



Friday 14th June 2024

# ST MARY'S NEWS

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

## KEY DATES

### W/C Monday 17th June

St Mary's Sports Week  
(PE Kits all week, please)

### Monday 17th -

Boys - Cricket - Mr Kent  
Girls - Football - Dorch. Ladies

### Tuesday 18th -

Golf - Wessex Golf Centre

### Wednesday 19th -

Orienteering - Mrs Russell  
(Bikeability for some)

### Thursday 20th -

Rugby - Rippa Rugby

### Friday 21st ☺ -

Potted Sports 10:00 - 12:00  
Picnic Lunch - 12:00 - 12:50  
Set Up Time - 12:50 - 13:30  
Sports Day - 13:30 - 14:50  
.....

### W/C Monday 24th June

New Reception Home Visits

### Tuesday 25th June ☺

Piano Assembly

### Friday 28th June

Class Photos  
.....

### Thursday 4th July

Transfer Day (in new classes)  
Meet new teachers at 3pm ☺

### Friday 5th July - 2:30pm ☺

Y3&4 Samba Concert  
.....

### W/C Monday 8th July

Arts Week

### Tuesday 9th July ☺

Y4 Leavers' Service @ Church

### Friday 12th July

Termly Progress Checks home  
Artwork showcase @ 3pm ☺

### Sunday 14th July ☺

Family Fun Day!  
.....

### Thursday 18th July - 2pm ☺

Y4 Leavers' Assembly

### Friday 19th July

Last Day, Party Day!

☺ = Parents invited

## Note from Mr Homer

Thank you to everybody who has supported Funky Hair Friday, today! We have had a huge amount of sweets donated as a result, which will go a long way to supporting our Fun Day on Sunday 14th July. The School Association are still looking for some more volunteers to support this invaluable event, so if you can spare any time on either Saturday 13th or the Sunday 14th, please do get in touch - [schoolassociation@charminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:schoolassociation@charminster.dorset.sch.uk)

This week, our Year One children and some Year Two children have completed their Phonics Screening Checks. We have been amazed by how hard they have worked on their Phonics over the past two/three years and this provided them all with the opportunity to show off just how well they can now read - we are very proud! Our Year Four children have also completed their Multiplication Tables Check and, again, they have blown us away with their attitude and commitment to this - well done to all!

Next week, we have a very exciting week in store as we participate in National School Sports Week. We will be welcoming a number of guest sports coaches and finishing our week with Charminster's traditional Potted Sports morning and Sports Day/Afternoon! We invite parents to join us for all (or some) of this day - from 10am for Potted Sports, from 12noon for a picnic lunch (bring a picnic and blanket) and from 1:30pm for Sports 'Day'. May I take this opportunity to remind everybody that whilst it is tempting to allow our own competitive natures to takeover, this is aimed at being a fun and enjoyable event for our children.

It is not long now until we kick-start our transition work ready for children to move on to their new classes in September. On the next page I will confirm teachers and TAs for next academic year.

Have a lovely weekend, Mr Homer

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

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

## Classes for next academic year...

As you may know, our school has been on a journey towards becoming a single-form entry school for many years, meaning that, from September, we will no longer have mixed-aged classes and we will move permanently to being a single-form entry school with five classes - Reception, Year One, Year Two, Year Three and Year Four. This does mean that we will no longer have six classes and, therefore, Miss Webster will sadly be leaving us at the end of this school year. Miss Webster has worked at St Mary's for a number of years and has had a hugely positive impact on many of our children and families, so we will pay proper tribute to her in a later newsletter. This means that, from September onwards, children will stay in their year group and move up through the school with the same cohort of children. This does make transitions much easier for the children and it means that we can better deliver the curriculum to your children.

For the next academic year, September 2024 to July 2025, the staff for each year group will be as follows:

| Year Group                            | Teacher   | Support Staff   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Reception</b> (new starters)       | Mrs Crabb / Mrs Beale<br>3 days      2 days         | Class TA - Ms White<br>Further Support - Mrs Emery  |
| <b>Year One</b> (current Reception)   | Mrs Joslin  | Class TA - Mrs Middleton / Miss Lawford<br>4 days      1 day<br>Further Support - Mrs Lawford & Miss Morris |
| <b>Year Two</b> (current Year One)    | Mr Holt   | Class TA - Mrs Hardy<br>Further Support - Miss Morris   |
| <b>Year Three</b> (current Year Two)  | Mrs Laval   | Class TA - Mrs Bessant / Mrs Harrison<br>4 days      1 day<br>Further Support - Mrs Harrison                |
| <b>Year Four</b> (current Year Three) | Miss Thornicroft / Mrs Ohnstad<br>4 days      1 day | Class TA - Mrs Kirby<br>Further Support - Mrs Harrison  |

On Thursday 4th July, children will spend the whole day in their new class with their new team (except for the new Reception children who will only attend 09:30-11:30). For those children moving into Year One to Four, your child will be able to show you around their new classroom at the end of that day and you will be able to say hello to their new class teacher. Please speak to us if you have any questions or concerns and please support us in making this a positive change for your child. Thank you for your support.



Our school attendance for this academic year is currently:

**94.9%**

*Best attendance recently...*



This morning we launched a new element of our behavior approach in school as we discussed the importance of 'readiness to learn'. This is the expectation that we have of our pupils at the start of their learning. It is about having the sufficient skills, displaying the appropriate behaviors and having access to the correct equipment to accelerate learning. Being ready to learn is an important life skill; making the most of the opportunities provided and developing independence and organisational skills. Readiness to learn means that pupils are able to make the most of their learning.

We ask that you kindly support your child to be ready to learn by:

- ensuring your child is on time for school
- ensuring they present appropriately, in line with our uniform policy
- engaging with home learning and listening to your child read regularly
- ensuring they have the correct equipment, when necessary.

*We thank you for your ongoing support.*




## Upcoming Events

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](https://ticketebo.co.uk/powsa)

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 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

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



| <u>YES</u>                | <u>NO</u>         |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| • TOYS                    | • CDS             |
| • COMPLETE GAMES/ PUZZLES | • DVDS            |
| • SOFT TOYS               | • VIDEOS          |
| • BOOKS                   | • ELECTRICAL ITEM |
| • HOUSEHOLD ITEMS         | • CLOTHES         |
| • SPORTS ITEMS            | • BEDDING         |

## 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](mailto: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 14<sup>TH</sup> 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 VOLUNTEERED SO FAR!

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# Recently at St Mary's

## Recently in Willow...

...it has been a brilliant start to our final half term of Reception. The children have been loving our new topic about beaches. The ice cream roleplay has been a massive hit. We've been wowed by the children's knowledge and language they have used. In 'Drawing Club' we have focused on pirates and this has fuelled their imagination in all areas of the classroom too. We will soon enhance our focus on transition to help all children make a positive step into Year One.



## Recently in Oak...

...we have been welcoming the new school guinea pigs, Cookie and Crumble, and helping to settle them in. They are enjoying cuddles and munching dandelion leaves. In Science we are learning all about animals and how to care for our pets. Cookie and Crumble seem to be enjoying their new home! (We're on the lookout for a 'run' if anyone has a spare one we could buy/borrow!) We also need newspaper and hay, if anybody is feeling generous! In other news - we had fun making, eating and evaluating healthy sandwiches for Design & Technology - most gave their sandwiches 5 stars!



## Recently in Beech...

...we have been very busy making a minibeast hotel for all the wonderful wildlife on our school field. We also continued our preparation for Year 3 by getting logged onto the school laptops and signing up for Times Table Rockstars!



## Recently in Maple...

...we enjoyed working out animal groupings and matching offspring to their adults in Science. In Writing, we have planned for our own instructions texts, innovating our work on how to build a bug hotel. We have just started a new unit of work in Math's, problem solving and choosing efficient methods for calculating. We enjoyed a class discussion about all of the methods we currently know.



## Recently in Linden...

...our Year Four children visited St Osmund's for a PE enrichment opportunity. They enjoyed orienteering with some Year 7 pupils and all behaved impeccably!



## Recently in Ash...

...we continue our learning adventure about the Anglo Saxons. This week we have been designing our own historical village to include all the features that an Anglo Saxon village would have included. On Tuesday all our Year 4's went to St Osmund's for some photo orienteering. With help from some Year 7's we raced around trying to identify the position of the photographer on the site. Some were quite tricky but fun was had by all.





# 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:

