

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



24th May 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have had a lovely first week back at school- with swimming, trips, sports day practice and art activities to name a few. Maiden Castle class took part in a service to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day on Thursday and were commended for their behaviour. They were all kindly given a treat bag!

Maiden Castle Class marking D-Day anniversary at The County Hall



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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.

We are in need of lifeguards so that our after school sessions can run

In order to be able to run our after school swimming sessions, we need to have lifeguards signing up for every session. If you have not signed up yet and are able to do this, please can you contact the school office on: 01305 262258

Health and Safety Governor needed

If you feel that you would like to be a governor of our school and have an interest or expertise in health and safety, we would love to hear from you. Please click on the link below to the office or phone to enquire on 01305 262258:

[St Mary's Office](#)



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, Natalie Quirk.

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



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Cake Sale at the Old Salvation Army Building - Durngate street



CAKE SALE  **SATURDAY**
8TH JUNE
11AM - 3PM

AT THE POINTE
*Can you help by donating a
cake or bake?*

*Come along on the day,
please bring cash and buy a
cup of tea and some
tasty delights!* 

**RAISING MONEY TO SUPPORT JUST DANCE'S BIG SHOW AT WEYMOUTH PAVILION ON SUNDAY 7TH JULY -
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!**



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The winner of the design for a Sensory Garden or trail

Thank you to the children who handed in designs for a sensory garden. The winning design goes to Eleri who wins a family ticket to Happy's Circus. Well done Eleri!



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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)



This week's kids' Corner comes from our Anning class, telling us what they have enjoyed and learnt this week:

“ I liked making clocks”, Bea

“ I enjoyed Power Maths”, Alfie

“I liked it when I swam in the school pool today”, Lewin:

New Opening hours in Dorchester Library

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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The PTFA raised £160 from the cake sale on Friday 24th May!

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Upcoming events

Date	Event
Mon 10 th June	Iceni children orienteering at St Osmund's School in the afternoon
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.

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Mon 8 th and 9 th July	Swimming galas for Shire, Anning, Maiden Castle and Icenii classes during the mornings – children only event
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 wonderful half term with your family. Thank you for your continued support.

Paula Fearn
Headteacher