



Friday 2nd February 2024

# ST MARY'S NEWS

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

## KEY DATES

**Tuesday 6th February**

Safer Internet Day

**Thurs 8th Feb - 8:45-09:15am**

Curriculum Open Morning 

**Thursday 8th February**

Last Day of Term

**Friday 9th February**

INSET Day - school closed

**Mon 12th to Fri 16th February**

Half Term - school closed

**Monday 19th February**

First Day of Term

**Tuesday 20th February**

Year R & 4 - T@SM Church Visit

**Tuesday 27th February**

Year 3 - T@SM Church Visit

**W/C Monday 4th March**


St Mary's Book Week

**Friday 8th March**

Dress up as a book character

**Monday 11th March **

Beech & Maple Class Assembly

**Tuesday 12th March **


Year Four Music Concert

**Mon 18th - Wed 20th March**

Year 4 Residential - Hooke Court

**Friday 22nd March**

Progress Reports sent home

**Tuesday 26th March - 2pm **

Easter Service

**Thursday 28th March**

Last Day of Term

**Friday 29th March**

Bank Holiday - school closed

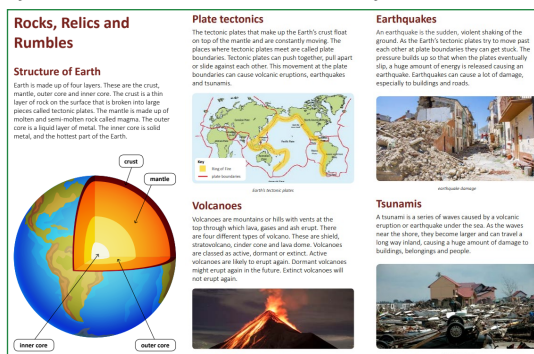
**Mon 1st to Fri 12th April**

Easter Break - school closed

 = Parents invited

## Note from Mr Homer

This week we were treated to a wonderful class-assembly by Ash class! They showcased all of their learning from their brand new project of 'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles'. We were all amazed by how much they have learned already this half term! This project is part of our new curriculum which we are exploring throughout our school. Here is a snapshot of what our Key Stage Two children are learning about in this project.



Thank you to those of you who attended yesterday's Story Night Reading Workshop. This was a lovely event which enabled the children to develop their love of stories whilst parents attended a reading workshop led by our teachers and explored a range of reading resources which we use. Parents also had time to watch the Little Wandle parent video which you can watch by following this [LINK](#).

As you will know, our focus value for this half term is 'Service'. I would like to say a huge thank you to members of our school community who demonstrated the value of Service by giving up their Saturday to erect a new shed for the School Association. We have one more shed to go so if you would like to help out, please contact the School Association.



Have a wonderful weekend!

Mr Homer

Be the best that you can be. Shine God's love for all to see.

• Friendship • Joy • Service • Hope • Compassion • Courage •



# CURRICULUM OPEN MORNING

On Thursday morning, we invite all parents to come into school with their children from **08:45 until 09:15**.

The purpose of this event is to allow you all to have a valuable insight into what our new curriculum offers to our children. You will be able to experience a small snapshot of school life for your child and also get to see their learning environment.

If you have multiple children in our school, please feel free to visit each classroom in turn. All St Mary's children must stay in their own classroom, so please do not take them around the school with you. There will be limited space in classrooms, so please avoid bringing pushchairs and siblings whenever possible. At 09:15, we will kindly ask the children to say their goodbyes to you as they will need to move to their first lesson of the day at 09:20.

**Please note that we have tweaked this event to start at 08:45 so that children can be registered first. This is in the interest of your child's safety. Please send your child in as normal from 08:30 and then wait outside before joining them at 08:45.**

We hope to see you all here on Thursday!



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



In Collective Worship this half term, we are focusing on our Christian value of Service.

Our BIG QUESTIONS for the past couple of weeks were...

**When do we have to be brave to serve others?**

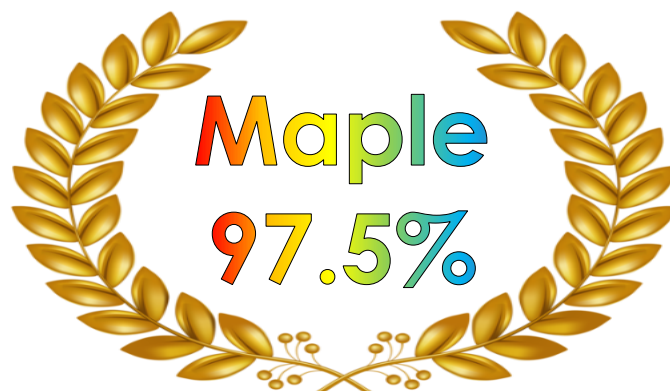
**What does it mean to serve God?**



Our school attendance for this academic year is currently:

**95.7%**

*Last week's winners were...*



## Vision and Value Award Winners...





# Recently at St Mary's

## Recently in Willow...

...we are learning all about building. We have been building a wall, trying out different building materials and writing about what might be behind the brick wall.



## Recently in Oak...

...we have been exploring collagraphs in Art and have been making our own prints using junk modelling. We merged science and geography together and have been learning about the weather in the United Kingdom. In maths, we have been investigating number bonds to 20 and have discovered some rather catchy songs to help us remember them. Mrs Joslin has finally got Marvellous Me up and running and we are working hard to be the best we can be whilst earning lots of badges at the same time!



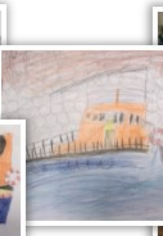
## Recently in Beech...

...we have been practising multiplication! We had our first look at multiple additions ready to tackle multiplication problems soon. We also begun filling our display with some of our super writing!



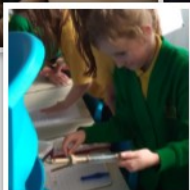
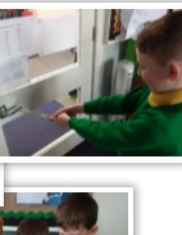
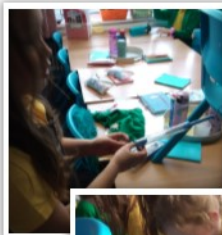
## Recently in Maple...

...we have enjoyed starting to write their own sequel to Billy and the Minpins. In Geography we have been learning about the RNLI, finding out about how they carry out sea rescues and where along the UK coastline, lifeboat stations can be found. On Tuesday we went down to the church for Tea at St. Mary's. We found out more about Candlemas which is something we are focusing on during collective worship this week.



## Recently in Linden...

...we have been learning about frictional forces. We investigated and measured the force needed to move different objects using a force meter. We also measured the pull in Newtons.



## Recently in Ash...

...we treated everybody in school to our Class Assembly which we have spent a lot of time preparing for. The assembly focused on our earthquakes and volcanoes project. We shared with the school a song about volcanoes using the Bastille Pompeii song! Our Andy Warhol inspired volcano pictures also went down a treat!!



# 10 INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

**1** Don't block all access to technology. Help your child learn to use tech **safely** and **positively**.

**2** Take an **interest** in your child's favourite apps or sites. Co-view or co-create at times.

**3** Be the parent. You're in charge. Set **boundaries** and consider using filtering software.

**4** Create a family media **agreement** with tech free zones such as cars, bedrooms, and meals.

**5** Teach your child what **personal information** they should not reveal online.

**6** Help your child learn to **filter** information online and navigate fact from fiction.

**7** Navigate digital **dilemmas** with your child. Avoid using devices as rewards or punishments.

**8** **Balance** green time and screen time at home. Focus on basic developmental needs.

**9** Don't support your child to sign up for sites with **age restrictions** (e.g. 13+) if they're underage.

**10** **Learn more:** Explore reliable resources for parents so you can educate yourself.





# 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:

