

# St Mary's News



w/c 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## Message from the Headteacher

Our **Ofsted Report** is now ready for distribution to all staff and families; it will also be published on the official Ofsted Website at the end of the week. We are very proud of the pupils and staff this term and I hope that you will take time to read the report which is a good reflection of what it is like to be a pupil at our school. Thank you again for your ongoing support as it is a privilege to lead this wonderful school.

Thank you to our wonderful Friends of St Mary's School (PTA) committee who worked extra hard to make our 'Carols Around the Tree' event memorable, whilst also helping us to raise important funds for our playground project. Thank you to Mrs Wilson for adding the festive spirit to this event by preparing the carols and Christmas songs – we enjoyed singing along!

Thank you to all those who came along to our nativity plays last week – they were all special and the children in Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed performing to their audiences. The children certainly added a bit of Christmas sparkle to our preparations this Advent.







A group of our talented KS2 Choir members sang at The Lighthouse, Poole as part of a larger choir made up of 300 pupils across Poole. It was a fabulously festive evening full of songs and readings. Well done to all pupils who took part and our thanks to the Poole Schools' Music Association for this wonderful opportunity.



On behalf of all the staff and governors at St Mary's School, we wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy new Year!

### Important Dates

Monday 16th December 14:30	<b>Christmas around the world-</b> please contact the office if you can share Christmas traditions with your child's class
Thursday 19th December 9:00	<b>KS2 Carol Service</b> (Yrs 3-6) at church
23rd December - 3rd January	<b>Christmas Break</b>
Monday 6th January 11:15	<b>Open Tour of the School for prospective parents</b>
Friday 10th January 9:00	<b>Whole School Mass (Epiphany)</b> Year 1-6 at Church
Friday 10th January - 7th February	<b>Class 4La swimming lessons</b>
Friday 17th January 09:00	<b>Year 5 Mass -</b> parents invited to attend at school 9am

Thursday 6th February - 14:30	<b>Year 2 Liturgy</b> (parents invited to attend)
17th to 21st February	<b>Half Term Break</b>
Monday 24th February	<b>INSET Day</b>
Wednesday 26th February 16:00	<b>Books at Bedtime</b>
Friday 28th February - 28th March	<b>Class 4Lo swimming lessons</b>
Week commencing 3rd March	<b>Book Week</b>
Thursday 6th March	<b>World Book Day</b>
Monday 10th March 15:30/18:00	<b>Parent/Carer Information sessions</b> -Times Table Checks 15:30/Y6 SATS 18:00
Week Commencing Tuesday 11th March	<b>Book Fair in school</b>
Thursday 13th March	<b>CAFOD Family Fast Day</b>
Monday 17th March 15:30	<b>Parent/Carer Information session</b> - Phonics Screening – Year 1
Thursday 20th March 2025 - 14:30	<b>Year 1 Liturgy</b> (parents invited to attend)
Friday 21st March 2025	<b>World Down Syndrome Day</b> - Fundraiser
Tuesday 25th March 15:30	<b>Parent/Teacher Consultations</b>
Thursday 27th March - 15:30	<b>Parent/Teacher Consultations</b>
7th to 21st April	<b>Easter Break</b>

## Announcements

### KS2 Christmas Carol Service

Please be reminded that children in Years 3 to 6 should be taken to St Mary's Church on Thursday (BH15 2EG) for 8:35am ready for the Carol Service to start at 9:00am. Families are welcome to join the service. All pupils in years R, 1 and 2 attend school as normal. Please bring along any loose change or £ notes along as we will be collecting for our local homeless charity 'Routes to Roots' at the end of the service.



### School Meals for w/c 6<sup>th</sup> January

The deadline for ordering school meals for the first week back after Christmas is **12 noon on 20<sup>th</sup> December**. Orders made after this date will not be added to the caterers list for dinners delivered on the week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> January.

### House Group Names

Our House Captains and Year 6 prefects have spent the last few weeks discussing and then voting on the names for each of their houses. They voted to name the houses after sites where Our Lady has appeared. This morning in our Advent Liturgy each House was named as follows:

**Red House: Lourdes** **Blue House: Medjugorje** **Yellow House: Fatima** **Green House: Walsingham**

Next term our House Captains will share facts about these apparitions.





## Reminders

### Empty Tubs Please!



### Bring your empty chocolate/sweets/cracker tubs into school!

We have been asked if we can collect empty plastic tubs to help the Tub2Pub Greene King recycling scheme.

Tubs can be handed into the school office.

Money raised from the recycled plastic is donated to its partner Macmillan Cancer Support, helping the charity continue to support people living with cancer.

### Lost Property Collection

Please can we encourage you to claim any unnamed lost property from outside Night Owls (by astro turf) before the end of Thursday, all unclaimed lost property will be given to charity if not collected.



### Weekly Phonics Practice

It's really important to keep reading and to keep those phonics skills sharp over the holiday – 5 to 10 minutes daily will mean that your child is ready for the Spring term and ready to progress onto their next level in phonics or Accelerated Reading book.

### Be Here, be Ready

**Celebrate Achievements:** Recognise and celebrate your child's achievements and milestones related to attendance. This could include perfect attendance for a month or term, improvement in attendance, or meeting attendance goals. Praise and rewards can motivate your child to maintain good attendance habits.  
**Foster Positive Relationships:** Encourage your child to develop positive relationships with teachers and peers. Strong connections with teachers can create a supportive and engaging learning environment, while friendships with classmates can enhance their sense of belonging and enjoyment of school. Positive relationships can motivate children to attend regularly.

### Spotlight

Milan in Year 1 has recently been signed for Southampton Youth Academy - here is a picture of him with his coach. Well done Milan!



### Mission Moments



Ava Rose for kindness and always being helpful.  
**#kindness**







# MERRY CHRISTMAS

From all the staff and pupils  
at St Mary's Catholic Primary  
School (Poole)



Christmas design by Stirling Year 6L

## 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.