



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

7th April 2017

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Devon Road  
Poole, BH15 3QQ

## Important dates for your diary

24th April—Summer Term begins  
28th April—Year 4 Mass & coffee morning  
28th April—KS2 Disco  
5th May— F2 Family Friday  
8th-12th May—Year 6 testing  
19th May— non uniform day in aid of Summer Fayre  
19th May— Year 1 Liturgy & coffee morning  
22nd & 24th May—Parent/Teacher consultations Y1-Y6  
22nd– 26th May Walk to School week  
24th May— KS2 BSO concert  
25th May—KS2 Cake Sale  
26th May—Half term starts school finishes at 3:15pm  
5th June—INSET school closed for children  
6th June—2nd half of summer term commences

**INSET day 2016/17**  
5th June 2017

**Please see the school calendar (published subject to change)**

## Easter

### Reflection by Father John

This coming Sunday, Palm Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy week. It's the most important week of the Church's year. The week begins with Jesus entering Jerusalem triumphantly welcomed by the people. A few days later, on Good Friday, the people shout "crucify Him, crucify Him!" as Jesus is led out to his crucifixion and death. But the death of Jesus was not an end but a new beginning. On Easter Sunday we celebrate Christ's glorious Resurrection. His death has brought us to life.

On Wednesday of Holy week the Priests and people of the diocese gather with the Bishop in the Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass when the priests renew their Ordination promises and the Oils of Chrism and Catechumen are consecrated and blessed by the Bishop. On Thursday evening we celebrate the Mass of the Last Supper. Remembering the night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, broke it and said "this is my body which is for you; do this as a memorial to me". In the same way he took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial to me". Every time we celebrate Mass we re-present the one Sacrifice of Calvary and fulfil the Lord's command to do this in his memory. (1 Cor.11: 23-26) After Mass we watch at the altar of repose, recalling Christ's agony in the garden of Gethsemane.

On Good Friday at 3pm (The time of our Lord's death) we commemorate the passion and death of our Lord after which the church falls silent until the Easter Vigil. The Easter Vigil on Saturday evening is always celebrated after darkness has fallen and begins with blessing of the Easter fire and Paschal Candle from which the people's candles are lit. The Easter Proclamation is sung and then we listen to several Old Testament readings which tell us the story of salvation history. Then the 'Gloria' is intoned, bells are rung to the accompaniment of an organ fanfare and the lights come on. After the New Testament reading, the Easter Alleluia is proclaimed as we celebrate Christ's resurrection. The third part of the Vigil is the celebration of the 'Baptismal Liturgy' during which the Easter water is blessed, baptisms take place and those coming into full communion of the Catholic Church are received and confirmed while everyone present renews their own baptismal promises. The Vigil then moves into the liturgy of the Eucharist when once more we fulfil the Lord's command at the Last Supper to do this in his memory.

The celebration of Easter continues for fifty days and concludes with the celebration of Pentecost.



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### French news!

Pupils in Year 3 heard the Easter bells fly back early! Les cloches volantes!

In Key Stage 2 this week, we have learned about French Easter traditions. Les cloches volantes, or the Easter bells, fall silent on Holy Thursday, as they fly to Rome to be blessed by the Pope; returning to ring out on Easter morning, dropping chocolate treats in the gardens of good girls and boys, in celebration of the Resurrection.

We have also seen some amazing work with our Easter similes poem, using our developing decoding skills. Joyeuses Pâques (Happy Easter) to all the wonderful Language Detectives of St Mary's!



### Poole Grammar School's Language Fair Bonanza!

Several of our Year Four children were invited to take part in the Language Bonanza Fair at Poole Grammar School.

The children had the opportunity to learn about different cultures and languages by taking part in quizzes and games organised by the Grammar School pupils.

Our children also enjoyed a multi-cultural lunch served by the Grammar School, which included delicious dishes from China, India, Mexico and Italy.

Thank you to Poole Grammar for inviting us to this super event.



### Waste Week Competition!

During March the Eco Club were involved in Waste Week. As well as their usual litter picking and recycling, the Eco Club members invited a friend each to join them in a junk modelling recycling competition. The task was to build an animal out of recyclable materials. There were some fantastic designs including a large cow, milk bottle elephant and a wellington boot hedgehog! Well done to everyone for their amazing efforts!



### Super St. Mary's Swimmers

Congratulations to the Year 5 and 6 St. Mary's Swimming team! We came 1st place in the Year 5 and 6 boys competition at the annual Poole Schools Swimming Gala. Our swimmers showed excellent effort, ability and determination. Well done to: Luca, Anthosh, Connor, James, Cillian, Jayce, Brandon, Anthony, Filip, Zak, Ruby, Alicia, Claudia, Anna, Clementine, Sophie S, Sophie G, Amelia, Isabel and Keira. A special well done goes to Anna and Amelia who were talent spotted by Poole Swimming Club. Mrs Mills—Swimming Leader

### Year 3 Swimmers

After their initial swimming assessments, Year 3 swimming lessons are now underway. The student's attitude and behaviour during our trips to Rossmore has been exemplary and we look forward to helping them improve in confidence, ability and style over the coming months. Miss Copley

**Year 6** recently took part in the Poole Schools Netball Tournament and played 4 games against other local schools, gaining runners up position in their section. Congratulations and very well done to our outstanding players: Amelia, Ejiro, Grace, Livi, Sophie and Tommy.



Well done to our **Year 5 Netball Team**, who participated in the recent Poole Schools Netball Tournament. They played a total of 6 games against other local schools and reached the final stages. Congratulations to: Alicia, Charlotte, Gianluca, James, Raul, Rory, Ruby and Sam.



We were very proud to take our **Year 3 & 4** Netball Teams to their first Netball Festival at Oakdale School, where they could show off their skills while playing against other local schools. Congratulations to all our players who reached the final stages. Angela, Delen, Diya, Ellie, Julia, Keira, Lily, Manna, Olivia, Rhianna, Sienna and Suhani. Fantastic play everyone!



We are looking forward to the BSO Secrets and Codes event, a schools concert presentation by James Redwood. This will take place on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at Poole Lighthouse. We would be grateful for any parents/carers to accompany the children at 12:20 to the Lighthouse, enjoy the performance and accompany them back at the end of the school day. Please contact the school office if you are able and willing to help. Many thanks in anticipation, Mrs Wilson, Music Leader.

### Poole Pottery Mothering Sunday competition

#### All the winners were from St Mary's!

We would like to say many congratulations to the overall winner - Everlynn.

The design was painted on to a large dinner plate by the Poole Pottery studio artists and she also won a 'Paint a Pot' voucher for four people.



Also, congratulations to the two runners up, Preston and Kieran.

Both Preston and Kieran won the opportunity to have their design painted on to a small plate by the Poole Pottery studio artists.

Well done!

### Staffing news

We would like to extend a warm St Mary's welcome to Emily Richardson as our new TA in Year 4.

Mrs Wright is now working full time in the Pastoral Care Worker role and can be contacted via the school office.

### Lost property

Please can we ask that you check your child's uniform ready for the new term?

We have noticed that a lot of the property we try to reunite with the owner is named but illegible as the label or indelible ink has worn off.

Thank you for your support with this.

## Science Fair

Our first ever St. Mary's whole school Science Fair was a great success! Well done to all the children for their amazing presentations and thank you to everyone who supported the children with their projects and for attending this exciting event. Our judges were very impressed with the standard of the projects, the children's confidence and their scientific understanding and abilities. We would also like to thank our 16 judges for taking the time to judge at our event.

Congratulations to our winners who are as follows:

**Foundation:** William, Sam, Phoebe, Ava, Leti

**Year 1:** Leo, Lottie

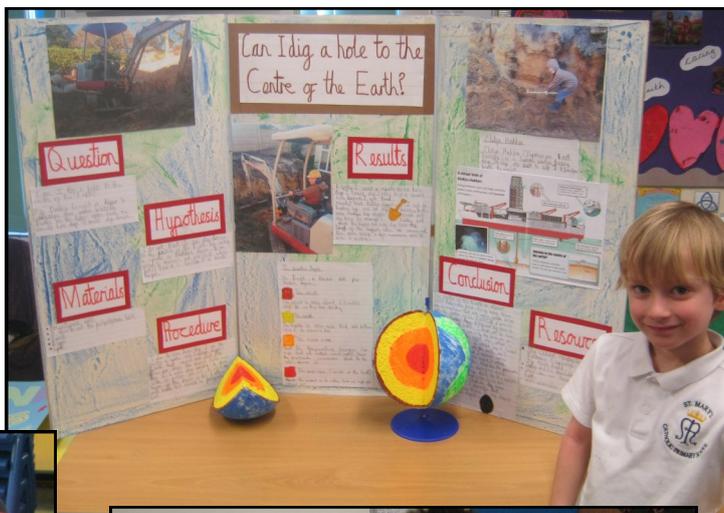
**Year 2:** Millie, Candace, Brogan

**Year 3:** Sophie, Ellie

**Year 4:** Jack, Suhani

**Year 5:** Tommaso, Aidan, Shane, Alvin

**Year 6:** Sophie S, Charlie, Lauren



## Borough of Poole Nature Engagement - Poole Park Litter Pick

Our Eco Club have been busy again litter picking at Poole Park.

Despite the wind and rain, the children and parent helpers were very enthusiastic litter pickers in the partly drained lake, and we all had an enjoyable time. Thank you to everyone who joined in.

The children learnt about feeding ducks with peas (not bread!), how to make a bird feeder, and about new plant and animal species that have been found in the lake.

We plan to take part in this event again next year.



## Science Club

The children have continued to enjoy investigating and exploring materials in the Science Club.

A particular favourite activity of theirs was using jelly babies and wooden rods to create amazingly strong structures!

This popular club is open, next term, to pupils in Year 2-6. Please see the clubs letter sent out earlier this week for dates.



**Year 1 Science Investigations** The Year One children have been very busy finding out about how far a rocket can travel, what happens to a



gingerbread man in different liquids, whether an orange floats or sinks, and what happens to milk and food colouring when washing up liquid is added. They have been enjoying exploring our school environment, looking for signs of Spring, and carrying out their own investigations into light, magnetism and materials.

## Illness

Please may we remind you of the 48 hour rule which is particularly important at this time of year. If your child has suffered a tummy upset please do not send him/her to school until 48 hours after the last symptom. If you are aware that sickness has been caused by something other than a bug, please ensure you inform the class teacher as in such instances the 48 hour rule does not apply! Please contact the school office for advice if you are unsure as to whether your child should be in school with specific issues such as conjunctivitis, skin complaints etc.

If your child is suffering from a cough or cold we are happy to administer **prescribed** medicine in school but will ask that you complete a form with detailed instructions beforehand. Please do not send **ANY** medications in with children. Thank you.

## First Day Contact

First day contact will be made with parents if a child is absent and the reason has not been communicated to school. This should in no way be considered to be intrusive or a nuisance, it is purely to ensure the safety and well-being of all our children.

Please ensure that you call the school absence line on 01202 676207 option 1 or alternatively email the school office at: [office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk)

**by 9:00 am please.**



## Volunteers

Thank you to those of you who volunteer for the benefit of our children. If you are able and willing to spare an hour a week to join our parent readers group please contact the school office.

Parent helpers do a sterling job and we are very appreciative. ***Please note that whilst in school we would ask that your mobile phone is always switched off.*** Thank you.

## Changes to pick up

Although we understand that delays in pick up can inevitably happen, can we ask that you telephone the school office as soon as you are aware so that we can ensure that the class teacher is informed.

If your child is signed up to an after school club it is essential that you let us know if they will not be attending as a register is taken and we need to check on the whereabouts of any missing children.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to keep all children safe in school.

## School Nurse Drop In Session

Please feel free to see the nurse from the school nursing team who will be based in the meeting room on 3rd May from 8:30 in the morning until approximately 9:30am.

Please come to the school office to sign in if you would like to see the nurse.

## Road Safety



Government guidance clearly shows that the zigzags outside the school should not be used as a drop off point for your children. **“Keep entrance clear of stationary vehicles, even if picking up or setting down children.”** Please drive into school to drop off your child if you have to drive in to Devon Road—this is the only safe way of dropping off. We are increasingly concerned about the dangerous manoeuvres in Devon Road. Please can we ask that drivers do not do multiple point turns in the road. When dropping off at school in the morning please could we ask that you **do not stop on the hazards** but instead drop your child off in the disabled bays. They can then walk up the steps by the office and along the path to get into school. By doing this it should mean that 5 cars could all drop at the same time and hopefully will make it quicker for you all.

Alternatively why not park in the surrounding roads and walk to school?

It can be fun and interesting. You get to notice things along the way and the benefits are: children love walking with their friends, especially on the journey to school. It makes them feel good. Exercise makes them feel calmer and happier while improving concentration, making it easier to focus in school. It also promotes independence and freedom. Children can also make more decisions about their journey than they can in the car. They can choose to stop and look at something along the way and they can start to make decisions about road safety.

It 's also a good opportunity to master spellings and tables facts.