

St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter

Attendance - 93.29%

As you can see below it has been a busy week with lots happening across the school – this continues next week with trips for years 4/5 and 6!

10th Anniversary - Next Friday we are taking time to celebrate 10 years of St Mary's being on our current school site – those 10 years seem to have flown by - We will be sharing lunch all together around one huge table, as we did for VE day –so packed lunches for everyone. In the afternoon, the chaplains will be organising party games for the younger years, and the older classes will be enjoying some of their own. It is a Rainbow dress down for FOSM – in preparation for the summer fair that will take place on Friday 27th June.

Mary Procession Monday 23rd June – Traditionally this takes place in May - the month of Mary- however this year we will be having our procession on 23rd June. Our statue of Mary will lead the procession and then we will share a short worship together. Plants and flowers often play a key role in this kind of procession. Therefore, we are asking if you would be able to send in a plant/s; these will then be planted around the school grounds to add some colour during the summer months; it should be a bedding plant of some kind (there are many available in Budgens and Co Op at the moment). You can send your plants into school any time between now and Monday 23rd.

Reception

Reception has, as always, worked hard this week. We have been working on our doubles to 10, writing number sentences and recalling our doubles facts with speed. We have been looking at animals under the sea and how we can sort them into different categories. We have also been practising ready for sports day and enjoyed a scavenger hunt on 'Wellie Wednesday' in the sunshine. We also got to visit Little Birds on Thursday afternoon for a disco as part of their festival week. Thank you to our lovely friends at Little Birds for letting us come over for a dance! What a busy week!



Year 1

Year 1 has worked so hard this week! We have completed our phonic screening check, and all the children tried so hard, so well done, Year 1!

We started our week with a Zoom call with Lou, from the National Archives in London - the children had to put on their detective hats, and they used evidence to find out information about The Great Fire of London. In RE, we have been looking at why Catholics use crosses as a symbol of their faith. They made their own crosses that they will be taking home to use if they wish to pray.

**Year 2**

The incredible children in Year 2 this week have worked really hard, completing not only lots of classwork, but also two SATs reading papers – well done to them all! In RE, we have found out how Jewish people observe the Sabbath each week, which they call Shabbat. Shabbat starts at Friday sundown and we looked at the different prayers, blessings and items they use before sitting down for a delicious Shabbat meal. We set up our own Shabbat table with the Kiddush cup and wine, candles and Challah bread – we even got the chance to try some of the kosher, plaited bread which most of them enjoyed! In English, we have continued reading about Max the hedgehog and his family and how he is determined to find a safe way to cross the road, while in Maths, we have been finding quarters of amounts and shapes. In Geography, we have started our new topic looking at the country of Zambia and how it contrasts with our own. A marvellous week, Team 2.6 - be proud of all you have achieved!

**Year 3**

This week in Year 3 has been full of exciting learning across all subjects! In RE, the children have been exploring Judaism, learning about the first Passover and how it links to the Last Supper. They've also discovered how Jewish families in Britain celebrate Passover today. In Maths, we've moved on to using our times tables knowledge to solve division problems with remainders. In English, the children are continuing to develop their non-chronological reports about St. Mary's, focusing on structure and factual detail. Science has brought hands-on learning as we planted beans to observe the life cycle of plants—everyone is excited to see them grow! Finally, we wrapped up our tennis coaching sessions with great enthusiasm, showing off the skills we've developed over the past weeks. As always, we are incredibly proud of the children's curiosity, effort, and teamwork in everything they do.

<p>Year 4</p>	<p>Year 4 have had an excellent week. We've had a lot to do this week and the children have risen to the challenge excellently. We had our Multiplication Check this week and the Children have done brilliantly. They have practiced hard all year at their times tables, performed extremely well in the test and should be very proud of their efforts. We also had a class trip to Tincleton farm where we learnt about farm life in general but also took part in an Anglo-Saxon workshop to make the links between modern farming and the methods used in Anglo-Saxon times. The children were excellently behaved and a credit to the school. Well done Year for for an excellent week.</p>
<p>Year 5</p>	<p>Year 5 had a productive and engaging week full of learning across all subjects! In Science, we continued our topic on Living Things and Their Habitats, with a special focus on how plants reproduce. Students explored the different stages of the plant life cycle and discussed the role of pollination and seed dispersal. In PE we enjoyed learning and practicing skills in both tennis and cricket. Everyone showed great teamwork and sportsmanship while developing coordination and strategy. Maths saw us working with imperial measurements. Pupils learned to convert between units like inches, feet, and pounds, and compared them with metric equivalents through practical activities. Our journey through the past continued as we delved deeper into the world of the Vicious Vikings. We examined how they lived, travelled, and impact they had on the lands they invaded. Students especially enjoyed learning about Viking longships!</p>
<p>Year 6</p>	<p>Year 6 has had a busy week. They performed an imaginative dance routine inspired by 'Alice in Wonderland' during Wellbeing Week. In History, we have continued with our topic of the Ancient Maya, learning about their belief system and that of the Vikings. We read creation stories and used sources to find similarities and differences. In English, we have started a new class text, 'The Wreck of the Zephyr'. Pupils have used their inference skills to deduct information from illustrations and the initial pages. In Music, we have continued to practice our drumming performance incorporating repetition and call/response.</p> <div data-bbox="297 1228 1297 1520" data-label="Image"> </div>

The Sports Report

Handball County Finals Success! 🏆

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 handball team, who represented the school brilliantly at the County Finals. Out of 13 competitive teams, our players showed skill, determination, and fantastic teamwork to finish 4th overall – an amazing achievement!

Throughout the season, these young athletes have trained hard, supported one another, and grown together as a team. Their performance at the finals truly reflected their dedication and sportsmanship.

Well done, Year 6 handball team – you've done us proud! 🙌👏

St Mary's Stars

Reception: *Amelia & Ethan*

Year 1: *Kobe & Roman*



Year 2: *Bonita & Saoirse*

Year 3: *Christopher & Toby*

Year 4: *Paul & Daniel*

Year 5: *Isla & Matilda*

Year 6: *Isla & James C*

Whole Class Stars

Year 1: For doing their absolute best in the Phonics Test.

Year 4: For their brilliant behaviour and participation during their class trip to Tincteton Farm.