

St Mary's News



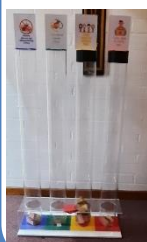
4th March 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Thank you to all parents /carers who met with their child's class teacher last week. If you did not make it, please do send your child's class teacher a DoJo or Tapestry message as we are happy to arrange a convenient time to talk about your child's learning.



We are all very excited in school this week as we embark on our two-week festival of reading. Please do read the Book Week letters that have been sent home so that you are aware of the activities going on in school. Dress up day is this Thursday, 7th March, and children are asked to dress up as something they would like to preserve for the future. This theme is limitless and provides an opportunity for you to discuss with your child what matters to you and what you would want to save to have around in 5,10, 20+ years' time. Be creative and remember you do not need to spend out on expensive costumes.



This Lent we are encouraging children to try to be reflective about preparing for Easter. Early Years have been focusing on working collaboratively, sharing with others and helping one another. Here we can see them working as a team to play a variety of parachute games.

The children are gradually filling up the Lenten tubes each time they do one of these activities they post a note in the appropriate tube. We are aiming to fill these tubes by Maundy Thursday on 28th March.



Important Dates

W/C 4 th March	World Book Week	All Year Groups
7 th March	Dress up for world book day	All Year Groups
8 th March	Yr 5 Mass in school 9am	Year 5 and parents
11 th March	Mothers & Mother Figures - Invite to school 14:30	All Year Groups
12 th – 18 th March	Book Fair in school	All
12 th March	SEND Parent/Carer meetings in school 15:30-18:00	SEND Parents/Carers
14 th March	Vision Screening for F2 children	Year F2
18 th March	Author Visit (KS2)	Years 3 - 6
21 st March	Spring Concert at Church – 18:30 - 20:00	KS2 and parents/carers
22 nd March	Year 3 Liturgy in School – 9:00	Parents/Carers of children in Year 3
28 th March	Year 5 Paulton's Trip	Year 5
28 th March	Maundy Thursday Mass – 9:00 at Church	Year 1 – 6
28 th March	Break up for Easter holidays 15:15	All Years
1 st April – 12 th April	EASTER BREAK – 15:15 close	

Announcements

Year 2 SATS Information Meeting

Come along and find out about the Year 2 assessments which will take place in May and June this year. Mrs Hemsil will give a short information session for parents on Monday 11th March at 3.30pm. All Year 2 parents are welcome to pop into Class 2H after pick up.

Reminders

Lent Activities

This is our Lent – let's all make it count together. Doing something extra enables us to reflect on the importance of this time to prepare for Easter. Please come along to a short *Parent Prayer Time* in the hall on Tuesday at 2.55pm-3.10pm. All are welcome.

Food Bank

The children are keen to do extra this season and alms giving is an important part of Lent. If you are able to send in any food items (non-perishable) then please do and we will deliver it to the local food bank. This activity helps the children to fill our Lenten tubes (see picture above).

PTFA AGM

Come along to our PTFA AGM this week where we will be voting in our new committee. If you would like to put yourself forward or vote for another person please come along to the event. Being part of our PTFA is a wonderful way to support our school and help raise invaluable funds to improve our outdoor areas. The meeting will be on Wednesday at 3.30pm in the Doves room, enter via the main entrance.

Be Safe

We believe that no child should suffer discrimination. However, as you will be aware from current affairs, there has been an alarming increase in people suffering from discriminatory language or actions. The following link from the NSPCC could help you discuss these issues with children.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/children-race-racism-racial-bullying/>

Parents may also like to talk to their children about consent and what that means. Children can benefit from a discussion on how to handle doing, or saying, something that makes them feel uncomfortable. Children should know they have the right to tell somebody to stop if they are unsure of what is happening and if that person stops it is okay to tell a trusted adult.

Be Here, be Ready

This week is 100% attendance week – last half term we were stunned with the attendance and how it significantly improved over the week. The children really enjoyed getting their certificates too! Although we did have 303 pupils with 100% attendance last time, we don't have any class with 100% overall. We are hoping to smash it this time and beat our efforts from last time.

Spotlight

This week we are focusing on our awesome Early Years team and finding out what their favourite children's authors are and why. Maybe you could try out some of the books they recommend for yourself.

Miss Emblin: Benji Davies, I love the descriptive language and the Storm Whale is my favourite.

Mrs Eddy: Oliver Jeffers, I love the beautiful illustrations, his stories are so touching and full of friendship.

Mrs Brian: Roald Dahl, his stories are enjoyed for their imaginative plots and humorous commentary.

Mrs O'Connor: Julia Donaldson, the stories capture the imagination and the rhythmic flow makes them interesting.



Mission Moments

Steve, George R and Amy from Mrs Kernick's class always make a point to help keep the classroom tidy without even being asked.



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tickel

Diocese of Plymouth

