



Friday 17th May 2024

# ST MARY'S NEWS

The latest news from St Mary's CE VC First School

## Note from Mr Homer



Last Tuesday, seven of our Key Stage Two children took part in the Dorchester Town Schools Football Tournament. They performed fantastically and were superb representatives for our school. We are very proud!

*It has been lovely seeing so many parents in school this week, meeting with our teachers for parent consultation meetings. As you know, we trialled whole-day consultations this time and we would love to hear your feedback on this.*

*On Wednesday, we welcomed many of our Reception parents for Willow's first Class Assembly. As expected, they were an absolute delight and spread a great deal of joy throughout school with their wonderful speaking, singing and artwork.*

*Next week we are taking part in Walk to School Week. This nationwide event is designed to help pupils experience first-hand the importance of leading an active lifestyle. This year's challenge, The Magic of Walking, encourages children to travel actively to school every day of the week. They'll learn about the importance of walking and the difference it can make for individuals, communities and the planet. Each class will work collectively to make as many active journeys to school as possible across the week. Individual activity diaries, daily stickers and end of week pupil rewards will complement this activity, reinforcing the benefits and keeping children engaged. We would ask, if possible, for you to make arrangements so that your child/children can travel actively to school next week, helping our school reduce congestion and pollution around the school gates. Walking, wheeling, scooting, cycling and even parking a little further away and walking in, all count! If you are coming by bike or scooter, these can be locked to the bars outside the front office. Thank you in advance for your support.*

*Have a lovely weekend - one week to go!*

**Be the best that you can be. Shine God's love for all to see.**

• Friendship • Joy • Service • Hope • Compassion • Courage •

### KEY DATES

**W/C Monday 20th May**  
Walk to School Week

**Thursday 23rd May** Ⓟ  
Curriculum Open Morning

**Thursday 23rd May - 5:30pm** Ⓟ  
New Reception Info Evening

**Friday 24th May**  
Last Day of Term  
.....

**Mon 27th to 31st May**  
Half Term Break - school closed  
.....

**Monday 3rd June**  
First day of Term  
.....

**W/C Monday 10th June**  
New Reception Inductions

**Tuesday 11th June**  
Willow Science at THS

**Tuesday 11th June**  
Y4 Orienteering at Ossies

**Friday 14th June**  
Mr Otter from Ossies visiting Y4

**Friday 14th June**  
Funky Hair - Donate sweets  
.....

**W/C Monday 17th June**  
St Mary's Sports Week

**Wednesday 19th June**  
Bikeability Workshop

**Friday 21st June** Ⓟ  
Potted Sports / Sports Day  
.....

**Friday 28th June**  
Class Photos  
.....

**Thursday 4th July**  
Class Transfer Day  
.....

**Tuesday 9th July**  
Y4 'Meet the Tutor' Day

**Friday 12th July**  
Termly Progress Checks home  
.....

**Thursday 18th July - 2pm** Ⓟ  
Y4 Leavers' Assembly  
.....

Ⓟ = Parents invited



# CURRICULUM OPEN MORNING

On Thursday morning, next week, we will once again be inviting all parents to come into school with their children from **08:45 until 09:15**.

The purpose of this event is to allow you all to have a valuable insight into what our new curriculum offers to our children. You will be able to experience a small snapshot of school life for your child and also get to see their learning environment.

If you have multiple children in our school, please feel free to visit each classroom in turn. All St Mary's children must stay in their own classroom, so please do not take them around the school with you. There will be limited space in classrooms, so please avoid bringing pushchairs and siblings whenever possible. At 09:15, we will kindly ask the children to say their goodbyes to you as they will need to move to their first lesson of the day at 09:20.

**Please note that this event starts at 08:45 so that children can be registered first. This is in the interest of your child's safety. Please send your child in as normal from 08:30 and then wait outside before joining them at 08:45.**



**NATIONAL SCHOOL  
SPORTS WEEK 2024**

**17th - 21st  
June**

This year, we are taking part in National School Sports Week. Throughout the **week commencing 17th June**, we will have a number of visitors lead sports sessions with our children and we will spend the week learning about the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle.

**Children must all wear PE kit for the entire week, please.**

On **Friday 21st June**, we will be combining our annual Potted Sports event with our Sports Day. We invite you to join us at **10am for Potted Sports**, followed by a picnic lunch with your child on the field. We will then begin our **Sports Day at 1:30pm** which will include more traditional races. We understand that not everybody will be able to attend for the whole event, but hopefully you will be able to join us for some of the day.



Our school attendance for this academic year is currently:

**95%**

*Best attendance recently...*



## TRANSFER DAY

On Thursday 4th July, we will be hosting our annual Transfer Day when children in school will spend the day with their next teacher, in their next classroom.

Year Four children who are transferring to St Osmund's or Dorchester Middle School will need to be dropped off to and collected from their new schools on that day - they won't attend St Mary's that day. Details to follow shortly.

All other children will come to school as normal, but we will ask for you to drop off to and pick up from your child's new classroom. You will all be notified of your child's new class after the May half term break. The following day, on Friday 5th July, the children will return to their current classes for the remainder of the school year.

We know this can be a worrying time, but rest-assured we will do all we can to make this a positive experience.



I would like to say a huge thank you to School Association and our wonderful volunteers who helped to install a new shed last weekend. Some of you may have noticed that we are working hard to transform our Reception outdoor learning space and the sheds are a part of this project.

Over half term, the fencing around the Reception outdoor area will be changed and this has meant that we have had to give back our clothes recycling bank. Once the work is completed, we will consider whether we can rehouse another one in future.

This fencing work will include installing a separate walkway for access to the preschool through the space, alongside the new sheds, enabling us to maximize our use of the Reception outdoor area throughout the day. Access to Reception will not change.



# Recently at St Mary's

## Recently in Willow...

...we have had a brilliant time practising for our class assembly. We are all so incredibly proud of Willow Class for delivering a brilliant class assembly. They really did live up to our school vision 'be the best that you can be'. Well done everyone! The children have continued to wow us in and out of the classroom. They loved using our new Maths shed in our outdoor area!."

WE ARE SO  
*Proud*  
OF YOU



## Recently in Oak...

...we have begun learning about animals!

In Art we have been learning how to layer using pastels and graphite to create some super minibeast pictures.

We have also been busy in our outdoor area planting out beans and building traps to catch dragons!

## Recently in Beech...

...we have been continuing our learning about Magnificent Monarchs. We have started looking in depth at specific monarchs and we now know lots of the amazing achievements of Alfred the Great!



## Recently in Maple...

...we have started our new writing unit of work using 'Talk for Writing' methods. We have studied vocabulary linked to minibests and bug hotels. These words were then used to help us to describe a minibeast in a spine poem. Each word formed the spine of the poem and then we added description to include similes to add to the spine.

We really enjoyed learning about Alfred the Great in our history lessons.

We are really excited about creating our own royal portraits for ourselves, adding digital paint methods to our royal poses.

Well done Maple class!

## Recently in Linden...

...we have been learning about light, shadows, and reflections in Science and exploring Indian dance with Mrs Paine. We have also been typing up our news reports.



## Recently in Ash...

...we have been creating our hero myths connected to the Anglo Saxon legend of Beowulf. We started planning them using some drama techniques. In DT we have started looking at the design of greenhouses and used sweets and cocktail sticks to work out how to strengthen our structures.





## Community Events



Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May  
10am – 2pm  
@ Thomas Hardy School

A day celebrating youth music and drama for all the family

Performances, Workshops (for adults and children),  
Come and Try instrument sessions, Barn Dance, Big Sing,  
Massed Orchestra, Big Drum Groove, BBQ, refreshments  
and much more!

For full information (including how to sign up to take part in  
workshops)

[music.wessex.ac](http://music.wessex.ac)

FREE ENTRY

(with donations gratefully received to support Wessex Schools  
Music)



# POWSA PRESENTS HAPPY'S CIRCUS

at  
THE PRINCE OF WALES SCHOOL

MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024 » 4pm

GAMES  
STALLS  
REFRESHMENTS  
BOUNCY CASTLE

TICKETS: [ticketebo.co.uk/powsa](http://ticketebo.co.uk/powsa)

BBQ

POPCORN  
CANDY FLOSS  
SNOW CONES  
ICE CREAM

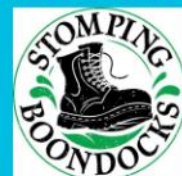


THE BREW BOX  
+COCKTAIL BAR

STUDENT PERFORMANCES



SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL  
FEATURING:



CEILIDH BAND

07  
JUN

5PM–9PM

Henna &  
glitter  
tattoos

GAMES

OSSIE'S  
MERCH

OPEN MIC 7pm–8pm



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HUNT'S  
FOOD GROUP



CHARMINSTER STORES  
& POST OFFICE  
01305 264312

TICKETS: ADULT £3.50 CHILD £2.50

Festival held on the field at St Osmund's School, Barnes Way, DT1 2DZ



# NEARLY NEW SALE

We are looking for donations of your 'nearly new items' for our Charminster Family Fun Day.

ITEMS CAN BE DONATED EVERY FRIDAY STARTING  
FRIDAY 7TH JUNE

ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF 3-315 BY THE FAB FRIDAY SHACK IN THE PLAYGROUND



YES

NO

- |                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| • TOYS                    | • CDS              |
| • COMPLETE GAMES/ PUZZLES | • DVDS             |
| • SOFT TOYS               | • VIDEOS           |
| • BOOKS                   | • ELECTRICAL ITEMS |
| • HOUSEHOLD ITEMS         | • CLOTHES          |
| • SPORTS ITEMS            | • BEDDING          |

ST MARY'S CHARMINSTER  
SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

# Funky Hair Friday 14th June

TAKE PART IN OUR CRAZY HAIR DAY AND  
DONATE A PACKET OF SWEETS  
IN AID OF OUR FAMILY FUN DAY

PLEASE POP THEM IN THE BOXES LEFT OUTSIDE EACH CLASSROOM

# Volunteers Needed

IN ORDER TO MAKE OUR FUN DAY SUCCESSFUL, WE ARE IN NEED  
OF PARENT VOLUNTEERS TO HELP RUN OUR STALLS.

PLEASE EMAIL

SCHOOLASSOCIATION@CHARMINSTER.DORSET.SCH.UK

STALL SLOTS ARE 12-2PM OR 2-4PM

**FREE ENTRY**  
**DONATIONS WELCOME**

In aid of:  
Charminster Pre-School &  
St Mary's First School Charminster

## Charminster Family Fun Day

@ St Mary's First School Charminster

**SUNDAY 14TH JULY**  
**12 - 5pm**  
(Stalls close at 4pm - Music & Food til 5pm)

Live Music & Performances • Fun & Games • Prize Draw  
Trade Stalls • Inflatable Fun • Creepy Crawlies  
Goats • Tombola • Forest School • Cake Sale  
Hot Food • Licensed Bar • and much much more.....

**NuGen SECURITY** **FOX** **White's PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES**

SADLY WE WON'T BE ABLE TO CONTINUE PUTTING ON THESE EVENTS IF WE DON'T RECEIVE  
MORE SUPPORT FROM VOLUNTEERS. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE VOLUNTEER SO FAR!

**FREE ENTRY**  
**DONATIONS WELCOME**

In aid of:  
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**NuGen SECURITY** **FOX** **White's PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES**



# Are you concerned about a pupil?

If you are worried about a child,  
you must share your concern without delay.



**Mick Homer**

Headteacher

**Designated  
Safeguarding Lead**



**Lisa Thornicroft**

Teacher & SENDCo

**Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead**



**Karen Bennett**

Family Support Advisor

**Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead**

**Our Safeguarding Governor is Reverend Pene Kennedy**

If you are concerned about a child's welfare or worried they are being abused,  
you can make a referral directly to:

**Dorset's Children's Advice and Duty Service on 01305 228866**

**In an emergency, or if you believe a child is at immediate risk of harm,  
call the police on 999.**

Click or scan this QR code  
to go straight to Dorset  
Council's website:

