



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

25th October 2019

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Devon Road
Poole, BH15 3QQ

Important dates for your diary

5th November

Children return to school

6th November

Y1 Phonics Info session

3:30pm

11th November

Individual school photos

Parent Consultations

13th November

Parent Consultations

15th November

Non uniform Day for Children
in Need

KS1 Movie Night 6:00-7:15pm

Year 5 Mass & coffee

22nd November

Year 1 Liturgy & coffee

29th November

Non uniform day for Sparkle

F2 Coffee morning

5th December

PSMA Concert

6th December

Year 6 Mass & coffee

9th December

Year 2 Nativity

10th December

Year 1 Nativity

11th December

Christmas Lunch

12th December

F2 Nativity

School church

concert 7:00pm

19th December

Christmas Parties

20th December

School closes at 1:30pm

This half term has been a long but fun filled half term with lots of great things happening at St. Mary's. Different children have enjoyed trips out, sleep-overs in school, non-uniform days, cake sales, discos and many other extra-curricular activities. The children have all enjoyed their learning and as a result have produced lots of work which they are extremely proud of and I am sure that you will look forward to seeing their work at the parent consultations after half term.

I wish you all a restful half term and look forward to seeing you in November.

Helen Armstrong

Foundation Intake September 2020

On November 8th we are holding our 2nd Open Morning between 9:30 and 11:00am.

Please encourage any friends and family who are looking for a school place for next year to come and see St Mary's school.

Attendance

Please be reminded that Headteachers are **not allowed** to authorise holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. We have become concerned about the number of messages left on the absence line reporting children as unwell yet the children have told their teachers and friends they are going on day trips or holiday. It is difficult for children to keep secrets, they and their peers worry, so please help us to enforce our good morals of honesty and truthfulness by being honest about holidays and day trips by completing a leave of absence form. Thank you for your support.

Foundation	93.1%	3D Poison Dart Frogs	97.1%
		4E G. Penguins	94.5%
1L Sharks	94.5%	4H Marine Iguanas	96.8%
1E Blue Whales	96.7%	5W Swift Foxes	96.1%
2H Polar Bears	96.8%	5L Black S. Monkeys	95.9%
2D Penguins	96.5%	6L Fin Whales	93.7%
3S Wolverines	96.5%	6W White Rhinos	96.5%



01202 676207

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



office@st-marys.poole.sch.uk

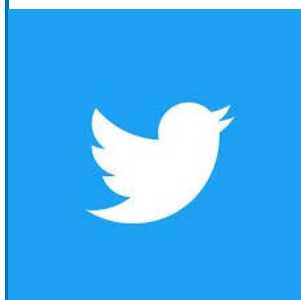
Music News

St Mary's is proud to be an active member of the SoundStorm Music Education Hub. Recently, we were pleased to welcome Chris Woods and Ruben Monteiro to the school as part of SoundStorm's Live and Inspired Tour.

Throughout the afternoon, all children in Years 1 to 6 attended a concert showcase with Chris and Ruben where they heard and learnt about the music of Afghanistan. We really enjoyed exploring music from another culture and finding out about the Rubab instrument that Ruben plays. It plays in a very similar way to a guitar but has extra vertical strings called 'sympathetic strings'. This creates a resonating sound that is very different to the usual instruments that we play and hear.

We also had a go at counting 7 beats in a bar (1 2 3, 1 2, 1 2) which everybody was really good at! This was a change from the many songs we sing and play that are written in 2, 3 or 4 beats per bar.

As you can see from the video on our website we also became film stars that afternoon! Thank you very much to SoundStorm, Chris and Ruben and we hope that you enjoy the video as much as we enjoyed the tour.



Don't forget to follow the Music Department on Twitter:
[@musicalstmarys](https://twitter.com/musicalstmarys)

Tuition

Payment for instrumental lessons for Spring Term 2020 are now due.

Please advise the school immediately after half term if your child will not be continuing in January.

Aldi Kit for Schools

Thank you to all who gave us stickers for the Aldi promotion, look what you have helped to achieve!

We are collecting for a 2nd poster so please continue to send them in and if we get another 300 we will fill the poster, if not we will share the extras with our fellow CAST schools. Thank you.



Year 3 News

Creating our nature sticks in our RE lesson to celebrate God's creation.



Foundation

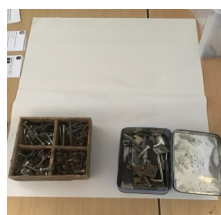
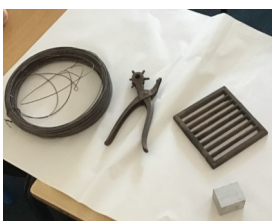
We are so pleased that our new children have settled very well in to the routines of school life. We welcome all our new parents to our coffee morning on November 29th.



Year 3 Visitor!

Year 3 children were tasked with finding body parts of our robot around the school and writing up a crime scene investigation form!

We also investigated and described scrap metal donated from a local scrapyard linked to our current topic Iron Man.



Year 4 News

Year 4 have had an exciting few weeks studying the Ancient Egyptians! They took their junior embalmers exam and mummified fish!

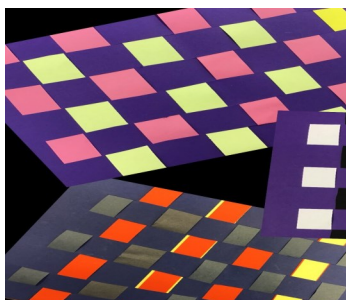
This process involved removing the organs, washing in Nile (Poole) water, covering in natron (salt) to dry it out, covering in perfumed resin (oil and lavender) and wrapping in linen bandages!

We are pleased to announce that all children passed their exam and can now mummify Pharaohs!



Year 2 news

Year 2 have been looking at the Katie Morag stories. They used their skills of paper weaving to design fabulous tartan pieces. They also had an exciting trip to Brownsea Island, thank you to the parents who helped us have a wonderful trip.



Year 6 news

Year 6 have been developing their observational drawing skills through sketching leaves from the Amazon.

They shared their work with Foundation who have been colouring Autumn leaves.



Supporting Missio and Praying the Rosary during the month of Mary



During the month of October we have all prayed the Rosary. Pope Francis decided that October is the month in which we pray for missionaries and aspire to be missionaries ourselves.

Pope Francis calls us to renew our missionary commitment to share Good news with all peoples.

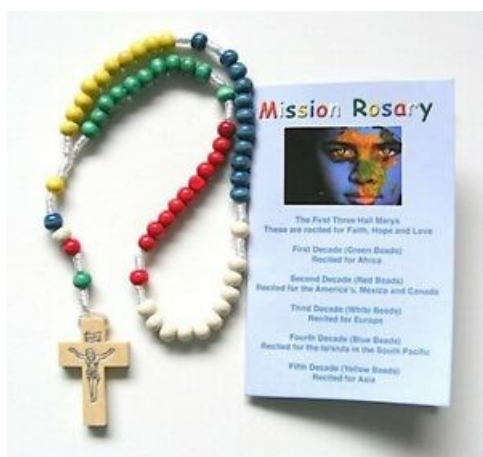
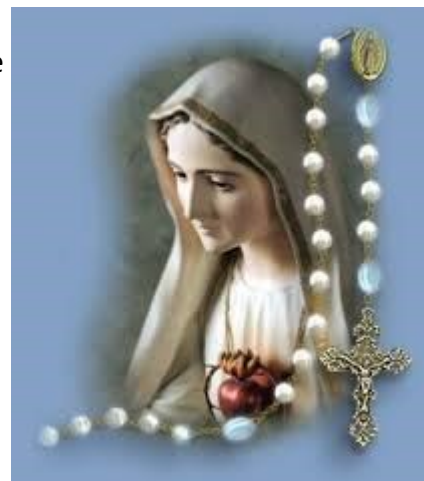
We have supported Missio through our prayers and through saying the Rosary.

History of the Rosary (Rose Garden)

The exact origin of the Rosary as a prayer is not clear and there are lots of different ideas. It took more than 1000 years for the Hail Mary prayer to come together. The use of knotted prayer ropes in Christianity goes back to the Desert Fathers in the 3rd and early 4th centuries. These counting devices were used for prayers such as the Jesus prayer in Christian monasticism.

Rosary comes from the Latin word "Rosarium" which means a garland of roses. Over time this name was used for the prayers to honour the parts of Jesus' life that Mary was involved in.

The Month of October is the month of the Rosary because feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th.



2019-20 Mini Vinnies

Members of St. Mary's Church SVP Conference, some of our Governors and Mr Royles joined us for a whole school liturgy which involved the commissioning of our 'Mini Vinnies'.

Our visitors sent us a complimentary letter after this event which we were delighted to receive! Here are a just two of their comments:

"It was heart warming to see that the ethos of the SVP is well established in St Mary's School."

"We were very impressed by how well behaved the rest of the school were in assembly, taking a keen interest in the whole programme."



School uniform

We share your frustration of items going missing so please remember to name your child's uniform, it helps enormously when trying to reunite lost property with its' owner. Please double check that the label/marker is still visible.

Our website has the complete uniform list for KS1 (years Foundation, 1 and 2) and KS2 (years 3,4,5 and 6).

KS1



KS2



If in doubt please always check to save any costly mistakes.

If you have any outgrown uniform please consider donating it to the school .

If you would like to purchase, for a small donation, any "New to You" uniform please speak to Mrs Wright, our Pastoral Care Worker.

We are very proud of the smart appearance of the pupils, a smart uniform signals a parent's, child's and school's pride and reinforces the school's standards.

Please also be reminded of our policy on extreme haircuts and earrings.

Thank you for your continued support.

NEW!

Little Ducklings Stay and Play at St Mary's School

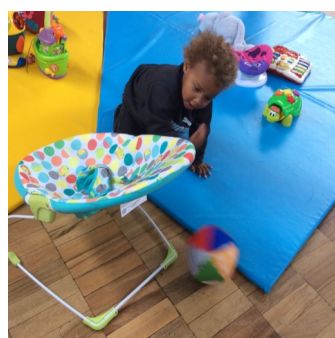
Little Ducklings is a stay and play group for babies and pre-schoolers. Our helpers are enhanced DBS checked.

We meet every **Thursday from 1:30-2:45pm** and get involved in messy play, painting, songs and games.

There are always tasty cakes , biscuits and drinks available and healthy snacks and drinks for the children!

Everyone is welcome, the group is not just for siblings of children already at school. We welcome parents/carers, grandparents, and anyone from our local community and area.

Why not come along after half term and join in the fun!



Sport Leaders

On Friday 18th October, Mrs Evans took 10 year 5 and 6 children to Poole High School to complete their bronze ambassador training to become sports leaders at St Mary's. To get to this stage, they had to complete an application form explaining why they would make a great sports leader. At Poole High, the children took part in 4 different workshops; dance, future planning, multi-skills and creating their own activity using the STEP principle (space, task, equipment, people). The children's behaviour and attitude throughout the day was exemplary and a real asset to our school!

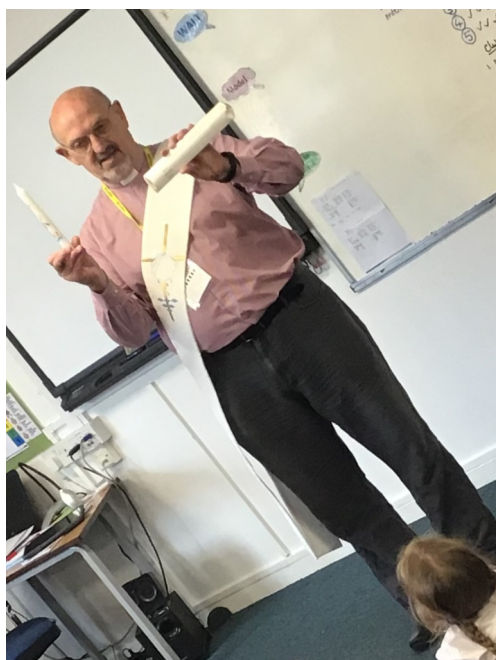


Watch this space to hear all about their ideas for the future of sport, activities and healthy lifestyles at St Mary's.



RE— Year 3 Baptism Talk

Thank you to Deacon Nick for giving the Year 3 children a wonderful talk on baptism.



National Book Tokens challenge all junior bookworms!

This half term, National Book Tokens are calling on young adventurers to guess which book characters live on the islands in their Book Island Challenge – back for a second year!

50 children who guess all seven characters correctly will win a £10/€10 National Book Token to help them discover a new book or two.

How to play:

There are 7 islands, 7 book characters. Just click on each island and enter answers in the box. You will be let know if your answers are correct, almost there, or whether you need to try again!

Remember, they will be looking for the name of the character, not the book title.

Anyone can play the game for fun, but only children can win a National Book Token. Children under 13 will need an adult's permission to enter. To play visit <https://caboodle.nationalbooktokens.com/bookisland/>



Play >

Parent Readers

Thank you to our parent readers for a great start to the new school year and for your continued support .

This one to one time can make a huge difference to a child, if you have a spare 30 minutes a week please consider joining us!

Mrs Cassidy
Intervention Lead



SafeWise
SKILLS FOR LIFE

**Halloween Special
Family Events**

**JUNIOR
SAFETY INSPECTOR**

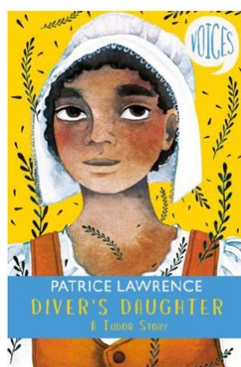
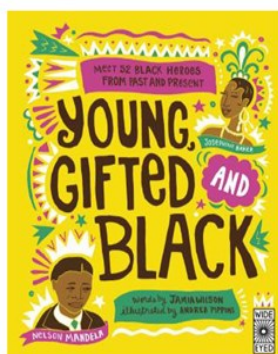
SafeWise Bournemouth 29 & 30 Oct.
£5 per person - under 4s go free

Book your place online now:

WWW.SAFEWISE.ORG/EVENTS

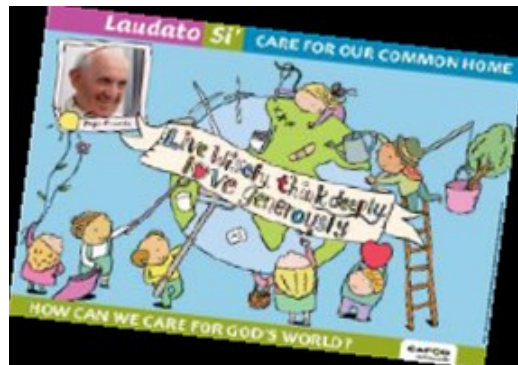
Black History Month

As you will be aware October is Black History Month and your child may enjoy reading the following books in order to explore issues in Black History in the UK.



PTA

On Tuesday evening the PTA held a meeting to review past events and plan the new ones. They are all so dedicated to helping and supporting the children in our school. At the meeting they wanted to discuss the Pope's message to us all through "Laudato Si'" the an encyclical written by Pope Francis, in 2015. In his letter Pope Francis implores us to work together to create a better world for future generations and asks us to make the necessary changes in our lives in order to take care of, respect and value our 'common home'. The PTA spent a long time thinking about how they could reduce waste and make changes to help our world.

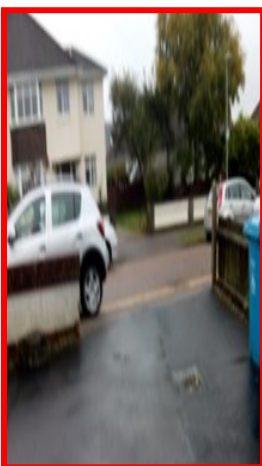


Pope Francis asks us to care for the earth by doing three things Living wisely, Thinking deeply and Loving generously. Our PTA were certainly doing this at their meeting.

Looking to the future the PTA have decided to use jugs of water and cups instead of bottles, they are looking for an alternative to Christmas crackers, and they will not be wrapping the Christmas prizes in cellophane. They are welcoming of all suggestions on how to make changes if you have any ideas please make contact with them (pta@st-marys.poole.sch.uk)

Their AGM is on Tuesday 19th November at 6.30pm please come along and support your PTA.

Health and Safety



We have received a lot of support following my letter last week pleading for parents and carers not to drive up Devon Road or park across our neighbours drives. However despite my letter parents are ignoring the request and still driving up the road and turning round or parking across driveways.

One suggestion is that our parents would like to hold 'a peaceful protest' as they are all terrified that a serious accident will happen and they want to offer help and support. The peaceful protest would involve our parents wearing high visibility jackets and standing at the bottom of Devon Road and asking parents politely not to drive up the road. If you are willing to support the school please let the office know. Thank you.



E-Safety

More than 500 million people around the world – many of them children – regularly use the app TikTok (previously Musical.ly) to create, view and share 60-second videos. TikTok can be a great tool for self-expression and connect users around the world, so it's important that children are aware of the potential risks and learn how to use it in a safe way. ***Please be aware that there is an age limit of 13 for many apps that we hear the children are using.***

Please take a few minutes to read this Parent Guide, which is full of sensible advice about how families can make the most of the settings and tools available to them:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok-everything-you-need-know-about-video->





Thank you to all our Fundraisers in Key Stage 2, for making our CAFOD event so successful. Our Gingerbread Men and chocolate cookies were in great demand. We are delighted to tell you we raised £157.00. Thank you so very much for all your generous contributions.

Your Mini Vinnies

Please see below the recipe if you want to bake our tasty “Bake a Difference” Gingerbread Men.



SUPER SIMPLE FAIRTRADE GINGERBREAD

Ingredients
(makes 15 gingerbread people)

300g plain flour
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
2 tsp Fairtrade ground ginger
(for a milder taste use 1 tsp)
1 tsp Fairtrade ground cinnamon
1 tsp Fairtrade ground nutmeg
1 tsp Fairtrade vanilla
100g Fairtrade brown sugar
125g unsalted butter
2 tbsp Fairtrade honey
1 tbsp Fairtrade golden syrup
1 pinch of ground Fairtrade cloves (optional)
Zest of ½ orange (optional)

For the icing:
100g Fairtrade icing sugar
2 tsp warm water

Instructions

- 1 Pre-heat your oven to 180°C.
- 2 In a large bowl mix the flour, bicarbonate of soda, ginger, cinnamon and nutmeg (optional cloves and orange) then make a well in the centre.
- 3 In a medium pan combine the vanilla, brown sugar, butter, honey and golden syrup. Place on a low heat and stir until a smooth syrup forms.
- 4 Pour the syrup into the well in the centre of the mixing bowl and stir until combined into a soft dough. Then put the dough in the fridge to cool for 1 hour.
- 5 When cooled, roll the dough on a flat surface using a rolling pin until it is roughly 4mm thick. Then use either the cut-out stencils provided or a cutter to make your gingerbread shapes.
- 6 Place your gingerbread on a baking tray and cook for 8 minutes until golden brown.
- 7 Once cooked leave them to cool and make the icing by mixing the icing sugar with warm water and stirring until smooth.
- 8 Finally, decorate your gingerbread with icing and your favourite Fairtrade treats!

Bag2School— Declutter before Christmas!

Please don't forget our **Bag2School** collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles in the bag provided – this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <http://uk.bag2school.com/> for full details).

Thank you for your support.



School Council

Our newly elected School Council have had a busy start to the new school year.

We decided to update the School Council display board. Mrs Reyes very kindly made us a tree with fourteen branches to represent each class in the school.

We have also been busy planning a non-uniform day in aid of Children in Need which will take place after half-term.



PTA NEWS

Now we are all settled back into the routine, we held our first committee meeting and 'meet and greet' evening for interested parents to come along and find out a bit more about us and what we do. Thank you to those who attended and those who couldn't make it this time but have offered to help at our events.

This coming term is one of our favourites! We have some exciting events taking place which are great fun, and obviously involve quite a lot of work. These events are very popular and the children have always enjoyed themselves. Please consider helping for the benefit of your child and others.



Dates for your diary:

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| 15 November | - | KS1 Movie Night |
| 6 December | - | Christmas Sparkle |
| 9,10,12 December | - | Nativity Plays - the PTA like to provide refreshments and a small raffle on each day but require one or two volunteers for this. Are you available to help? |

We are always grateful for any help and support parents can provide at our events, particularly for the Christmas Sparkle, which is only a few weeks away so if you are able to volunteer for a specific half hour time slot please let the office know. We will send out volunteer slips following half term.

We are also looking for a sponsor for our raffle tickets. This will cost in the region of £80-£100 and your company details will be printed on each ticket, which is great for marketing and promotion! If you know anybody that can help please contact the school office or email us on pta@st-marys.poole.sch.uk.

We would also welcome any gift, vouchers etc we could use as other prizes.

As Mrs Armstrong has said in another article at our recent PTA committee meeting we discussed some of the parents feedback we have received from recent events; based on this and the global movement to recognise Climate Change and what we can do to help, we have made the decision to not use single use plastics at future PTA events. This includes plastic bottled water, the 'cups' stall, using plastic based wrapping paper etc. We are endeavouring to source alternative products which are much more sustainable and know this echoes the schools' values. If you have any ideas or further suggestion we would love to hear from you.

Finally, our AGM will be held on Tuesday 19th November at 6.30pm in school. This is an opportunity for you to hear all about our work and meet the team. Please do come along and, if you are interested in becoming an committee member, please contact Rosie Lockyer.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to another exciting year!

Your PTA