



Friday 29th September 2023

# ST MARY'S NEWS

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

## KEY DATES

**W/C Monday 2nd October**  
Open Week for 2024 Starters

**Tuesday 10th October - 2pm**  
Harvest Festival

**Monday 16th October**  
Curriculum Open Morning

**Tuesday 17th October**  
Flu Immunisations

**Tuesday 17th October**  
Year Two - T@SM Church visit

**Friday 20th October**  
Last Day of Term

**Mon 23rd to Fri 27th October**  
Half Term Holidays

**Monday 30th October**  
INSET Day – School Closed

**Tuesday 31st October**  
First Day of Term

**Mon 6th & Tues 7th November**  
Life Education Days

**Tuesday 7th November**  
Year Three - T@SM Church visit

**Wed 8th November - 2pm**  
Remembrance Service

**Monday 13th November - 9am**  
Linden Class Assembly

**Friday 17th November**  
Children in Need

**Monday 20th November**  
Spirituality Day

**Tuesday 28th November**  
Year R & 4 - T@SM Church visit

**Friday 1st December - 3-5pm**  
St Mary's Christmas Market

**Wed 6th December - 9:15am**  
Christmas Performance

**Thurs 7th December - 9:15am**  
Christmas Performance

**Thurs 7th December - 5:30pm**  
Christmas Performance

## Note from Mr Homer

*This week has been tough! We have unfortunately experienced a lot of staff absence this week but in true St Mary's style, the whole team has pulled together to ensure that the level of care and attention our children are used to receiving has not been compromised. We were even joined by Mrs Garner for part of the week as she came to the rescue, teaching in Willow class! Thank you to all of our team who have worked over and above for our children. Please excuse our reduced Newsletter this week as a result of these issues.*

*On Monday, we were joined by PCSO Sarah Pilcher who monitored the parking and driving outside of school in the morning. Sarah then joined us in assembly as we explored how to keep safe throughout Cycle to School Week. Thank you to everybody who cycled or scooted to school this week. It has been lovely to see lots of happy faces whizzing by in the morning. I even managed to get out to Upton Country Park with my boys one afternoon this week. It's certainly true that fresh air does wonders for the mind.*



*Next week, I am looking forward to welcoming many new families into our school as I show around parents who are looking for school places for September 2024. We have tours booked at 09:30 and 13:30 daily. If your child is due to start school in September 2024, please book in for a tour by emailing Bev in the office - [office@charminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@charminster.dorset.sch.uk)*

*This afternoon, there was a fantastic turnout for our School Association's MacMillan Coffee Afternoon. Thank you to everybody who organised and supported this wonderful event. You raised a fantastic total and there is still time to donate - [LINK](#)*



*Have a wonderful weekend,  
Mr Homer*



# 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**

Family 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 on 01305 228866**

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

Click or scan this QR code  
to go straight to Dorset  
Council's website:

