



# *St Mary's Catholic Primary School*

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth*

5<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

We are already nearing the end of this short half term and the school council have been busy putting one of our British Values (Democracy) into practice. This week will see the House Points collected up and counted before the winning house is announced in my update at the end of the week. The council will then ask representatives of that house what they would like as a reward. Their choice will be communicated to you by the council themselves; a really clear example of the children having an impact on the life of the school.

Another event involving our school community and participation beyond the curriculum will be held here in school on the weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> of March. On the Saturday, school will be open to all as we host a "Dippy Day" with artist Darrell Wakelam. Friends, family and neighbours; all are invited. We will be working together to create a large scale art project based on the theme of fossils which we can then display in the school. Our thanks to the P.T.A. who will be in attendance to serve refreshments and run a raffle; it promises to be a great day for the whole community. Exact timings and instructions to follow...in the meantime examples of Darrell's work can be found here: <http://www.darrellwakelam.co.uk/>

The Jurassic coast and its fossils inspire those who are lucky enough to visit but anyone who has been watching "Blue Planet" will be all too aware of the issue of litter in virtually every part of our maritime environment. With this issue increasingly being recognised as a generational one, the emphasis for now must be on prevention of avoidable waste alongside working to clean up the damaging material that is already in the ecosystem. As a first step, the school will for the first time be taking part in the Dorset Wildlife Trust's Great Dorset Beach Clean. 11-1 p.m. on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018 at the main car park (free) on Chesil Beach. Children must be accompanied by an adult but we will be offering 14 spaces in the school minibus if you would like to help. Please let the office know if you would be interested in knowing more: <https://www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/dorsetbeachclean.html>

The next steps will involve working with the Eco club and School Council to reduce the amount of plastic that comes into the school.

Finally, please remember the daily arithmetic challenge which is updated daily:

<http://www.brainbashers.com/30seconds.asp>

and the 500 words competition (planning and discussion is just as important as writing at this stage).

Thank you for your continued support

Yours faithfully,

*R Howard*

Mr. R. Howard  
Deputy Headteacher.