



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

1st June 2018

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

Devon Road  
Poole, BH15 3QQ

## Important dates

### for your diary

**4th June**

Children return to school

**5th June**

Science Day

**8th June**

Non uniform day

Year 2 Liturgy and coffee morning

**15th-18th June**

Y6 PGL Residential

**19th June**

KS1 Sports Day (reserve 20th June)

**21st June**

KS2 Sports Day (reserve 21st June)

**25th-28th June**

Bikeability

**29th June**

Be a Saint for the Day

Year 3 Mass

Summer Fayre

**6th July**

Transition Day

**13th July**

Foundation Family Friday

**Last day of Term**

25th July

**INSET days:**

**3rd September 2018**

**29th October 2018**

**25th February 2019**

**22nd July 2019**

**23rd July 2019**

Please see school calendar  
(published subject to change)

## Staff News

Miss Shaw is approaching the time when she will be going on maternity leave and I know that you all will all be wishing her well as she prepares to welcome her new arrival. We are in the process of finalising the cover for the class and will keep you all updated.

We would like to welcome Mr Aldworth to St Mary's, who has joined us as Caretaker.

## News from Plymouth CAST

We have had another busy half term and the children, staff and Governors have all worked hard. Our Education and Standards Manager (ESM) from Plymouth CAST has visited us twice this term. The ESM and Senior Leadership Team have confidence from work scrutiny, pupil interviews, and overall monitoring evidence that progress is strong across the school. As parents and carers you will have had the opportunity to see the progress your child is making at our parent consultations last week. We are extremely proud of the books and the work your children are producing.

We have also had a visit from the acting CEO of Plymouth CAST, Karen Cooke, Father Richard from Bridport who is a Director, and finally from the CEO designate, Raymond Friel who will take up post in July.

## Attendance

Please be reminded that Headteachers are not allowed to authorise holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

We have had a few parents contact us recently as they are concerned about the letter recently sent out via the local authority. Please be reminded that "following a review of Fixed Penalty Notices issued for unauthorised leave in term time, it is important to inform you that parents in Poole are now facing considerably higher fines in Court than previously seen. For example, between September 2017-December 2017, fines were as high as £824, to be paid in full within 14 days." Please ensure your child's regular attendance by taking family holidays within the 13 weeks of school holidays. Thank you.

Poison Dart Frogs	97.3%	G. Penguins	94.1%
Sharks	94.4%	Marine Iguanas	96.5%
Blue Whales	96.6%	Swift Foxes	92.7%
Polar Bears	97.0%	Black S. Monkeys	96.1%
Penguins	96.4%	Fin Whales	94.4%
Wolverines	96.6%	White Rhinos	96.6%



01202 676207

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



[office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk)

## Football

On Thursday 10th May, a mixed Y5/6 team played Bayside Academy at St Mary's. The team played amazingly well, but unfortunately we lost 5-2. Well done to all the boys for being great representatives to the school.

On Wednesday 16th May, a mixed Y3/4 team attended a football tournament at AFC Bournemouth and actually got to play on the pitch! Unfortunately the team didn't win but they were great sports and represented out school well. Well done!



## Cheerleading-end of year showcase

Some of the children who have taken part in our cheerleading club this year will be performing in an end of year showcase on Friday 13th July at 5:30pm at Poole High School. I'm sure they are all very excited to show you.

## Royal Wedding celebrations at St Mary's!

Key Stage 1 enjoyed making tiaras and crowns for a tea party to celebrate the wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan. It was a beautiful afternoon and everyone had a fabulous time!

The children in our Foundation classes designed and wrote congratulation cards to the happy couple which were sent to Kensington Palace in time for the big day.





### Eco Club Fun Fruit Sale

On Wednesday 2nd May, Eco Club ran a 'Healthy Fruit Animal' stall at morning break time. The aim was to sell tasty, fun, healthy snacks to raise money to help buy a much needed new pond liner, for our school pond. The Eco Warriors worked hard to make some amazing fruit creatures and they raised £46. Thank you to all the children who supported this successful event.



### Eco Club Visit Poole Grammar for 'Green Week'

For a fourth year running, Eco Club were invited to the 'Green Week' at Poole Grammar School. So on Thursday 10th May, 10 of our Eco Warriors attended this event hosted by Poole Grammar School teachers, chefs and pupils. It involved celebrating all things 'green'! The children took part in planting vegetable seeds for a whole school project and they were given a guided tour of the fruit and vegetable gardens by the Site Manager. Poole Grammar will also be kindly donating some plants so our children can grow them in our own organic garden. We have really enjoyed this event and our thanks goes to all the staff and pupils at Poole Grammar for making us so welcome.



### Microscope Month—May

During May, all our children at St. Mary's had the opportunity to use a fantastic set of microscopes, which we were able to borrow from the Royal Microscope Society. They used them in treasure hunt games and to help with observational drawings. The activities fitted in really well with our St. Mary's Science principles: Science lessons are practical, 'hands on' and active.



Our thanks go to the Royal Microscope Society for this super opportunity, which was provided free of charge.

### RNLI Visit Year 3

This month, Year 3 have had two visits from the RNLI. Our children learnt about the role of this amazing organisation and how they can keep safe near water.

They learnt about the 'Water safety Code', with a particular focus on the dangers of rip currents at the beach.

Please ensure you keep your children safe this summer by making sure they know the 'Water safety code'. 'Always swim between the lifeguard flags at the beach' to keep safe. Please look at the RNLI website for more details.



### Swimming Stars!

Congratulations to Luca and James, from Year 6, who have been selected to represent Dorset schools in the Dorset County Finals Swimming Competition, at Littledown, on Saturday 16th June. James will be swimming 50m backstroke and Luca will be swimming 50m breaststroke.

We wish them all the best. Well done boys for reaching the finals!

## Results of the recent Safeguarding questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to answer our survey. The results have been shared with the governors and staff. Following on from this, we will soon be putting an updated copy of our Safeguarding curriculum map, capturing how children are taught to stay safe (including online), onto our website. You can also find a copy of our Safeguarding policy on the website. Please also note that Mrs Betts is the Designated Safeguarding Lead, with Mrs Armstrong, Mr Howard, Mrs Hazell and Mrs Wright as Deputy Safeguarding Leads. Posters are displayed around the school so that all children, staff and visitors are aware of who to speak to; however we are **ALL** responsible for keeping our children safe. Please be assured that safeguarding children **IS** the school's highest priority.

Question	Yes
St Mary's is a safe place	96%
My child feels safe at school	94%
At school, my child is taught how to stay safe	81%
My child is made aware of the potential dangers of being online when using computers	75%
I know what the school's policy is in relation to the use of cameras and mobile phones on site	86%
I am aware of who the school's designated members of staff for Child Protection and Safeguarding are	81%
I understand that the school has a duty of care to report all concerns to the appropriate services	100%
I have read and understood the school's Child Protection Policy	81%
I understand the safeguarding importance of providing up to date and relevant information to the school about my child	100%
I understand that safeguarding children is the school's highest priority	96%

### Governors

Thank you to those parents who made an appointment to see our Governors at the parent consultation evenings. They will feed back your thoughts at the next meeting which will be after half term.

### E-safety

Please can we remind you that if you have a concern it is always better to come into to school and talk to your child's teacher directly. We also ask that you **REFRAIN** from using public forums and social media, particularly Facebook, to discuss school business and other children. It is unacceptable and causes great distress to many parents and also to our staff.

### Play time!

This term saw the introduction of play leaders on both our KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. The Y 5 children who have volunteered to take this role have been enthusiastically organising and leading various games during part of their lunchtime. Easily identified by their orange jackets, they have been helping to give out and collect the new play equipment which has been enjoyed by the children this term. Well done year 5! Thank you to the PTA from all the children for paying to have the playground equipment repaired!

Thank you to those who have sent in board games and similar for wet play, we are always very grateful.

### First Holy Communion

We have many children across Key Stage 2 who are making their First Holy Communion over the next few weeks. Please keep them all in your prayers.



### Weather

The sunshine over the past couple of weeks has been very welcomed. Please can you remember to send your child with a water bottle and a sunhat then we can encourage them to drink lots and wear their hats. It would be very helpful if could you apply sun cream before they come to school. Just in case of rain during the day please could you send a waterproof to school each day.

## PTA News

We have some exciting events taking place in the summer months ahead, these events are very popular and the children always enjoy themselves.

Dates for your diary:

8 June 2018	-	KS1 Disco
29 June 2018	-	Summer Fayre
13 July 2017	-	Leavers Disco

The PTA would like to be able to provide refreshments during the KS1 & KS2 Sport Days on 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>nd</sup> June. Parents always welcome a cold drink and snack on what is traditionally a warm and sunny day, however we do need some parent volunteers to help on the day. If you can help, even for a short while, please leave your details with the office so we can co-ordinate volunteers.

Our Summer Fayre will be held on Friday 29 June, this year we thought we would make it fun with a picnic theme! We have lots of fun and all-inclusive activities planned, including stalls, bouncy castle, sports displays, Pimms tent, cream teas, pizza, ice cream and much more. To make this a great event that the whole school community can enjoy we hope that parents will give up a short amount of time to help on the day. We will send out a form after half term with time slots and would be very grateful if you could return it with your availability to ensure everyone gets a chance to experience the day!

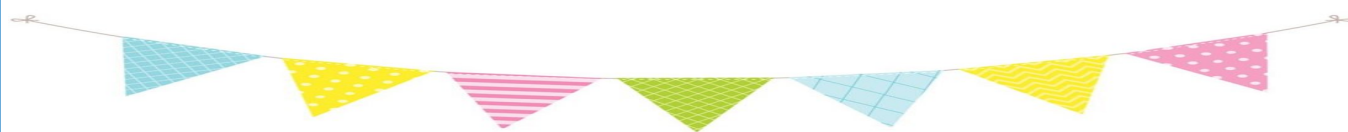
We also previously mentioned we are planning to trial a silent auction at this year's Summer Fayre. If you have a talent, skill or business that you would be willing to share or donate a 'prize' which can be used in the auction, please let us know. This may include services such as car washing, cooking a meal, surf lesson, manicure, haircut, vouchers etc. All donations very gratefully received!

We are pleased to report that the work to replace and repair the wooden playground equipment is now complete and I trust you will agree that they look fantastic and the children have already made good use of them. We also hope that Year 6 enjoyed their recent treats following SATS (Year 2 will have some next half term) and Year 1 during their school trip and that the ice-lollies on 'Be a Saint for the Day' event cool everyone down, before the big summer fayre!

As always, your continued support is always appreciated.

Your PTA

[pta@st-marys.poole.sch.uk](mailto:pta@st-marys.poole.sch.uk)



NON UNIFORM DAY—FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2

small items to be placed in the lucky dip cups -toys, sweets, pencils, pens, stationery items, hair accessories .....

KS2 - Year 3

small items to be placed in the lucky dip cups - toys, sweets, pencils, pens, other stationery items, hair accessories .....

KS2 - Years 4,5 and 6

Bottles and toiletries - wine, soft drinks, bubble bath ....

You can drop items into reception if it is easier for you. Can you please avoid any canned fizzy drinks and anything containing nuts.

Thank you!

## Science Day and Exhibition – Tuesday 5th June

On Tuesday 5th June the whole school will be involved in a Science Chain Reaction Day. This will be an outdoor event, where children bring in their own resources from home, to create a chain reaction with a group. The focus will be on water, wheels and waves! This exciting Science day follows our whole school Science principles where Science lessons are practical, 'hands on' and active, and where there are many opportunities for child led scientific enquiry, where children discover for themselves. Items to bring in could include: carpet/ material roll inner tubes, rain gutter pipes, washing up bowls, buckets, large dominoes, recycled plastic bottles and containers, pipes, funnels and plastic tubes, paper/ plastic cups, odd bicycle wheels, odd plastic bottles, ice cream tubs, lego, water table items, marble run, marbles and balls.

Parents, carers, friends and family are invited to the whole school Water, Wheels and Waves Exhibition, at St. Mary's, on 5th June from 2p.m - 2.45 p.m. We look forward to seeing you there!

Last week we took part in Walk to School week. It was great to see so many children joining in. We have also taken part in a competition with other schools which was organised by Poole Council. The school which had the highest percentage of children walking to school will win the prestigious golden boot trophy. We will find out if we are the winning school after half term.

## School Council news

This half term the School Council has been extremely busy. Earlier in the term, Mrs Thain had a meeting with Nick Ellis who works for Road Safety Team from the Borough of Poole. As a school, we are becoming increasingly concerned by the congestion surrounding our school. The cars cause pollution around our school and we have safety concerns for those walking.

We have been working with Mrs Mills and the Eco-Club to come up with solutions. This half term we have been conducting road surveys. Our aim was to find out how long it took to walk from certain roads near the school, to school, in order to help promote the idea that it is better to park a little distance from the school and walk in. We timed how long it took to walk from different locations and now plan to create a map for parents with this information on. This will hopefully reduce congestion near the school, and help the environment and our health.



**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 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.**



## Uniform

Please can you ensure that your child always has their PE kit in school. In some classes there are several children who do not bring in kit and are having to take part in the lessons in school uniform.

Please see our website for details of uniform requirements. Uniform can be purchased from Tesco online and the Poole Uniform shop in the High Street. In particular please note:

- sensible black shoes
- no nail varnish
- one pair of small, plain stud earrings (**not on PE days**)
- long hair should be tied up - plain hairbands only. No tram-lines please.

Wearing the correct uniform promotes a sense of community within the school and allows children to demonstrate their pride in their school, both within school and when they are out in the local community.