

St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



23rd February 2024



Anning class starting to investigate how plants grow



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a wet but good week at St Mary's. We hope that everyone enjoyed some quality family time over the half term break. The children have come back full of enthusiasm and positivity for learning.

Mrs Hudson, the transition lead from St Osmund's Middle School has started working with our Icenis class in preparation for moving onto Middle School later in the year.

Mrs Hudson will be communicating with Icenis parents over the coming months about transition and will work with Icenis children on a weekly basis. When the children move to St Osmund's in September, Mrs Hudson is there to ensure they settle well.

Mass at St Mary's

The children and our families had a lovely Mass on Tuesday led by Fr Royston and Deacon Jonathan.

We really enjoyed talking with Fr Royston and asking him lots of questions about being a priest and his exciting travels.

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Fr Royston and Deacon Jonathan with Anning Class.

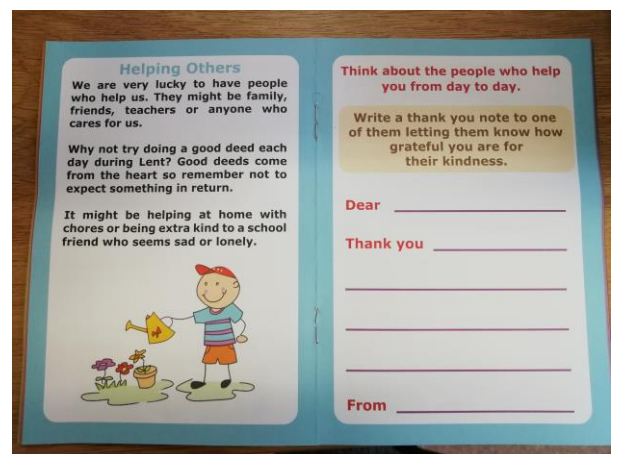
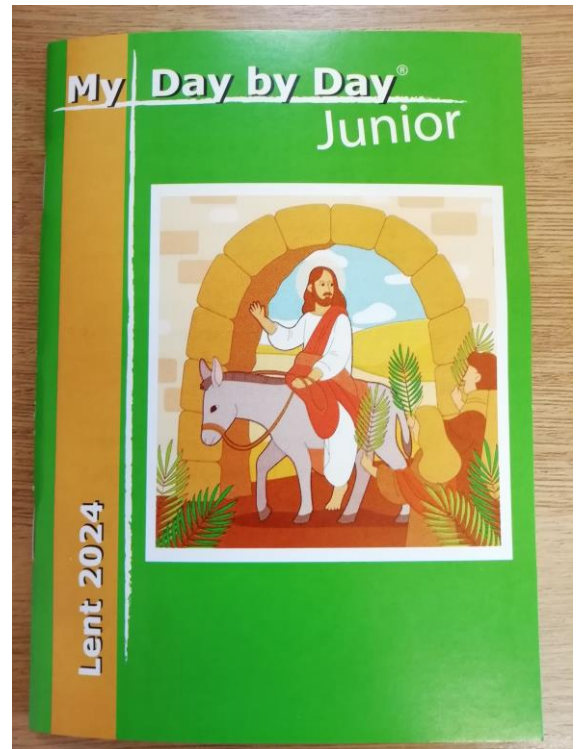


Our kickboxing children received their belts this week after their successful grading.



Lent

We have sent home this week a lovely Lent activity book for the children to enjoy.



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On Monday all the children attended the School in a Bag Assembly to find out all about the charity that we will be fundraising for during LENT.

The charity is based in Yeovil and was set up by Luke Simon (CEO) in 2005 after he tragically lost his brother in the Indian Ocean Tsunami on the Island of Koh Phi Phi in Thailand in 2004.

The charity is in a period of growth at the moment and they have developed a curriculum for schools. The learning for our children at St Mary's First School is powerful and so we will be delivering a lesson to each year group this half term, using resources from the Charity.

This week, in Pupil Voice, each year group will decide on their **FUNDRAISING EVENT for School in a Bag** and we will share details next week.

Each bag costs £20 and contains: a lunch box, drinks bottle, school books, PE bag, wash bag, soap, flannel, toothbrush and lots of stationery.

Please see the attached information sheet with the newsletter email for further information and a link to their website.

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Just a reminder that we will be celebrating WBD on 7th March. We would love for children to come to school dressed to represent a 'word' and to also translate this word into a second language.

Favourite Book – children are also invited to bring in their favourite book to read at school during World Book Day.

Reading Photos

Thank you for all the great photos of children reading over the half term break. We will be printing these all off and making a display with them. Here are a couple:



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Raffle tickets and quiz night tickets will be on sale by the PTFA at St Mary's during afternoon pick-ups Thursday 29th February through to Wednesday 6th March. Please bring cash!

The quiz is based on children's books from now and 'classics' (i.e. ones the Mums and Dads will know!). Each team will need one mobile phone to take part (we've gone high tech!)

Refreshments will be on sale during the evening. Really looking forward to a fun night raising funds for playground equipment for the children at St Mary's.

PTFA Book Quiz Night



Upcoming events

Date	Event
Mon 11 th March	Maiden Castle class attending Commonwealth Day service at County Hall in the morning
Mon 11 th & Tues 12 th March	Life Education sessions from Coram Life for all classes
Tues 5 th March	Anning class visiting Wagamama in Dorchester
Thurs 7 th March	Celebrating World Book Day – children to come dressed to represent a 'word' & translate it into a second language and bring in a favourite book to read on the day.

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Fri 8 th March	PTFA Book Quiz Night 5.30pm-6.30pm(ish) – tickets will be on sale afternoon pick-ups Thursday 29th February through to Wednesday 6th March. Please bring cash!
11 th -22 nd March	Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel to School – more info to follow
Tues 12 th March	Year 4 Wessex Singing Schools Festival performance starts at 6.30pm – Icen parents/carers invited to the Thomas Hardye School – doors open at 6.00pm, children to wear school uniform (rehearsal in the morning at THS)
Thurs 14 th March	Two teams from Maiden Castle & Icen playing Tag Rugby at Dorchester Rugby Club
Monday 25 th March	Kidszone is closed today for mandatory staff Safeguarding Training



Kingston

This week in Kingston class they have moved their home corner to allow more space for the children to role play. It was then turned into a cafe, and the children have had lots of play, communication and writing opportunities, taking orders, and then cooking for their peers.

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



I enjoyed independent write about smugglers. We had to write the introduction paragraph describing a picture.

Sam

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I enjoyed Maths, we are doing times tables and division. We are doing times table speed tests.

Molly

I enjoyed English, learning about plastic pollution in the oceans.

Jack

I enjoyed History and learning about smugglers, especially Isaac Gulliver, known as the gentle smuggler.

Beau

Have a good weekend.

P. Fearn

Paula Fearn
Headteacher