

Monday 20th May 2024

Message from the Headteacher

As we approach half term, we are grateful for all that has taken place in school over the past six weeks; the school trips and visitors, the liturgies and learning. We are especially proud of our Year 6 pupils who took their statutory assessment tests last week in reading, grammar, spelling and maths. We know that they all tried their best and hope that they all did well. The SATs are a snapshot of how well a child can perform on a single day – they don't define you! Our children are so much more than these tests. After half term, Year 6 continue with assessments in science, RE and writing. Year 2 SATs tests (we refer to this as 'special work') commence w/b 3rd June and w/b 10th June. Year 4 times table checks and Year 1 Phonics screening will commence w/b 4th June and w/b 10th June respectively. Children in all other year groups will complete end of year assessments in reading, writing, RE and maths and these outcomes will inform the content of your child's annual written report to parent; these are sent home in July. Remember your children need to be in school to achieve their very best! Please do not book holidays during this time – thank you!

May – the Month of Mary

We ask each class to start the day in May by saying the *Hail Mary* Prayer. Mother Mary is the patron of our school and for this reason we regularly beseech her to pray for us. This half term, Mrs Tickel's daughter will be taking prayer intentions from her home parish in Bournemouth to the grotto in Lourdes, France. We have included a prayer for St Mary's School and our community. Thank you to Year 1 pupils who led a beautiful liturgy in honour of our Lady on Friday 17th May – it was good to see so many family members there. This week more children will have the chance to bring in flowers to place in front of our Lady's statue or image.



In school we focus on a different Gospel Value and British Value each week. This week our Gospel Value (one of our 8 Bees) is '**Kindness**' and our British Value is '**Mutual Respect**'. Please do find opportunities to ask them about these values and how they have lived them out this week.

During our sports day events this week we are looking for all children to enjoy taking part and to develop a healthy attitude to sports participation, competition and good sportsmanship. There will be certificates for pupils in every class who have demonstrated good sportsmanship, and pupils will earn points for their house teams in the flat races. We look forward to finding out which house group will win the House Cup this summer. 😊



Thank you to budding artist Joseph from year 5 for his wonderful representation of our 8 Bees. And well-done Adrian for his lovely Bee Badge worn today on World Bee Day.



Pentecost Prayer

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit
that my thoughts may all be holy;
Act in me O Holy Spirit
that my works, too, may be holy;
Draw my heart O Holy Spirit
that I love but what is holy;
Strengthen me O Holy Spirit
to defend that is holy;
Guard me then O Holy Spirit
that I always may be holy.

- St. Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-430)

Yesterday we celebrated the feast of Pentecost - we pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us and transform us into people ready to witness to the good news of Christ.

Finally, the staff and I wish all of our families a very happy half term break and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 4th June.

Important Dates

21st May	F2 and KS1 Sports Morning 9:30-11:00	Parents invited to watch
21st May	Yr 5 & 6 BSO Concert at Poole Lighthouse pm (parent helpers needed)	Year 5 & 6 children
22nd May	Yr 3 & 4 BSO Concert at Poole Lighthouse pm (parent helpers needed)	Year 3 & 4 children
24th May	KS2 Sports Morning 9:30-11:30	Parents invited to watch
24th May	Break up for half term holiday 15:15	All Years
27th May – 31st May	HALF TERM BREAK – 15:15 close	All Years
SUMMER TERM 2nd half		
3rd June	INSET DAY 5	All Years
4th June	Children return to school	All Years
w/c 4th – 14th June	Year 4 Multiplication Times Tables Checks	Year 4
7th June	Reserve KS2 Sports Day	Years 3 - 6
w/c 10th – 21st June	Year 1 Phonics	Year 1
11th June	Reserve KS1 Sports Morning	KS1 Parents/Carers
13th June	New Intake Information Evening – 18:00	Prospective new F2 Parents/Carers
14th June	Year 2 Liturgy in school – 9:00	Parents/Carers of children in Yr 2
17th June	Father and Father figures Open Book – 14:30	All Year Groups
21st June	Catholic Children's Society – non-uniform day	All Year Groups
1 st July	Diocesan Mass for Year 6 Leavers at Church	Year 6
2 nd July	SEND Parent/Carer meetings in school 15:30 - 18:00	SEND Parents/Carers
5 th July	Year F2 Liturgy in school – 9:00	Parents/Carers of children in EYFS
5 th July	Summer Fair 3:30-5:30	All children welcome with accompanied adult
11 th and 12 th July	Whole School Production – "Matilda" 18:30 in the school hall	Parents/Carers
12 th July	Reports will be sent home	All Year Groups
16 th July	Year 6 Graduation	Year 6 and Year 6 Parents/Carers
17 th July	Year 6 Graduation – 16:00 at school	Year 6 and their Parent/Carers
17 th July	Year 6 Leavers Disco 6:00-8:30pm	Year 6 pupils
19 th July	End of Year Mass at Church 9:00	All Year Groups
23rd July	Break up for summer holiday - finish at 15:15	All years
	Summer Holiday Break – 15:15 close	

Announcements

Mr Richard Howard, teacher and then deputy headteacher of St Mary's School for many years sadly passed away in March. All those who knew Richard well were saddened and feel a great loss. He was an inspirational teacher, creative and enthusiastic; he had a saying for everything and often was caught playing his guitar. Despite Mr Howard's untimely death, his contribution to education and our children's lives was immense and we are grateful for that. We will celebrate Mr Howard's contribution to St Mary's School next term. We pray for his family and that his soul is with our Lord.



Reminders

The Importance of Learning Times Tables

Learning times tables is an important and fundamental skill. The importance and benefit of learning and memorizing times tables empowers your child to excel at mental maths. Through the gradual learning of times tables, your child will build up the knowledge of number rules, will make it less challenging to learn the more complicated times tables.



The memorisation of times tables will facilitate their mental maths as they will move from using concrete objects to visualizing the answers to questions. In addition, they will be able to solve addition, subtraction and division questions.

Not only learning the times tables, but the understanding will build your child's knowledge of other mathematical concepts, such as fractions and percentages. Confidence and knowledge of times tables benefits your child as they will be able to identify number relationships.

Parent Survey

Please could one parent from each family take the time to complete the survey following the link below. Your views are important to us and enable us to review our provision and make it even better. Please complete ideally by Friday 7th June. <https://forms.office.com/e/DrQjBph3pM>

Photos Needed of your Child Reading

At St Mary's
we like to read
everywhere!



Enjoying a good book and snuggling up to read is something that many children choose not to do – it was fashionable in the 1990s but less so now. Many children, sadly, would prefer to play a game on an electronic device than read for pleasure. Please help us to instil a passion for reading into our children. Read to them and model reading in front of them! Take time out together each day to read for pleasure.

We are encouraging pupils to read '**everywhere**' and ask you to send in photos of your child reading in different or unusual places. Please send a photo to their class teacher via Dojo or Tapestry. Since we received so few pictures following our request last in last week's newsletter we have extended the deadline until 3rd June. Children may earn 5 dojo points for ending in a photo. 😊



Be Safe

As the weather improves we are seeing more and more tourists come to Poole. This means our roads are busier than usual and often with drivers who may not know where they are or who may be distracted by unfamiliar sights and sounds. You might like to discuss road safety on foot, whilst cycling or as a car passenger using the following resources. <https://capt.org.uk/csw-road-safety/>

Be Here, be Ready

Well done to class 6W who had the highest attendance last week!

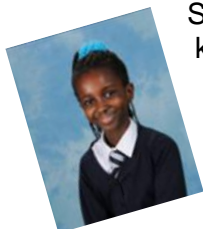
F2E Seals	97.1	4H	92.6
F2EdTurtles	98.2	4L	93.1
1K	95.4	5L	96.9
1B	94.3	5M	95.0
2H	95.0	6L	98.1
2GL	99.0	6W	100.0
3S	97.7		
3J	96.9		

Spotlight



Thank you to these lovely young people who joined us last week on work experience from St Edwards School in Poole. They were great ambassadors for St Edward's School showing gentleness, patience and initiative in supporting the staff care for our young pupils. It is good to see that the seeds we sow at St Mary's Primary School, take root and grow fruit! Well done to them all!

Mission Moments



Simaloi has been chosen to be a mission hero this week for always being kind, caring and compassionate, not only towards all her peers, but also to staff.



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tickel

Diocese of Plymouth



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