

St Mary's News



Monday 24th June 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Thank you to all adults who joined our pupils for the Family Open Book last Monday. It was a lovely afternoon and all the children enjoyed sharing their learning with fathers, mothers, aunts, uncles, foster carers and grandparents. 😊



On Friday 28th June all pupils will meet their new teacher for 2024-2025. Children will bring a letter home on this day so that you are kept informed of class structures for next year. Our Year 6 pupils are very excited that they will be visiting their new schools on the same day. They are so ready for this next stage in their education, and we wish them all well for their transition visits.

Thank you to all parents who completed our parent survey. Last year we had 113 parent responses, this year we have only had 33 responses, so we have to keep in mind that the responses only represent a small proportion of our school families. One of the areas that was highlighted is that parents would like to be kept informed about what their children are learning. Each half term the teachers send home a year group newsletter that outlines the learning for each year group that half term. On our website, under curriculum, you can find the curriculum overviews for each year group and information about each subject topic covered. Our website was recently updated in May 2024, so some areas are still under construction. We are aiming for all subject information to be up to date before the end of term. Parent evenings took place both in the autumn and spring terms this year and there will be optional parent teacher appointments for any follow up once the children's 'End of Year Reports' are sent home this July. Parents of pupils with SEND have additional opportunities to meet with the class teacher or SENDCo, Mrs Watts, about their child's personalised learning plan (PLP). If you have any worries or questions, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

At the recent **International Families Day** at St Mary's Church we were very proud of Matteo, Year 5, who sang beautifully, accompanied by his brother on piano. May and Diyana, Year 5 danced with their sisters and taught each other Indian and European dancing styles. Moya in Year 3 joined in learning lots of dances with the African and Latino communities. The day was a joyful celebration of diversity.



Important Dates

28 th June	Transfer day	All Year Groups
28 th June	Children to wear sportswear or PE kit to celebrate sports	All Years Groups
28 th June	Transition Day	All Year Groups
28 th June	Wear sports clothes/PE kit in celebration of sports	All Year Groups
28 th June	International Storytelling 2.30pm	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	Commemorative Tree Planting	All Years
5 th July	Summer Fayre 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
15 th July	Reports will be sent home	All Year Groups
16 th July	Year 6 Graduation 4:30 at school	Year 6 and Year 6 Parents/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
23 rd July	Break up for summer holiday - finish at 15:15	All years
	Summer Holiday Break – 15:15 close	

	Autumn Term	
2 nd Sep	INSET DAY	Staff
3 rd Sep	Children Return to School	Years 1-6
5 th Sep	F2 Children start school	Year F2

Staff Training Days 2024-2025

Please note that there is a slight amendment to our training day dates for next year.

- 2nd September 2024
- 13th September 2024 (newly added)
- 25th October 2024
- 4th November 2024
- 24th February 2025 (to be confirmed)
- 2nd June 2025

Announcements

Missing Lunch Bands

Every day we are losing lunch bands, if your child has accidentally brought home a lunch band, please can these be handed into the school office.



New Attendance Protocols for the Academic Year 2024-25

Please note the government is updating their regulations for absence which are effective from September 2024. You need to be aware of this before considering holiday bookings for 2024-2025. Fines will increase from £60 per child per parent to £80 and then double in value with second holiday absence within a 3-year period. A third holiday within a 3-year period is likely to result in legal proceedings. Please note that all schools must implement government policy fairly and without bias.

Why is attendance important? For most pupils, the best place to be during term-time is in school, surrounded by the support of their friends and teachers. This is important not just for your child's learning, but also for their overall wellbeing, wider development and their mental health.

The DfE is working with schools and local councils to improve attendance, including by introducing a new data visualisation tool to make it easier to analyse attendance, spot issues and intervene more quickly. The regulations detailed above are part of this new national framework.

SENDiass4BCP - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Services

There are some events in the summer months to make sure that parents and carers know where to get support over this time. Please find a link below for more info and events.

SENDiass latest post: <https://sendiass4bcp.org/2024/06/17/fewer-events/>

Events list: <https://sendiass4bcp.org/events/>

Reminders



We have increasing amounts of unnamed lost property; this is displayed outside the Night Owls club (near the astro) every afternoon. Please come and look for anything that your child may have lost. We also display lost property in the hall each Friday afternoon to encourage the children to become responsible for looking for their own lost items.

Be Safe

Safety Across the Curriculum

We continue to support the children's understanding of how to stay safe with input across the curriculum. This may be explicit information about issues such as crossing roads safely, how to stay safe in the sun or esafety. In PSHE we study areas that help the children make choices around healthy relationships, staying safe online and maintaining an awareness of a healthy lifestyle. Within our curriculum we allow the children to discuss issues around respect, diversity and consent. We also choose texts carefully to tackle such issues as growing up, race and discrimination within an increasingly connected global economy.

Allergy Code

We take your child health very seriously so please do inform us if they have any allergies – especially if they have a reaction with an unidentified source.

REMINDER: we are a nut free school



Be Here, be Ready

100% Attendance Week

Well done to all pupils and parents who made an extra effort to get to school on time this half term. We have seen a significant improvement in the last year – since June 2023.

Spotlight

Well done to Adas year 4 who competed in a Cycle Speedway competition in Horspath recently. Adas loves his cycling and demonstrates how perseverance and hard work can result in not only success but also a great deal of fun! Well done Adas.



Mission Moments



Well done to Darcie in Cass 2H who is our Mission Hero this week for showing initiative and kindness in helping a fellow pupil.
#kindnessandcourage



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tickel
Diocese of Plymouth



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS
OF TRUSTED CATHOLIC EDUCATION

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

