

# St Mary's Catholic First School Newsletter



8th February 2024



## Parking around St Mary's School

Please can we ask parents/carers again to please drive and park sensibly and safely around the school.

Some parents/carers drive quite fast, some mount the pavement and some double park, or park on the zig-zag markings. This just makes it really dangerous for the children who are coming into or leaving the school. There is additional parking round the back of the houses facing St Mary's.

Please be aware – thank you

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a great week we have had at St Mary's for our last week of this half term.

The children taking part in the Kickboxing after school club completed a grading this week and were awarded their certificates. We are very proud of them.

We invited Icen parents and carers to an Information Meeting about Year 4 Multiplication Checks. Thank you for coming along, we hope you found the information useful.

Again, a group of Maiden Castle and Icen children visited the residents at Culliford House Residential Home. There was some lovely singing, including the songs, Que Sera, Sera and My Way. The children then chatted happily with the residents.

Our children from Kingston, Maurward, Shire and Anning performed their newly learnt dance techniques to their families yesterday. They all performed really well, we hope you enjoyed the performance.

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We learnt about and celebrated Chinese New Year this week, some of our children came to school in traditional clothes and explained how the New Year is celebrated.

Milo made an amazing dragon head to demonstrate the dragon dance. Maurward children were then joined by their Icení buddies and Milo lead the dragon dance for everyone. It was great fun.

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## Lunchbox Challenge (copy attached to newsletter email)

Our new Eco project is to reduce our single use plastic waste



Year 4 shared 5 ideas for us to think about

Can you help with our lunchbox challenge?



Wrap your sandwich



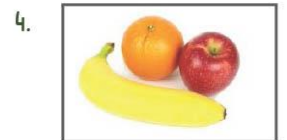
Reusable containers



Reusable cutlery



Fruit that doesn't need a container



Please think carefully when choosing a new lunch box



## Reading for Pleasure

The children have been set a challenge over the half term holiday. We would like them to have a photo taken of themselves enjoying reading in their favourite or an extreme place.

Please email any photos to the office so that we can make a display of these photos on World Book Day.

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## Bike and Scooter borrowing scheme at St Mary's



After half term we will be starting a bike and scooter borrowing scheme. There will be a sheet in the House of Joy at the front of the school to sign your child up to borrow one for a week.

We have helmets for the children to borrow as well. Children can then see if they enjoy using the bikes or scooters when coming to school and at home.

If anyone has a suitably sized bike in good condition, that is no longer needed, please let Mrs Coffin know via the office email. You do not need to bring it in, we just want to see if there are any extra bikes we might be able to use. We do not need any helmets.

## Upcoming events



On Monday 19th February, Mrs Derrien will lead an assembly for the children about the charity, 'School in a Bag', that our school will be supporting.

More information about this charity and our planned fundraising will then be shared with our families.

**PTFA Book Quiz Night** – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March  
- 5.30pm-6.30pm(ish) – tickets will be on sale the week before by the PTFA

**Event - World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

Date	Event
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Staff Training/Inset Day – <b>School closed</b>
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Children return to school after half term holiday

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Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> February	School in a Bag assembly for the children
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Mass at St Mary's School with Father Babu at 9am – families welcome to join us
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Maiden Castle class attending Commonwealth Day service at County Hall in the morning
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> & Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Life Education sessions from Coram Life for all classes
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Anning class visiting Wagamama in Dorchester
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Celebrating World Book Day – <a href="#">children to come dressed to represent a 'word' &amp; translate it into a second language.</a>
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> March	PTFA Book Quiz Night 5.30pm-6.30pm(ish) – tickets will be on sale the week before by the PTFA
11 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel to School – more info to follow
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Wessex Singing Schools Festival performance starts at 6.30pm – Icen parents/carers invited to the Thomas Hardy School – doors open at 6.00pm, children to wear school uniform (rehearsal in the morning at THS)
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Two teams from Maiden Castle & Icen playing Tag Rugby at Dorchester Rugby Club

Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Kidszone is closed today for mandatory staff Safeguarding Training
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## Kingston

The children in Kingston have been sharing love and friendship through their new heart door display.



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

I enjoyed sewing in our Art with our paintings and doing final copy in our English

Albie

I enjoyed purple penning in English, marking and improving our brochures on Maiden Castle

Max

I enjoyed measuring in Maths, using centimeters, millimeters and meters

Esme

I enjoyed learning about Maiden Castle, its structure and the Iron Age

Ethan

Enjoy the half term holidays, we will see you all back at St Mary's on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

*P. Fearn*

Paula Fearn  
Headteacher