



# *St Mary's Catholic Primary School*

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth*

13<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take the opportunity to update you on the life of the school last week. It was good to see the participation at the Phonics and Maths evenings and I would like to re-iterate that you are always welcome to make an appointment with your child's teacher or any other staff member should you require any further help with these or other subjects.

Talking of help, my thanks go to Mrs. Eddy and the Foundation team for organising an amazing experience that really brought learning to life; a visit from the Fire Service. Foundation stage children found out an enormous amount of information and it was wonderful to see their confident, inquisitive and sensible behaviour during the visit.

Also last week a group of Year 5 & 6 children travelled to the leafy environs of Canford School for a cross country competition. Having given up their time to train over several lunchbreaks, St. Mary's burst out of the minibus in an A-Team style; they were ready for action. Again, Mrs. Evans and myself felt a real sense of pride watching the team surging over the start line; well done to all of them and particular congratulations to Connor and Jimmy in Y6 who placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively in a field of 170+ runners; an amazing achievement.

On a related note, there are still 5 places available for the lecture on the Psychology of Sport at Lytchett School on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of November. We will meet here at St. Mary's in full smart uniform at 5:30 p.m. ready to drive to Lytchett in the minibus for a 6 p.m. start and a 7:20 p.m. return to St. Mary's. Please contact me at the end of the day (on the playground) or via the office if you or your child wish to attend what I am sure will be an interesting evening of expert discussion on this topic.

Please also remember to talk to your child about what their dream job could be in readiness for the animator visit on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. The best illustrations (as judged by Sara) will lead to an opportunity for those children selected to work in a small group and, potentially, win a prize.

Finally this week...as in previous years we will be participating in "Computer Science Week" which we call "Week of Code". This begins on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of December and will see every child in the school participate in some coding activities during the week. There will also be a group of upper KS2 children visiting KS1 to help with this.

In addition, we are planning to have a special assembly on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December which will involve a demonstration of 3D printing. The 3D printer will then be left in school for the week so STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Maths) subjects can be brought to life here at St. Mary's.

To see what it's all about simply type "hour of code" into your search engine and then explore the coding experiences that are offered for all ages at...<https://hourofcode.com/uk/learn>

Yours faithfully,

*R Howard*

R. Howard.  
Deputy Head.