



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Important dates for your diary:

### 25th July

Children finish school at  
1:30pm

### 4th September

Children return to school

### 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)

### Calendar for 2018/19:

As St Mary's Church are  
losing Father Colin next  
month we need to  
rearrange our Mass dates.  
We will therefore publish  
our calendar dates as soon  
as possible in September.  
Thank you for your  
understanding.

### Message from Mrs Armstrong

Another academic year has flown by at St. Mary's with lots of adventures along the way. September seems such a long time ago, but we returned to school with lots of energy. All our children including the new foundation children soon settled into a busy school life.

All children and staff have worked extremely hard over the year and we are very proud of their achievements. We have been challenged and held to account along the way by the Education and Standards Manager (ESM), Helen Brown, from Plymouth CAST. Last week she was in school reviewing the outcomes across the school for 2017-2018, setting actions for different stakeholders to complete in the new term. Since May half term we have been trialling a new feedback and marking policy which aims to reduce teacher workload, whilst at the same time ensuring all children are making progress. The ESM scrutinised books and made lots of good suggestions as to how we can move forward with this system in September. As a school, we have been asked by the Director of Education for Plymouth CAST, Louise Adams, to share our marking and Feedback policy with other schools within CAST.

All the year groups have participated in many exciting curriculum related activities this year. The Foundation children have benefitted from a child initiated curriculum and it has been fun observing them watch caterpillars turn into butterflies, take part in a tea party for the royal wedding and enjoy a visit from the 'Evil Pea'. Our Year One children have enjoyed finding out about castles, plants and materials, whilst enjoying a visit to Poole Park. Year 2 began the year with a visit to Brownsea Island to think about life on an island and ended the year with a trip to Avon Heath where they learnt about different habitats.

Year 3 enjoyed learning to swim in their PE lessons. They participated in a trip to the New Forest Wildlife Park and more recently to Kimmeridge. Year 4 began with a trip to Paultons Park, the mummifying of fish, cooking and art weeks have been great fun when studying the Tudors and Egyptians. A successful residential to Leeson House ended the first term for Year 5 and since then they have had great fun studying the Street Child and have enjoyed a visit to the Safe Wise centre. Year 6 have risen to the challenge, they have studied a variety of topics over the year and as always, enjoyed studying the Greeks. This culminated in a great residential to PGL in Osmington Bay.

As we look back on the year we remember the science days, the musical events and sporting events of which there are too many to mention. Lots of opportunities for the children to become involved in the arts as well as our careers event, 'Inspire to Learn'.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children for working hard, the parents for supporting your children and us as a school, all the staff and Governors who have worked tirelessly to ensure that the children experience the best education possible.

A special thank you and farewell is sent to Mr Howard who is taking up a position teaching in Qatar. Mrs Meech who is retiring, Miss Richardson, who is going to train as a teacher and Miss Robins who is going on to University. We wish them all the very best.

I wish you all a very happy, peaceful and relaxing summer holiday and I look forward to hearing about your adventures in September.

Best wishes,

*Helen Armstrong*

Headteacher



## Foundation News

We recently received a postcard from our pen pal, Alice Hemming.

Alice is an author who has written over 40 books for children and next year she is going to be sending Year One and Foundation lots of book recommendations, writing tips and answering our questions. She sent us a postcard to introduce herself. She also sent us some clues for a book and we worked out that the book was "A Gold star for George!"



## Year 3 trip to Kimmeridge

3S and 3M had a fantastic day on their fossil hunting trip to Kimmeridge. The children found an amazing amount of fossils on the beach and were able to carry them all back in their very heavy rucksacks! Back at the museum, the children studied their fossils under powerful microscopes and learnt more about fossils discovered on the Jurassic Coast. Thank you to the guides and volunteers at the Etche's Collection Museum in Kimmeridge, who made our visit really exciting. Thank you also to our enthusiastic parent helpers, and a special thank you to Mr Rickman, from Year 6, for helping out on our trip.



Year 5 recently attended an enrichment day at St Edwards. Their behaviour was fantastic and they really did St Mary's proud. New skills were gained and we all felt that this was a good opportunity to prepare for life at secondary school.

We are delighted to continue with our community links with St. Edward's and would like to thank Mr Antrim, Head and Mr Farrow, Assistant Head, for organising the day and all the exciting activities which the children were able to participate in.

Open evening at St Edward's, for Year 7s 2019, is on 20th of September 2018.

## Chris Jarvis visits St. Mary's – 19<sup>th</sup> July

Last week we were fortunate to welcome Chris Jarvis from CBeebies to St. Mary's to talk to pupils from F2 up to Year 4 about his work in the Arts industry.



We were excited to meet both Stuffy and Miss Mouse from SHOW ME, SHOW ME and learnt about how Miss Mouse went up to the International Space Station with Tim Peake; amazing! Chris then treated us to a reading from Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes which was hilarious!

The children then had the opportunity to ask Chris the questions that they had pre-prepared when discussing the upcoming visit. It was astounding to hear the thoughtful and probing questions that they had prepared and sat so quietly, eager to hear the answer. One question that really stood out was, 'Who inspires you the most?' Something for us all to ponder on!

Our thanks go to Chris Jarvis and Poole Lighthouse for bringing this inspiring opportunity to us.



## PTA News

Thank you everyone for your support this year. We have had a fantastic year with the launch of 'Bags2school' and 'Dippy Day'. We have purchased new e-learning equipment for KS1, assisted with funding for KS2 Christmas school meals and provided ice lollies for St Peters/St Pauls Day.

However our main focus for this year was improving the outside areas for the children and we were pleased to be able to provide new picnic benches and replace and repair the wooden playground equipment so that the children can now enjoy it in this lovely warm weather.

Despite the heat, the Summer Fayre was a great success with our first silent auction taking place and seeing incredible bidding, you were all very generous. We were fortunate to again have Papa Johns' and our friendly ice-cream man volunteer their services. Well done to our children in KS1 choir, cheerleading and dance club who provided the entertainment along with Adrian, from the RNLI and Hospital Radio, who provided the PFA system and announcements throughout the Fayre.

We would like to wish our Year 6 children the best of luck in their new ventures and thank you to everyone for a successful year of fundraising for our children.

We are always looking for new members so if you feel you want to join the committee please email us: [pta@st-marys.poole.sch.uk](mailto:pta@st-marys.poole.sch.uk) and if you're on Facebook, we also have a page called St Mary's Catholic Primary Poole PTA, so please like and join this page and you will also get details of forthcoming events via that forum.

*Your PTA*

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

## Volunteers

I would like to say a huge thank you to our Parent Reader Team for all their continued help and support again this year. If you would like to join the Team next year please contact the school office. An enhanced DBS check will be carried out by the school.

Thank you once again.

Mrs  
Cassidy



## St Mary's Bake Off!

I would like to thank all my brave contestants who battled searing heat to create their exhibits. I wish you could all be winners. The standard was very high and the judges, who were all staff and judged without knowing any names, had a difficult time choosing the winners. Please see the website for photos of their stunning work!

Year 3 -1st Ciara	2nd Sam	3rd Lara
Year 4- 1st Anna	2nd James	3rd Sharon
Year 5—1st Rhianna	2nd Katelyn	3rd Joseph
Year 6—1st Anthony	2nd Shane	3rd Magnus

I hope everyone enjoyed entering the competition and I would welcome any suggestions for any further competitions for the Christmas Fayre.

Mrs Reyes



## Science News

### Science Water, Wheels and Waves Chain Reaction Day

On the June 5th the whole school was involved in a Science Chain Reaction Day. This was an outdoor event, where children brought in their own resources from home, (recycled materials), to create a chain reaction with a group involving water! There was an exhibition to friends and family at the end of the day and the children had a super day. They learnt about potential and kinetic energy, forces and motion, gravity and momentum. Thank you

for supporting your child with their resources

and attending the exhibition on the day. All the

materials which were not taken home were recycled in our school recycling facilities, or reused in an interschool's event later on in the month.



### Interschool's Chain Reaction Event

Six budding scientists from St. Mary's attended an Interschool's Chain Reaction Science day in Salisbury on June 26th. There were nine other

schools present at the event and the challenge was to link up all the chains

to make a huge chain reaction mechanism. Our children collaborated fantastically with the other schools and they learnt a lot about forces and motion, as well as having a lot of fun. Well done!

## Eco Club News

Thirteen keen members of our Eco Club took part in the 'Only Rain Down the Drain – Lagoon Volunteer Day' at Poole Park, last week. We carried out a very thorough litter pick in the partly drained lake at Poole Park.



Then the children were given a talk on water and waste and they build a raft out of all the plastic bottles which had been found littering Poole Park. The organisers of the event were really impressed with our children's enthusiasm and environmental knowledge. Well done Eco Warriors!



On Thursday 19th July our school was awarded the Gold School's Environment Award wooden plaque, by Chloe Bailey, an Environmental Promotions officer, from the Borough of Poole. The Eco Club presented all the activities that they and the rest of the school have been doing this year, including: litter picking in and around our school grounds and at Poole Park, recycling, organising a fun animal fruit sale, digging out the pond, planting seeds at Poole Grammar School and

planting vegetables in our plant boxes at school.

Well done to the enthusiastic Eco warriors for their continued commitment to the environment this year. On Tuesday lunchtime next week, the Eco Club will be celebrating their achievements with an Eco friendly party!

Your child can apply to join the Eco Club for next year (2018/19) in September. Applications will be open on 10th September and forms can be obtained from Mrs Mills.

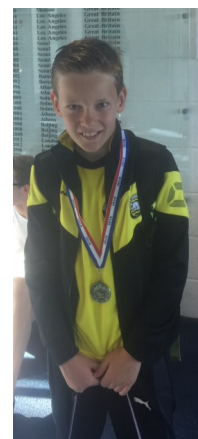


### Swimming Success for Luca and James-Year 6

Congratulations need to go to Luca and James who competed in the Dorset County Swimming Gala, on 16th June, representing Poole. Luca won his 50m breaststroke race and James came second in his 50m backstroke race.

Jamie is 3 x Regional Consideration Times 12 years and under, and Selection for Swim England Dorset County Pathway England Programme.

Luca is currently ranked number 2 in Great Britain in his age group for the long course 50m Butterfly. We are very proud of these achievements. Well done boys!



### World Cup mascot

We were lucky enough to have a visit from the official World Cup mascot Zabivaka, which means “the one who scores” in Russian, just before the start of the World Cup, thanks to Sunseeker.



Zabivaka helped us launch our “golden mile” event and visited all the children during a whole school assembly.

It ensured that everyone was excited for the World Cup (even Mr Howard who is not a football fan!).

It was great to see England do so well.



### Golden Mile

The children have loved taking part in the Golden Mile this half term. This half term as a school we have run a total of 266 miles! We will be continuing with the Golden Mile next academic year. A big thank you to our Y6 leaders who are leaving us. We will be selecting some new Year 5 leaders at the start of the Autumn Term.

### Clubs

Keep your eyes peeled as a list of clubs for the Autumn term will be landing in your inbox shortly. Premier Sports will also be sending out a survey to see what clubs you would like for the children.

One of our exciting new clubs will be run by AFC Bournemouth coaches at just £3.50 per session!

### Sports Leaders

A big thank you to our year 6 sports leaders who have been great in setting up activities during playtimes and helping with PE sessions. We will be selecting new sports leaders in the Autumn Term.

**CAFOD**—THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO OUR CAFOD APPEAL.

We raised £159.06 for this good cause.

**CAFOD**  
Just one world

## Mangahigh Boss of the South Competition 2018

Children in both KS1 and KS2 took on the Mangahigh maths challenge with great enthusiasm and after 10 exciting days of seeing us rise up the leader board, we ended the competition in 4th place – winning £100 for the school. Well done St Mary's!

A record 19 children reached their 150 points to achieve their real Boss of the South medal!



The top scoring class in KS1 was 2D, and in KS2 was 6W and they will both be receiving their well-deserved reward before the end of term.

Special congratulations also go to Alvin and Shane in Year 6 for being superstars - the 2nd and 3rd highest scoring children in the competition, winning a voucher each as well as their medals for the third year running!

We hope to see even more children achieving their gold medals next year!

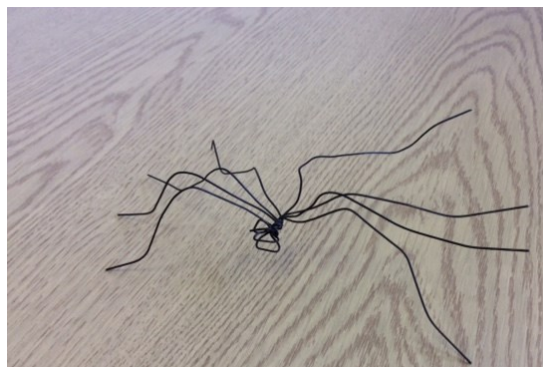
## Wire sculpture workshop with artist Denise Poote

We were pleased to welcome artist Denise Poote to St. Mary's thanks to the WAVE Arts organisation.

Our Year 6 pupils all had the opportunity to work with her, producing single line drawings and then had a go at creating their own wire sculptures.

There were some excellent examples of work including this rather life-like spider.

We look forward to more workshops like this next year!



## Bag2School

Watch this space!

We will have another collection of clothes and soft toys in September so please save any outgrown clothing through the summer holidays and fill a bag!

Children will be sent home with a bag to fill and all funds raised will be used by the PTA to benefit the children at St Mary's.

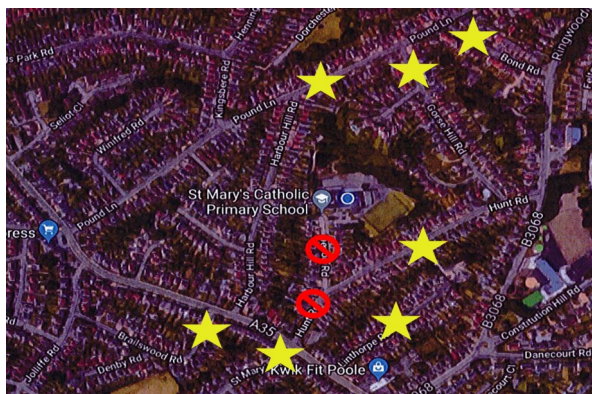




## School Council News

This term we have been extremely busy working on our Stride and Park map. At the moment, Devon Road is very congested at school drop-off and pick-up times and we want to change this.

Along with the Eco-Club, we explored the roads which surround school. Our aim was to find parking alternatives for parents and carers who drive to school. We have found lots of areas of parking which are all within a 5 minute walk away from school. A small group worked with Mrs Thain to put our findings on an easy to read map. We hope that this will encourage more people to 'park and stride'



You can park here and walk to school within 5 minutes



Please do not park here

**Attendance** Please be reminded that Headteachers are not allowed to authorise holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please therefore ensure your child's regular attendance by taking family holidays within the 13 weeks of school holidays.

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 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 completing a leave of absence form. Thank you for your support.

F2D Seals	93.1%	2H Polar Bears	96.8%	5L Black S. Monkeys	95.9%
F2E Green Turtles	94.9%	3M Poison Dart Frogs	97.1	5W Swift Foxes	96.1%
1L Sharks	94.5%	4E G. Penguins	94.5%	6L Fin Whales	93.7%
1M Blue Whales	96.7%	4H Marine Iguanas	96.8%	6W White Rhinos	96.5%
2D Penguins	96.5%				

Target is 96%    Whole school attendance is    95.7%



Thank you for all the donations received for the Trussell Trust Foodbank in Bournemouth.

Cian and Sam won the prize draw of a lesson with Duncan Beedie our visiting author and illustrator.

We hope Duncan will visit us again after the launch of his next book.

If you would like to donate to the Trussell Foodbanks they are always in need of ring pull cans of food in particular.

## School uniform

We share your frustration of items going missing so please remember to name your child's uniform when they return in September, it helps enormously when trying to reunite lost property with its' owner.



If you do not need to purchase items 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).

If in doubt please always check to save any costly mistakes. If your child has any outgrown uniform please consider donating it to the school.

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. Thank you for your support.

## Parking Restrictions

Please be reminded that there is **no parking** during school hours in Devon Road. The white broken rectangular marked spaces on the east side of Devon Road are Monday-Friday 8am to 6pm for **residents** with Borough of Poole Hunt Road/ Devon Road zone windscreen stickers only. Please be considerate to our neighbours.

## Mini Vinnies Festival



The Mini Vinnies have been working hard all year helping others through activities ranging from cake sales, helping run stalls at PTA events and delivering food to our local foodbank. As well as this, they have led the whole school worship at different times across the year, as well as giving up their breaks during Lent to lead the Stations of the Cross for KS2 children.

The children were invited by Mike Royles to a day festival on Thursday 5th July at St Mary's Catholic Church in Poole, where they were joined by other Mini Vinnies for a celebration. During this day, there was an opportunity for our Mini Vinnies to share ideas and successes with Mini Vinnies in other schools: St Joseph's, Poole, Christ the King, Corpus Christi and St Joseph's, Christchurch. The children all worked together in groups made up of all the schools, having fun and learning more about the Vincentian family they are now part of.

Mrs Ann Harris OBE, our Chair of Governors, accompanied us as she is also a Trustee for the National Society of the St Vincent de Paul and spoke to all the children about how the society helps those in need, both near and far.

Throughout the day, the children had opportunities to pray and be reflective. It was a moving experience for all involved and our Mini Vinnies represented the school with much dignity and respect. I was very proud of them.

I would like to take this time to thank all the Mini Vinnies in our school for their dedication,

enthusiasm and hard work. We meet every week and I love spending time with them as they are a delightful bunch!

We will miss Felix and Magnus next year, but thank them for their leadership and dependability throughout the year.

Mrs Betts

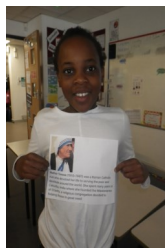




## Be a Saint for the Day

Year Three celebrated the Mass for Saint Peter and Saint Paul. They followed this by leading a whole school Liturgy. Later on, in the morning, the children shared information with the rest of the class about a saint whom they had researched. Year Three then got into groups to dramatize a poem about the conversion of Saint Paul; the plays were then shared, enjoyed and positively criticised by their classmates! Thank you for your donations towards the charity W.O.R.K which Sarah Adams is supporting, which amounted to £108.54.

<http://www.work-kenya.org/>



## Summer Prayer

Creator of all, thank You for summer!

Thank You for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer. Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence, and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

Amen

