



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth

27th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing the update this week from Exeter where I am attending the Plymouth Cast Heads and Deputies Conference. This morning we have covered "The Vision, One Year On", the latest Ofsted updates and this afternoon listened to an inspiring Headteacher from Manchester.



Our Year 2 children went to Brownsea Island on Wednesday. Fortunately the weather stayed fine and all the children and staff had a great day 'experiencing life on an island'. When the children arrived back at school I asked



the children if they had had a lovely time. One little boy said, "Yes but there were no bouncy castles!" A little later I spoke to his Dad and said how disappointed he was that there were no bouncy castles. Dad said "that is because he thought he was going to Bouncy Island!"

That is why I love working with children they never fail to make me smile.



One of our parents has enlisted the support of a pond expert who has been to school to give us help and advice. We still need your help on Saturday 19th October, 9.30-12 noon. If you are available please let the office know. If any of you have any contacts for cheap top soil or pond plants we would be grateful to hear from you also.



Last Friday the PTA held their first Disco of the year for the Key Stage 2 children. The children danced and 'screamed' the night away and enjoyed buying lots of treats from the tuck shop! In fact we sold out of goodies! A big thank you to the teachers, that supported the event and to our PTA and parent helpers who are very supportive and give up their time for the children.



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

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Our poster has arrived to stick on our stickers for the Aldi's Kit for Schools. As you can see we need a lot more stickers! Please help us by doing your shopping in the Aldi. Every time you spend over £30 in any Aldi store you'll receive a Team GB sticker. Bring your stickers to school to help complete our poster. I am getting the hang at shopping in the Aldi and beginning to find my way around and did not miss anything off the list this week!



Last week our cross country team went to run their first race at Canford school, where all the children did their best and enjoyed the experience and this week some of our Year 3 and 4 children went to St. Edward's to take part in a 'Multi-skills' event and they won! It was a round robin of various sports activities. Well done to all the children!

Year 3 welcomed Deacon Nick to school this week He was supporting the children in understanding the special objects that are used during Baptism.



We practised what we would do if we had to carry out a 'Full Lockdown' in school. The children were a credit to their families. They were all so sensible and mature. They followed instructions, behaved sensibly and stayed calm and in control. Well done to all the staff and children.

We have been chosen by 'Good Gym Poole' as their latest project to support. On Tuesday 15th October they will run to school and help us to tidy up our garden areas. They run/walk and complete a task all within 90 minutes. If you would like to join them they meet every Tuesday evening in the courtyard of Daveena's Cafe. There is a toilet and a space to store bags while out on the run. They meet at 6.15pm ready to run at 6.30pm. If you would like to find out more visit <https://www.goodgym.org/happenings/st-mary-s-school-garden-project>

Are you on a low income and entitled to Free School Meals? If you think you are then you will also be able to access support with uniform, financial help with trips and residentials, support with clubs and extra-curricular events. If you need more advice please contact Mrs Penwarden, our Finance Assistant, in the school office.



Our Twitter news this week is that Mrs Wilson has set up a Twitter page for 'Music at St. Mary's Poole', you will find the page @musicalstmarys

Congratulations to Fintan in Year 5, who passed his Taekwondo grading to Blue belt: red stripe, which is not only learning and displaying in front of a large audience 3 'patterns' for the exam, but also passing a theory test in Korean. This means he has 3 gradings left until he becomes a black belt! Well done Fintan.

Yours faithfully,

Helen Armstrong

Helen Armstrong
Headteacher

