

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



7th October 2022



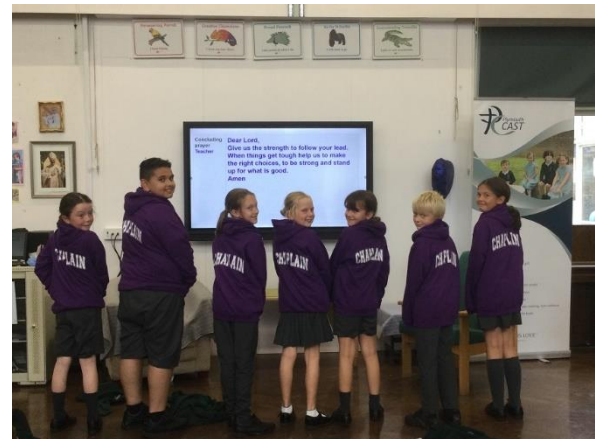
**Children apple
pressing during our
Laudato Si Day**



Dear Parents

We have had another great week at St Mary's, our after school clubs are all running & the children are enjoying sports, singing, creative writing, drama, coding & care in the community. Our care in the community group really enjoyed their visit to see the residents of the Culliford House residential home in Dorchester.

Our Chaplains received their Chaplain hoodies this week & are very proud of them.



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We welcomed our Reception parents to a workshop about Phonics.



Spring bulbs in our large tyres. We look forward to seeing them grow.

Thank you to the team from SWRAC who donated a box full of apples for our press. SWRAC support individuals to thrive through real-life & relevant education programme to give them skills, knowledge & experience to be resilient, confident & independent.

Today we had our **Laudato Si Day** which has been very special & enjoyed by all the children. Our day started with an Assembly from Sustrans & talking about 'cycle to school' week. Then our activities started which included making posters about the environment, recycling & saving energy, of course our tractor, apple pressing followed by apple juice drinking!

The children have also been learning a new song about looking after the world, clearing leaves from the school field from the willow tree. Some of the willow branches will then be used for weaving.

A couple of our amazing TAs & some great parent helpers have been clearing our poly tunnel so that the children can use this in the Spring. Thank you to all the parents that helped today.

The outdoor area of our Reception classroom has also had a makeover, children have been collecting sunflower seeds from the dead heads for use next year & have been digging & planting



Plastic bags needed – if you have any 5/10p thin plastic coloured bags that need recycling, please pop to them the school office next week as we will use them to repair & decorate our poly tunnel.

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Here are some great photos from our Laudato Si day:



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Our Student Council are: Neve W, Logan, Will, Molly, Minnie, Jesse, Millie & Luka

Our Eco Committee are: Poppy R, Rowan, Freddie, Isla S, Alfie S, Isabella D, George W & Claudia

Well done to all of them, we look forward to seeing their projects come to life.

We hope parents have found the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions useful this week.

Student Council & Eco Committee

Our Student Council members have been voted in by the other children at St Mary's. They will be working together to show democracy in action, looking at British values & our Gospel Values. They will be showing us that everyone has a voice at St Mary's & can make the world a better place.

Our Eco Committee will also be working together to plan projects for St Mary's which the other children can take part in to improve our environment & the world around us.

Well done to all the children who have cycled & travelled by scooter this week for the



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Streets of Light project

<https://www.streetsoflight.co.uk/>

We have been asked to share the following with you from the Streets of Light Project, please see their website for more information & inspiration. 'We seek to bring change & transformation to neighbourhoods & communities by creating window displays that convey a message of Light, Love & Hope.

For one week, at the end of October, we ask people to create a window display in their home, place of work, a church, a shop – in fact anywhere where there is a window! It's that simple!

Upcoming Events



We are planning a 'Bling your Bike' day on Friday 25th November.

Children are asked to decorate their bikes & bring them into school – some prizes available for the best decorations.

**Harvest & Laudato Si Assembly
Friday 14th October at 2.30pm**

Parents are invited to join us to see what the children have been doing.

Event	Date
Thurs 13 th Oct	Open Morning for prospective Reception parents 9.15-10.30am
Fri 14 th Oct	Harvest donations – please bring in any food donations for sharing with our local community
Fri 14 th Oct	Harvest & Laudato Si Assembly – parents are invited to join us to see what the children have been doing – 2.30pm

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Thurs 20 th Oct	Non-uniform day (home clothes) – if possible we would ask each child to bring in a £1 donation towards new playground equipment
Thurs 20 th Oct	Children finish for half term
Fri 21 st Oct	Staff Training Day – School Closed
Mon 31 st Oct	Staff Training Day – School Closed
Tues 1 st Nov	Children return to school
Fri 4 th Nov	Year 4 children visiting Community Café at Manor Park School - afternoon
Thurs 17 th Nov	French Breakfast at St Mary's School – details to follow
Fri 25 th Nov	'Bling your Bike' – children to decorate their bikes & bring them into school – some prizes available for the best decorations
Mon 28 th Nov	Individual school photos being taken (plus photos with other siblings at St Mary's)
Mon 12 th Dec	PTA Christmas Shop where children can buy Christmas presents – details to follow

St Mary's PTA

Have you carved a pumpkin or dressed up? Why not enter our amazing Halloween competition.



St Mary's PTA Halloween photo competition, enter as many times as you like. We are raising money for new playground equipment for the children at St Mary's.

The categories are:

1. Cutest
2. Scariest
3. Funniest
4. Team or family

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Please send your photo entries to:

halloweenatstmarys@outlook.com

with details of which category you are entering, your child's first name and year group.

Each entry is £2, you can enter as many times as you like. Payment for entries is via the justgiving page, which can be found at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stmaryscatholicpta>

There are prizes for each category plus an overall winner.

Have a good weekend

P. Fearn

Paula Fearn
Headteacher