

Sundays:

11am - Main Service (+ Sunday School or Activity Corner for young children)
3rd Sunday each month - Evensong (timings in the Pilot)
4th Sunday each month, Sept to May - 4pm - Messy Church

Please slow down when you are driving past our school!

On a number of occasions we have witnessed parents driving too quickly past the school at the start and end of the school day.

Please slow down and remember that children can be unpredictable, so please don't assume that they won't step out into the road.

Thank you.



Our school attendance for this academic year is currently:

94.5%

Last week's winners were...



This Week's Awards for Growing and Flourishing



**FREE
ENTRY**

DONATIONS WELCOME

In aid of:
**Charminster Pre-School &
St Mary's First School Charminster**

Charminster Family Fun Day

@ St Mary's First School Charminster

**SUNDAY 9TH JULY
12 – 5pm**

(Stalls close at 4pm – Music & Food til 5pm)



**Live Music & Performances • Fun & Games • Prize Draw
Trade Stalls • Inflatable Fun • Creepy Crawlies
Goats • Tombola • Forest School • Cake Sale
Hot Food • Licensed Bar • and much much more.....**



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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.**