

St Mary's News



w/c 4th November 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back to all of our children – we hope everyone enjoyed the half term break last week. November is another busy month. Our Catholic Social teaching theme this half term is 'Human Dignity'. This month we join in with many schools nationally to celebrate Anti-Bullying week from 11th – 15th November. Human dignity is at the heart of our mission to stamp out every form of bullying. Since we believe that we are all made in the image of God, there is no room for unkindness. God asks us to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.



Human dignity is the same for all human beings: when I trample on the dignity of another, I am trampling on my own.

— Pope Francis —

Thank you to everyone who donated cakes to sell and raise funds for the Catholic Children's Society on Thursday 24th October. We raised £96.15 along with money raised for non-uniform and the Year 6 shop we raised a total of £350 Thank you everyone! The children would love more cake sales this year – this would be a wonderful way to raise money for our nominated charities this year: CAFOD, Poole Reaching the Unreached and Julia's House Hospice. With your support (and lots more cakes) we can make this happen!



Important Dates

Wednesday 6th November 14:00	Open Tour of the School for prospective parents
Friday 8 th November	Non-Uniform in exchange for tombola donations (PTA)
Friday 15th November - 13th December	Class 6L swimming lessons
Tuesday 19 th November	Workshops run by CBEEBIES presenters (see letter due to be sent out later this week)
Wednesday 20th November 9:15	Open Tour of the School for prospective parents
Monday 25th November	Panto (all years) please contribute £2 via scopay
Tuesday 26th November 13:15	Open Tour of the School for prospective parents

Wednesday 13th November 14:30	Reading Workshop
Tuesday 10th December 9:00	Year 1 Nativity
Tuesday 10th December 14:00	Year 2 Nativity
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas school lunch (please order on Scopay min 1 week prior)
Thursday 12th December 14:00	Year R Nativity
Friday 13th December 15:00	Carols Around the Tree
Thursday 19th December 9:00	KS2 Carol Service
23rd December - 3rd January	Christmas Break
Friday 10th January 2025 9:00	Whole School Mass Year 1-6 at Church

SENDiass4BCP has drop-ins across Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole, where you can come and ask questions of one of their Officers. Please also see events they have here <https://sendiass4bcp.org/2024/10/24/whats-on-in-november-2/>

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Services for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole

Announcements

School Council

Meet our school council for 2024-2025. The elected members meet regularly with Mr Lakatos to plan and implement activities that support our school. The elected members provide a voice for all pupils in their classes. We look forward to regular updates from Mr Lakatos on their activities.

1K – Annabelle & Nathan, 1B – Natasha & Milan, 2GR – Nachi, 2H – Franic

3H – Alice, 4La – Maya, 4L0 – Sam, 5M – Tamara, 5WT – Willow, 6L – Sophia S, 6W - Victor

House Captains and Prefects

Congratulations to our House Captains for 2024-2025: Matteo, Abi, Sophia P and Sophia S



Congratulations also to our Year 6 prefects who have been given responsibilities around the school.

Christmas Lunch



Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 11th December. If your child would like to have a Christmas lunch on this day, please order a meat or vegetarian meal for this day via scopay.com (menu attached).

Christmas Around the World

On Monday 16th December at 2:30pm, we will be holding an exciting 'Christmas Around the World' session in school. At St Mary's we are proud of our diverse multilingual community. All classes will be learning about how the special event of Christmas is celebrated in different countries and cultures. We invite all children to share information about their Christmas celebrations and **would be grateful to any parents who would like to join their children's class to talk, or share pictures, stories, songs and artefacts to explain how Christmas is celebrated in different countries around the world.** Please let your child's class teacher or the school office know if you are able to join us.



Festivals from around the world



The festival of the Month: Polish Independence Day – Poland

The month of November is the time when Polish people celebrate their Independence Day or Norodowe Swieto Niepedleglosci. On 11th November, the anniversary of the independence is celebrated with parades and public events.

Reminders

Parking

Please note that only parents/carers with Blue Badges are allowed to park in the school grounds, please contact the school office for a permit if this is something you need to manage drop off and pick up. Parking in Devon Road is not permissible – it is resident permits only on the left side looking down from the school and restricted parking on the right side. We ask that you park considerately with respect for our neighbours on Hunt Road, Pound Lane and Gorse Hill Road. This includes collection from after school clubs.

Uniform

Please ensure all children have coats in school every day. As the weather gets gradually colder, please also provide named hats, gloves and scarves. As we continue to ventilate classrooms to reduce the spread of viruses this winter it is prudent to layer children up – a single vest underneath their school shirt will suffice.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Did you miss this opportunity?

If you didn't get to meet with your child's class teacher during the allocated dates before half term, please do send your child's class teacher a message on dojo and indicate that you would like a 10 minute catch up please at a convenient time during November. Please respect that the teachers are very busy and often have scheduled meetings after 3.30pm; they will, however, always prioritise ensuring every parent has an opportunity to discuss their child's progress and next steps.

Reception Outdoor Area Appeal

Donations of any of the items below will be gratefully received at the school office or at the Reception Class doors.



Be Safe

Fireworks are in many shops at the moment and lots of families will be looking forward to enjoying a display. The following link has lots of information on keeping the whole family safe.

<https://www.rospa.com/policy/home-safety/advice/fireworks-safety>

Be Here, be Ready

Tips to help you get to school on time every day:

- Make sure your child understands why school is important
- Show your child that you are interested in what they have done at school
- Get everything ready the night before school so that there isn't a great rush to get out the door in the morning
- Arrange appointments after school or during the school holidays – there are 13 weeks where your child isn't required to attend school!
- Set your alarm and your child's - see who can beat the clock!
- Leave 5 minutes earlier than you usually need to, ensuring your child is at the school gate on time



Spotlight

Jesus, Remember Me



November is the month in which we pray for departed Holy Souls and celebrate Remembrance Sunday. In school we help the children to develop a deeper understanding of why it is important to remember and pray for those who have died including those who have died in service of our country. If you have any relatives, including grandparents or great grandparents who fought for their country, please do talk to your children about them and send in a photo so that the children can share their story with their class. Remembering those who fought for our freedom is important – by remembering them we recognise their dignity and sacrifice.

#The Royal British Legion poppies and related items will be on sale later this week in school for a donation. Recommended donation is £1.00.

Mission Moments

Julia, Lacy and Maya from year 5 have been working hard raising funds for their chosen charity, well done!

[#caringforothers](#)



Final Word

What did pirates call Noah's boat? "The *arrrrrrk*."



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tickel

Diocese of Plymouth



Plymouth CAST operates Catholic schools within the Local Authorities of Cornwall, Plymouth, Devon, Torbay, Dorset, Poole & Bournemouth.