



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth*

6th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have all returned to school excited for the new term. I hope that you have all had a lovely summer and enjoyed your time together making memories. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new parents and carers to our school and I hope that you will soon feel part of our special school family.

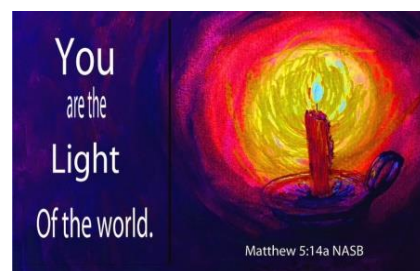


Our school news following the holidays is exciting and positive. We were fortunate to be able to get some much needed upgrades to our facilities. We have had a new kitchen in the 'Early Birds' and 'Night Owls' room. It looks amazing and will make a big difference to the adults preparing the food. We also have more storage which is great.

A special thank you to all the teachers who came in and spent time on their rooms making them inviting for their new class of children but an extra special thank you to those who helped with the painting and decorating. They really did go above and beyond! The year 5 classrooms had become very tired and grubby but following a fresh coat of paint or two and new carpets they look clean, fresh and welcoming.



Our week began with a staff INSET day on Monday. Our liturgy was "You are the Light of the World" as well as teaching and learning we focussed on our Vision and Values.



At the beginning of the week a few children found coming back to school quite challenging and we did have a few tears but by Friday it was lovely to walk around the school and listen to what the children were saying. Here are some of the comments from the children.

Year 1 - Mia "I liked colouring"

Year 2 – Josh "I enjoyed working in class"

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

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Year 3 – Grayson “I really enjoyed dinner time”

Year 4 – Xavier “The best thing is my friend Rory”

Year 5 – Lea “Being told you can do trips and sleepovers together”

Year 6 – Charlotte “Making marshmallow and spaghetti towers in teams”

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

It was lovely to see so many of you at our beginning of the school year Mass today. On Monday and Tuesday we will be holding our ‘Parent Information Evenings’. Please come along to meet your child’s class teacher and find out what the year holds in store for your child. They will be sharing information about the curriculum, homework, extra-curricular activities, newsletters, pastoral support and much more. They will also be sharing with you that we have had problems with our delivery of ‘Homework Diaries’ for Key Stage Two, hopefully they will arrive soon.

This Sunday is ‘Education Sunday’ and our CEO, Mr Raymond Friel will be coming to St. Mary’s Church to the 9.30am Mass. At the end of Mass he will be speaking. It would be lovely to see our children supporting ‘Education Sunday’ by wearing their school uniform to Mass. I know that you will support this and look forward to seeing you there.



WEAR YOUR UNIFORM TO
9.30AM MASS ON SUNDAY

A special thank you to Mrs Wright who worked hard and submitted our application our Fairtrade work in our school. I am pleased to share with you that we have awarded the ‘FairAchiever Award’ for another 3 years. Well done everyone!



The staff and children at St. Mary’s have been working with Adrian Boyd from ‘The Hospital Radio’. Mr Lakatos and the Year 6 boys presented on one show and a group of Year 4 boys presented on another show. Well done to all!



This week so our first ever session of ‘Little Ducklings’ our play and stay session, the children and their carers had a great time singing songs, playing and eating snacks. A special thank you to our volunteer leaders, who came in in the holidays, to clean the equipment and plan the sessions for the term.



On 12th September there will be a 'Nurse Drop In' in school. The session is there to help with any concerns families may have with regards to their child/ren. For example toileting issues, behaviour, eating, sleeping, head lice or anything else! Simply 'drop-in' to see the school nurse via the school front entrance.



We now have 313 followers our Twitter account. If you would like to follow us we are @stmaryspoole.

Please remember if your child has achieved something out of school and you would like that to be shared with the whole school; please let school know so we can share their success.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen Armstrong'.

Helen Armstrong
Headteacher