

St Mary's News



Monday 15th April 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back to all of our families. We are excited to see all the children back in school today looking rested and happy and full of Easter stories. We are joyful to have celebrated Easter and this term we will embrace Pope Francis' request that we dedicate ourselves to prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year in 2025.

The next couple of months bring excitement but also a key focus on assessment alongside our learning. We look forward to our sports day events in May, various school trips and our summer show 'Matilda' in July. As this is the final term for our Year 6 pupils before they move on to secondary schools in September; we pray that they all fulfil their potential and make the most of the learning opportunities on offer. They are all wonderful role models for our younger children; we are very proud of the young people they have grown into.

Well done to all pupils who participated in the Big Lent Walk last term – nearly all pupils completed the 20 laps and received their certificate. There is still time to add a donation to the Big Lent Walk just giving page <https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/big-lent-walk-in-pool>. Thank you.



Important Dates

| | SUMMER TERM 1st half | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 15 th April | Children return to school | All Years |
| 19 th Apr | Whole School Easter Mass at Church - 8:50 | All Years + Parents/Carers |
| 23 rd April | Sensory Breaks workshop for parents with Mrs Watts | All Parents invited |
| 23 rd April | Class Photos | All Children |
| 10 th May | Year 4 Mass in school – 9:00 | Parents/Carers of children in Year 4 |
| w/c 13 th May | KS2 SATs (please don't book holidays in this time) | Year 6 |
| All month | KS1 SATs (please don't book holidays in this time) | Year 2 |
| 17 th May | Seals and Turtles Liturgy in School – 9:00 | Parents/Carers of children in Year F2 |

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|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| 21st May | KS1 Sports Morning | Parents invited to watch |
| 24 th May | KS2 Sports Morning | Parents invited to watch |
| 24 th May | Break up for half term holiday 15:15 | All Years |
| 27 th May – 31 st May | HALF TERM BREAK – 15:15 close | |
| | SUMMER TERM 2nd half | |
| 3rd June | INSET DAY 5 | All Years |
| 4 th June | Children return to school | All Years |
| w/c 4 th – 14 th June | Year 4 Multiplication Times Tables Checks | Year 4 |
| 7 th June | Reserve KS2 Sports Day | Years 3 - 6 |
| w/c 10 th -21 st June | Year 1 Phonics | Year 1 |
| 11 th June | Reserve KS1 Sports Morning | KS1 Parents/Carers |
| 13 th June | New Intake Information Evening – 18:00 | Prospective new F2 Parents/Carers |
| 14 th June | Year 2 Liturgy in school – 9:00 | Parents/Carers of children in Year 2 |
| 17 th June | Fathers and Father figures Open Book – 14:30 | All Year Groups |
| 21 st June | Catholic Children’s Society – non-uniform day | All Year Groups |
| 21 st Junes | Year 5 Mass in school – 9:00 | Parents/Carers of children in Year 5 |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| 17 th July | Matilda Show | |
| 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 |
| 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 | |

INSET 2024/25 (published subject to change)

INSET 1 - Monday 2nd September 2024

INSET 2 - Friday 25th October 2024

INSET 3 - Monday 4th November 2024

INSET 4 - Monday 24th February 2025

INSET 5 - Monday 2nd June 2025

Announcements

Parent Survey

We will send out a parent survey this half term so please look out for the link in the newsletter in Early May.

Assessment Dates

Key Stage 2 statutory assessments begin Mon 13th May to Thurs 16th May in English and Maths.

Key Stage 2 assessments in writing and Science assessments continue until the end of June.

Key Stage 1 statutory assessments begin 6th May until the 24th May in reading and Maths.

Key Stage 1 assessments in writing continue until the end of June.

Key stage 1 phonics assessment begin on Mon 10th June for one week.
Year 4 Times Table assessments begin on Mon 3rd June for two weeks.
Foundation Stage profile assessment is completed between 15th April and 30th June.

Teachers have already shared information with parents regarding these assessments and any further information will be communicated via class Dojo or Tapestry. It is imperative that we maximise learning time for all of our pupils, so please avoid absences unless a child is unwell.

Reminders

Summer Uniform

We really pride ourselves on high standards at St Mary's School and we politely ask that pupils wear both correct school uniform and PE uniform.

Please check our uniform guidelines. Pupils have the option of wearing either summer or winter uniform for the Summer Term. Long hair must be tied back and only stud earrings may be worn to school. Thank you for your support.

Dress: Blue checked dress.

Shorts: Dark grey. Must be tailored.

PE Uniform: Plain navy blue shorts with school house T-shirt

Be Safe

Sun Safety

When the summer really starts to get going we advise all pupils to have a named sun hat or cap. Please ensure you apply sun cream to pupils before school. We are unable to apply sunscreen on your behalf so this is crucial. We would also ask you to encourage your child to drink plenty of water throughout the day, they can always ask an adult to refill their bottle! All water bottles should ideally be transparent / clear bottles please so that adults can be vigilant and ensure bottles are refilled.

Be Here, be Ready

Holidays in Term Time

We understand how important it is to have time together as a family. We also understand that holidays during term time are more affordable. Despite this we are still not allowed to authorise any holidays and please ask that parents / carers do not take children out of school during our assessment season (April, May, June). We want our children to have the very best chance of doing their best and we need them in school learning every day for this to happen. Thank you for your support.

Spotlight



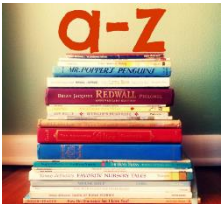
Night Owls

Our vision for Night Owls at St Mary's is for it to be a cosy, safe and nurturing environment where the children can end their school day feeling loved and cared for. The children start the session with a snack and a drink and if the weather is fine, they play outdoors closely supervised by our team. We recognise that for working parents it helps greatly if the children have an opportunity to read or do some homework too. Provision for this is made during session 2 from 4.30pm if the children stay on.

We asked our Night Owls team who their favourite children's authors were and why?

Mrs Bolt loves Julia Donaldson books because the words and stories are fun and interesting, she also loves the colourful artwork. Miss Petty enjoys reading 'We're going on a bear hunt' by Michael Rosen, she asks the children to act out the different scenarios in the book.

Mission Moments



Mrs Wrann and Mrs Eddy were Mission Heroes during the Easter break when they came into school to tidy and reorganise our main school library. The children will now find all books organised in alphabetical order using author's surnames.

We challenge each family this week to make an A-Z poster of children's authors – the best presented returns will be displayed in our library and children can earn 10 dojos for handing in their efforts.



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tickel

Diocese of Plymouth

