



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter

Friday 3rd October



This week lots of preparations are being made for trips with the children. I'd like to say a heartfelt "thank you" to all of the parents who have offered to help. Trips, visits and speakers have a huge role to play in inspiring the children's love of learning. We can probably all remember a trip that had a long lasting effect upon us. I'm still fascinated by the Romans after being taken to Maiden Castle and the County Museum by my school aged nine. This early interest has had a large part in guiding study and career choices across my life. Often, parental support is the difference between trips happening or not. We really appreciate our volunteers.

We are currently seeking people to join our governing body who have an important role in guiding the school to success. If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact the office and ask to speak to myself or Helen Johnston, our Chair of Governors.



Well done Abigail in year 1 who is this week's golden padlock winner!

Abigail loves cycling to school, well done you are a cycling superstar.



Maurward

We have been mark making in the sunshine. In RE the children talked about showing kindness to others and made cards for their friends.



Shire

We have been learning how to use a part-whole model in maths and we have been learning about being stewards for our common home in RE and we created our own beautiful planet earth using natural materials and we loved it!



Anning

Anning class have been working really hard this week. They have written some wonderful stories based on our book Troll Swap and have begun to master putting their digits in the right place to get the value they want in maths. In RE they have been learning about Stewardship; considering how they can make a difference. For art they created beautiful images of natural objects they saw in the school playground and field

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to St Mary's on 18/11/25 and staying until 24/11/25. The book cases will have a selection of exciting books that will capture your child's imagination. You will be able to pre order books online or pay on the day if you have your credit card and mobile phone handy. I gather it is just a matter of scanning the QR codes if you are able to visit on one of the days. The cases will be set up in the hall after school on the school days between 18/11 and 24/11.

We will send home with your child a wish list that will have more information on it after half term. Put the date in your diary.

A Competition to win a £5 voucher at the Book Fair

We would love to know why your child has enjoyed a particular book or series of books so we are running a "Book review" competition for each class. The winner in each class will receive a £5 book voucher.

In Maurward class, your child can tell the teacher about a book and in Shire class onwards we would like to receive a book review in writing.

Good luck. Please hand in entries to your child's class teacher.



FROM THE PTA:

Laudato Si Day: PTA members have been working behind the scenes to support the school with sourcing/funding supplies for some of the activities on the day. We will be holding a **fundraising cake sale** at the end of the day – more details to follow.

Upcoming events: We have lots of exciting activities and events planned over the coming months, including improvements to the school outdoor areas, a disco and the annual Christmas Shop. Stay tuned for dates and details of how you and your kids can join in.

Want to help? This year each activity is being led by a different person with a team of helpers. Join the PTA Helpers group for updates on what help is needed for specific events: https://chat.whatsapp.com/KeMePXQGBjc6bqtQ7DLS9g?mode=ems_copy_c . We also have a dedicated email to get in touch directly: stmarysdorchester.pta@gmail.com

Laudato Si Day Tuesday 21st October 2025



Can you help us on our special harvest eco day?

If you can spare some time on the 21st October to help us with baking, art activities or gardening, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please let the office know if you are available to join us in the morning or afternoon. Thank you!

Laudato Si Day - Tuesday 21st October



Wear old clothes

Bring in an item of non perishable food

Bring £1



We need your Help!

With gardening, baking, hapa zome flower printing and lots of other eco jobs.



We need parent/grandparent helpers in the morning or afternoon or both! Please let the office know if and when you can join us.



Please bring up to 3 items of clothing you don't wear anymore for the clothes swap on 21st October in a labelled bag. Mrs Conway will be collecting them on Friday 17th October.

Year Group	Event	Date
Anning	Lulworth Castle trip-Packed Lunch option available on local food Links	Tuesday 7th October
Shire and Anning	Meet the Author –Simon Philip at Manor Park school. pm	Wednesday 15th October
Maiden and Icen	Meet The Author-Chris Smith at Manor Park school. pm	Thursday 16th October
	Open Morning –New reception starters – September 2026	MONDAY 20TH October
Whole School	Parents Meeting	Monday 20th October
Whole School	Laudato Si Day	Tuesday 21st October
Whole School	Parents Meeting	Wednesday 22nd October
Whole School	Children break up for half term	Thursday 23rd October
Whole school	Scooltastic Book fair-	Tuesday 18th –Monday 24th
Whole school	Children return after half term.	Monday 3rd November
Whole School	Local MP Edward Morello-School Visit	Thursday 27th November
Whole School	Meet The Donkey-PTA	Monday 1st December
Shire/Anning/ Maiden Castle/ Icen	Christmas Story Night 5pm -6pm	Thursday 4th December
Whole School	PTA-Christmas Shop	Thursday 11th December
Whole School	Rocksteady –Concert/ parents of Band members invited	Friday 12th December

Shire, Anning, Maiden castle. Iceni	Nativity	Monday 15 th December
Shire, Anning, Maiden castle. Iceni	Nativity	Tuesday 16 th December
EYFS	Nativity	Wednesday 17 th December

Have a good weekend. **S. Thomas**

Wanted!!

Please if any of our St Mary's families are having a sort out we are looking for children's toy pram / pushchair for our early year's classroom. Please get in touch in the office if you have one that can be re- loved in our school.

