

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



14th June 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have had a lovely week at school with their swimming. Icení class went orienteering at St Osmunds and the children are all looking forward to showing off their PE skills on sports day.

Picking Sunflowers and a Maize maze

We are a family friendly outdoor event which will be running this August. We host Pick your own Sunflowers & a Maize Maze, as well as arts and crafts, graffiti area, escape room, barrel train and more.

There is a £5 entry fee per family, which is redeemed for 6 sunflower stems to take home. Once you are on site there is loads to be enjoyed, so it's a very affordable day out.

SUNFLOWER PICKING PATCH & MAIZE MAZE

Mabel Berman

mabel@pickingpatch.com

PUMPKIN PICKING PATCH

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter

Swimming has started at St Mary's

Thank you to everybody who has contributed to the funds that enable our children to swim. We are asking for your kind donation of £5 for a child in Maurward class and £10 for children in: Shire class, Anning class, Maiden class and Icenic class. This is for the half term of swimming lessons.

For families who want to make use of the after school swimming slots, there is a £25 charge that will enable your child to swim during this half term.

For **lifeguards only**, we ask for a £40 contribution which includes the summer holidays.

Please use Parent pay to make your contribution - Thank you.

Easy Fundraising

St Mary's Catholic First School, Dorchester are registered with **easyfundraising**, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at:

[St Mary's Catholic First School, Dorchester Fundraising | Easyfundraising](#)



Summer Reading Challenge



Joining the Summer Reading Challenge

Children sign up through their local Dorset library and receive a collector's poster.

They set a reading goal and borrow books of their choice during the summer, collecting special stickers. Children who complete the Challenge are presented with a medal when they have read 6 books, and a certificate is sent to school in the Autumn term.

The Challenge starts on Saturday 6 July

Schools online author event with John Dougherty to launch the Summer Reading Challenge
3 July 9.15 - 10 am



How the Summer Reading Challenge benefits children

- helps with reading confidence and independence
- prevents the summer reading 'dip'
- helps with the successful transition between year groups and key stages
- encourages family engagement with reading



2024 Summer Reading Challenge, Marvellous Makers

The Summer Reading Challenge is a FREE holiday activity for children. It's all about reading for fun, aiming to improve children's reading skills and confidence.

This year's Challenge is all about creativity. From dance to drawing, junk modelling to music, there's something for everyone! Children will be able to find new reads linked to their favourite creative arts, and access free activities at the library. We can't wait to get creative!

The Summer Reading Challenge is developed by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries. This year's theme has been developed in partnership with Create, a leading charity bringing the creative arts to those who need it most. The bespoke illustrations for Marvellous Makers are created by the brilliant illustrator, Netele Quek.

Library events



Libraries will have events planned throughout the summer for children to come to. Keep checking our web pages as more events are added all the time.

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/whats-on-in-dorset-libraries>



Our Library Service mission is to **Inspire, Connect and Enable** our communities



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter

Sporting Activities

Mr Knox, from Premier education sport, is offering the following after school clubs after half term. The costing is £30 for 6 weeks, starting week beginning 3/4/24 and finishing the week beginning 8/7/24. Please use the links below to book.

Tuesday Club:

Football

year group 1/2/3/4

Time: 3:15 - 4:15

[After School Football Club – Premier Education \(premier-education.com\)](https://premier-education.com)

Thursday club:

Cricket

year group 3/4

Time: 3:15 - 4:15

[After School Cricket Club – Premier Education \(premier-education.com\)](https://premier-education.com)





OUTSIDE ROOM OF JOY

FROZEN FRIDAY £1

ST MARY'S PTFA

Dorchester

New opening hours from 1 July 2024



Check out our new updated opening hours

Monday:	10am to 5pm
Tuesday:	10am to 6pm
Wednesday:	10am to 5pm
Thursday:	10am to 5pm
Friday:	10am to 5pm
Saturday:	10am to 4pm
Sunday:	Closed

We are committed to mitigating any impact of these changes. Where necessary, regular events will be re-scheduled to align with our new hours. Please raise any questions with your local library manager or email dorsetlibraries@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

For other library opening times go to 

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/new-library-opening-hours



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St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter

Kingston

Last week the Kingston leavers children went on a school trip to Kingston Maurward animal farm and gardens. They were able to see all the animals, and have a good run around in the park. Everyone completed a quiz about the animals, and searched for colours with their own colour wheel magnifying glass. What a fabulous day they had!



St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



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Upcoming events

Date	Event
Thurs 13 th June	Wessex Wild Farm visiting Kingston preschool during the morning to look at where food comes from and healthy lunch boxes
Wed 19 th June	Iceni class visiting Wessex Wild Farm – packed lunches required (can be ordered via Food Links)
Tues 25 th June	Anning class visiting County Museum for the Mary Anning experience – packed lunches required (can be ordered via Food Links)
Thurs 27 th June	Sports Day – families invited for a picnic lunch from 1200 noon or 1.00pm for the afternoon races. Packed lunches required (can be ordered via Food Links). Please can children to wear something either red, white or blue or a mixture of these colours to celebrate our 'Olympics' sports day.

Fri 28 th June	Dr Bike is visiting St Mary's to check over your bikes for free – please bring any bikes in from home.
Tues 2 nd July	Shire class visiting Wessex Wild Farm – packed lunches required (can be ordered via Food Links)
Mon 8 th and Tues 9 th July	Iceni children's 'Meet the Tutor' days at St Osmund's Middle School – information from Claire Hudson to follow.
Mon 8 th and 9 th July	Swimming galas for Shire, Anning, Maiden Castle and Iceni classes during the mornings – children only event

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter

Fri 12 th July	Shire class visiting the Sealife Centre – packed lunches required (can be ordered via Food Links)
Fri 19 th July	Children finish for the Summer Holidays
Wed 4 th Sept	Children return from Summer holidays

Hoping you have a relaxing weekend.

Paula Fearn
Headteacher