



# *St Mary's Catholic Primary School*

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth*

16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take the opportunity to update you on the life of the school this week.



The St.Mary's values of Creativity, Respect, Spirituality and Love were all in evidence this week as the children enjoyed a real variety of different experiences. Year 5 are on the verge of becoming fully fledged Year 6 which means that secondary school is already on the horizon. They spent last Thursday at St. Edward's applying themselves to a range of activities which were organised especially for them. My thanks to Mr. Farrow at St. Edwards for keeping the links between our schools strong.

Meanwhile, Year 3 returned to the stunning surroundings of Kimmeridge Bay where they explored over land and sea beneath an azure blue sky. The whole year group have loved their visits and they could not have taken place without the dedication of Mrs. Mills and the extra help from the parents and carers who gave up their time to ensure the correct ratios were met. My thanks to all involved.

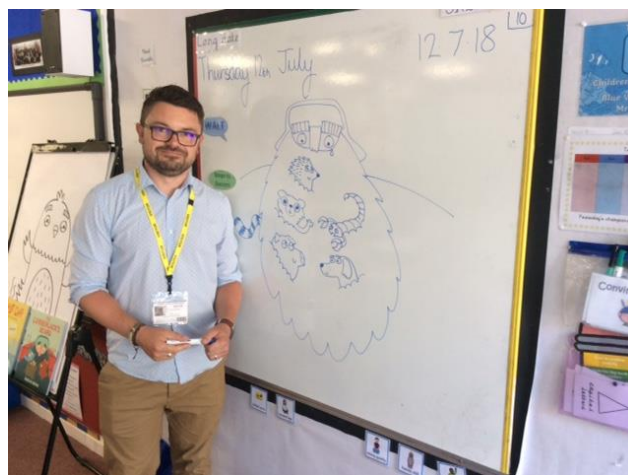
Last week also saw the return of published author and illustrator Duncan Beedie who really brought the creativity of our younger children into focus.

As well as collecting food for the Trussel Trust, Duncan spent the day signing books, holding illustration classes, working 1-1 with the winners of the food bank prize, being blown away by the final Book Group meeting of the year and trying to get a word in edgewise in Foundation.

We both also enjoyed a fantastic afternoon with Y6 narrating "The Bear Who Stared" and "The Lumberjack's Beard" while accompanying the action with musical leitmotifs. Mrs. Wilson organised all of this and, judging by the reaction of the audience, it was well worth it.

Duncan gives us his time for free and so I do hope you can continue to support him next year when his new book (about a moth who travels to the moon) is published.

Finally this week, the school's first ever "Inspire to Learn" event took place in a hot hall on Friday. With over 30 different jobs represented, and a really wide range of careers within this, the first incarnation of this idea was a real success. It was particularly pleasing to see the older children working so well with the younger visitors; a great credit to the school in what was a very packed hall. Thank you again to all those who brought the event to life; it really was a fantastic afternoon.



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**"Inspiring each other to learn, in the light of Christ"**

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Volunteers were out again just a few hours later for the Y6 leaver's disco. Events, trips and visits such as these can only take place if there are enough willing volunteers to ensure they happen and so please could I thank the St. Mary's staff who stayed late on the Friday night as well as the P.T.A. who do so much to improve the experience of the children at St. Mary's.

If you can, why not consider volunteering your time to take part in helping the P.T.A. with the many demands on their times? Please contact the office if you think you could help in any way.

Yours faithfully,

*R Howard*

Mr. R. Howard.

Deputy Headteacher.