



**St Mary's Catholic First School**  
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Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn



15<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parents

We have had a brilliant week at St Mary's. A huge thank you to the amazing PTA and parent helpers who made our Firework event such a success. We raised enough money to buy a Defibrillator for the School and the local community. We hope you all enjoyed it.

Year 2 represented St Mary's when they attended the Remembrance Service on Monday, they were very well behaved and made us proud.

Year 3 & 4 travelled to the Weymouth Pavillion on a double decker bus to see the children's author & poet Michael Rosen, they were enthralled by his show and joined in with his poems.

Year 3 continued their learning about Romans when the Dorset Inflatable Museum visited St Mary's, they dug for Roman artefacts, learnt about Roman coins through drama and were able to look at and touch real Roman items.

We held two Parent Workshops on Reading which we hope parents found useful. The information from these and upcoming parent workshops will be available in our new Parent Hub on the school website. We will let you know when this Parent Hub is live.

Our Year 1 class visited the Library in Dorchester and enjoyed learning about all the things that go on at the Library and listened to some stories.

We had our final Open Morning for prospective parents for next year's Reception Class, again it was well attended and very positive.

This week the digital artist Jason Wilsher-Mills has been working with Year 3 & 4, they learnt about digital art and all produced digit portraits which were really good. Jason is working on a 6 month project with various groups around the UK and school children in Dorset and the South West. When the project is finished he will be presenting it at the Shire Hall in Dorchester; when we know the date, we will let you know.

Four pupils from Year 1 & 2 took part in a DASP Multi-Skills PE event on Thursday which they really enjoyed and did very well in.



## Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs Coffin who is expecting a baby. We are currently advertising for Maternity Cover as Mrs Coffin is due to go on maternity leave at the February half term. I will ensure we keep parents informed as to the continued teaching and support of their children in Reception.

## Gospel Values

Each of our classes are now guardians for one of our Gospel Values, please see below. Children will receive certificates when they have demonstrated these values.

We have a lovely new mural in the school hall showing our Gospel values, it was designed by Mrs Marsh and created by our children and Mrs Bentley. We love it.

### Guardians of our Gospel Values

St Mary's Haycorns	Peace
Reception Class	Courage
Year 1	Kindness
Year 2	Justice
Year 3	Compassion
Year 4	Humility
Staff and Parents	Integrity



## **Student Council**

Our Student Council reps have been talking with me this week about different issues. Our current student representatives are:

R – Beau & Brooke  
Y1 – Anntria & Billy  
Y2 – Harry & Isobel  
Y3 – Lucas & Zara  
Y4 – Aimee & Jack

## **Offer to St Mary's families from the Weymouth Pavilion**

The Weymouth Pavilion have extended the deadline for discounted tickets for the Cinderella Pantomime. If you would like tickets, please bring the money into the school office by 24<sup>th</sup> November.

They are offering tickets at a cost of £13.00 each, which is a saving of £4.00 a ticket. The seats are available for the 6.00 pm show on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Cello Scholarship Opportunity - Year 3 & 4 parents**

Due to a kind benefactor, DASP are excited to be able to offer a scholarship for one child in Year 3 or 4 across several DASP schools, to be funded to start cello lessons from January onwards.

The scholarship will completely cover the cost of about seventeen 20 minute individual lessons through DASP Music from January onwards (lessons are usually £11.50 per lesson). In addition, the child will be able to borrow a cello free-of-charge. If the child is progressing well, there is the potential that the scholarship could be reapplied for in future years.

If you would like to apply for your child to receive this cello scholarship, please submit two letters; one from yourself and one from your child. The letters should detail why your child would like to learn the cello, what you hope/they hope they will benefit from by learning the cello, how you will support them at home and what you will do/they will do to ensure that they make the most of this opportunity. Please include contact details too.

Letters should be posted to Hanna Trevorrow (Head of DASP Music) at DASP Music, c/o The Thomas Hardy School, Dorchester, DT1 2ET or emailed to [htrevorrow@thomas-hardye.net](mailto:htrevorrow@thomas-hardye.net). The deadline for applications is Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November.

## Upcoming Dates

Please see our upcoming dates

Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 2 – Healthy Mouth & Teeth talk
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Mass at St Mary's – 9.00 am – all families welcome
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Parent Workshop - Maths – 9.00 am
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	'Bling' your Bike/scooter to school – children to decorate their bikes/scooters and bring them to school
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent Workshop - Spelling – 2.45 pm
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Nasal Flu Vaccination Day
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent Workshop - Spelling – 9.00 am
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA Cake Sale (cakes from Year 3 parents) – pick up time
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	School Nurse drop-in session – 8.45-9.15 am
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Year 4 visit to 'Journey to the Stable' – United Church in Dorchester
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas Stories Evening at St Mary's (all children invited to listen to Christmas Stories & drink hot chocolate) – 5.00-7.00 pm (times to be confirmed)
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Parent Workshop - Maths – 9.00 am
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Rudolph Run for Weldmar Hospice – information to follow
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Wessex FM recording Year 4
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	The Book Bus is visiting St Mary's – opportunity for families to look at & buy books
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	School Nativity Plays – details to be confirmed
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	School Nativity Plays – details to be confirmed
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA running the Christmas Shop – details to be confirmed
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Party – during school hours – children to wear party clothes on this day
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service – 6.00 pm at Holy Trinity Church – all families welcome
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Children finish for Christmas Holidays
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	Children return to School

Yours Sincerely

*P. Fearn*

Mrs Paula Fearn  
**Head Teacher**