



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth

9th March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take the opportunity to update you on the life of the school this week. After the drama of last week's weather there has been even more than normal to fit into the time available.

Back at school now we have had the visit of Olympic swimmer Joe Roebuck inspiring the pupils as we run up towards Sports Relief Day, a Foundation Stage open afternoon to look forward to on Monday the 19th March at 2:30 p.m. and of course a **DIPPY DINOSAUR ART DAY here in school from 10 a.m. on Saturday 10th March; absolutely everyone welcome**—the P.T.A. will be here to support the school; my thanks again to this tireless group who work so hard behind the scenes.

The bright lights of London town called for Y6 during the annual visit to the Houses of Parliament in Westminster. Every year is different (apart from the weather which has been consistently diabolical every time); this year's group had the chance to see the Lords debating the EU withdrawal bill before a real highlight—the ceremonial entrance of Speaker Bercow with mace and full retinue. Our guide got us right to the front of a packed lobby...we were close enough to touch the robes as they flowed past. My thanks to Mr. Rickman and our Governor Mrs. Culkin without whom the visit could not have taken place.

The next steps in our promotion of the St. Mary's British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect will be to take the knowledge gleaned by the group to each class...a kind of mini-democracy roadshow. We are also awaiting delivery of a parliamentary loan box which will be used to bring the democratic process to life during our weekly key stage assemblies.

This quote from Mrs. Culkin neatly encapsulates this year's group:

"Every child spent time talking to me, freely and with confidence and I was most impressed at the ingenuity of their project topics! I doubt I would have been as original if I were given the task!

Thank you again and congratulations to Year 6, a really lovely group of young people."

Y6 have also been working exceptionally hard in their early morning maths sessions which run Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. with 10 minutes of Astro time afterwards. The focus is on arithmetic and is open to any pupil in Y6. Pupils can attend every day, one day or for any combination of days but it is vital that they are in school ready to study at 8 a.m. (preferably with a notebook and pencil of their own so that the most can be made of the time).

A full report on the madness of World Book Day is attached to this email.

Don't forget to book the date of Sunday 22nd April—Beach clean at Chesil Beach in Weymouth—transport and equipment provided. N.B. children must be accompanied by an adult. Please let the office know if you would like a space.

<https://www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/iqs/dbitemid.5208/sfa.view/eventsatchesil.html>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

R Howard

Mr. R. Howard
Deputy Headteacher.

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

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