

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



8th September 2023



Our new exciting sensory trail in the hall



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a brand new Autumn term. I imagine we're all a little confused as the weather is absolutely glorious! We hope you had a lovely Summer with family and friends.

The children have had a fantastic week, they have fully embraced the new school year and have settled well into routines.

A warm welcome to our new Reception children and their families, they had a super first full day today.

Names of Classes at St Mary's

We will mostly be using our class names now at St Mary's. As a reminder (& for information for our new Reception parents/carers), our classes names are:

Haycorns – Kingston

Reception – Maurward

Year 1 – Shire

Year 2 – Anning

Year 3 – Maiden Castle

Year 4 – Icen

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Morning Routines - Safeguarding

Please can we ask that you drop your children to the relevant designated points in the mornings.

Maurward (Reception) – Green outside gate by mural.

Shire & Anning (Yr1/Yr2) - House of Joy - Mrs Fearn/Mrs Bourne will be there.

Maiden Castle & Icen (Yr3/Yr4) - car park point - Mrs Hedges is there every morning.

In the mornings it is not possible to speak with the class teacher at the door as they are busy welcoming and settling the children to the school day.

Safeguarding of the children is the most important job we have so ask that you drop the children at the designated areas.

However we fully appreciate that you might at times need to speak with a member of the team. We would ask that you choose one of the following:

- contact the school office who can pass on a message, request a phone call or offer their help (this can be done face to face, via the phone or email)
- contact the teacher via Google classroom
- wait until after drop off and see either Mrs Fearn/Mrs Bourne

Many thanks for your support.

Message from Dorchester Library about their Summer reading challenge:

It was lovely to visit your school last term and tell the children about this year's Summer Reading Challenge "Ready, Set, Read".

We have been delighted to see so many pupils in the library collecting stickers and more recently their medals. If your child has not yet finished the challenge there is still time, just come along to the library and they can tell us about the books they have been reading.

Even if you have had a hectic Summer and not yet signed them up for the challenge, come into the library before September 23rd and we can register them, hear about the books they have read, give them stickers, a medal and ensure the certificate goes to school.

We look forward to seeing you at Dorchester Library.

PE

We have welcomed a new PE specialist to St Mary's, Steve Treble, he will be leading the PE sessions for Kingston, Maurward, Shire & Anning on a Wednesday. So children in these classes arrive dressed in their PE kits on a Wednesday, which they will stay in all day.

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Maiden Castle & Icen classes will be in their PE kits on Tuesdays & Thursdays.



"I have a degree in Children's Physical Education and have completed a level 5 Education and Training BTEC. I have 10 years' experience of teaching a variety of pupils across both the Primary and Secondary education sector. Within these settings I have worked with pupils who have SEN (including those who are physically disabled).

Due to the nature of my job I have an outstanding knowledge and understanding of the Physical Education curriculum across the education sector which is advantageous as I am fully aware of attainment expectations at each age-related stage, as well as being confident in planning and implementing current schemes of work for PE."

After School Clubs

This half term for Maurward class up to Icen, we will have on offer various sports clubs on a Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday after school 3.15-4.15pm.

Attached to the newsletter is the flyer for the Wednesday club run by Steve Treble. If you would like your child to take part in this club, please see instructions of how to do this on the newsletter email.

Also in the email will be links for the Tuesday & Thursday clubs from Premier Sport.

School led clubs will start after the October half term.

Raising funds for playground equipment (Tesco)

Our PTA have been & are continuing to raise funds for new playground equipment at St Mary's. As part of this, our PTA have arranged with Tesco in Dorchester from the first week in October to mid-January next year to have our school as one of their community projects. If you shop in Tesco, please use the blue counters for the community projects & pop it in the slot for St Mary's – many thanks.

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As a reminder St Mary's School & our preschool are nut free areas. We have children with nut allergies so cannot have nuts, peanut butter, Nutella, anything with nuts in at the school – many thanks.

Kingston

This week we have welcomed our children back to Kingston, as well as new families starting.

Throughout this hot week the children have all enjoyed keeping themselves cool in our garden, pouring/filling & playing in our water trays.



Upcoming Events

Date	Event
October to January 2024	Tesco community project open for St Mary's
Friday 22 nd Sept	Flu Vaccinations for Maurward to Icen
Friday 20 th Oct	Children finish for half term
Monday 30 th Oct	School Closed – staff training day
Tuesday 31 st Oct	Children return to school

Have a lovely weekend.

P. Fearn

Paula Fearn
Headteacher