

23rd June 2025



Be Loving and Truthful  
Saint Mary's  
R.C.

St Mary's, Swanage  
Newsletter



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Saint Mary's  
R.C.

**Attendance - 93.29%**

**Mary Procession**

Many thanks for all the contributions of plants for our Mary Procession – they are going to be planted around the grounds and will bring some lovely splashes of colour during the coming weeks.



**Parking**

We are disappointed that we continue to receive complaints from local residents regarding parking directly outside of school and in the local housing estates at school drop off and collection time: driveways being blocked and parking on double-yellow and zig-zag lines; please can we ask that you park in a responsible and courteous manner.

This obviously raises significant safety concerns - please help us keep our children, other road users, and pedestrians safe. The road markings are legally enforceable, and they are no stopping, so it is an offence to stop even momentarily on the lines if picking up a child or dropping off – even for early birds! Photos of anyone parking inappropriately can be sent to Dorset police through their 'op snap' initiative - see below.

<https://www.dorset.police.uk/police-forces/dorset-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/operation-snap/>

Just a reminder that the car park near Days Park (at the end of De Moulham Road by the Football Club) **is free** at school drop-off and pick-up times and no ticket is required.

<b>Reception</b>	<p>Reception has continued thinking about sea creatures this week. We have been sharing the story, <i>'Sharing a Shell'</i>, and thinking about what types of creatures live in rock pools. We have been looking at doubling and halving in maths and impressing everyone with our doubles facts. We have been practising hard for sports day and have been working on our relay races this week. As always, we enjoyed our 'open the gate' Friday afternoon with Little Birds!</p> 
<b>Year 1</b>	<p>Year 1 has had a busy week. We have been doing lots of end of year tests, and they have all worked so hard to complete these. In RE, we have started to look at Judaism and the children thought of some questions they might ask a Jewish person. They enjoyed looking at the Torah and were impressed with how long it was. In History, we have continued our learning of 'castles' and we looked at the different parts of a castle and what they are used for. We have continued our practice for sports day. Great work, Year 1!</p> 
<b>Year 2</b>	 <p>Year 2 has had another amazing week in which they completed their SAT's Maths tests with a great 'can-do' attitude as well as carrying on with their normal classroom learning! What superstars they are! In English, we have continued to be intrigued to find out if Max will succeed in his quest to get the hedgehogs safely across the road – plans are afoot! In Maths, we have been looking in detail at money and have been counting different amounts of pounds and coins and then working out the change that they would receive when buying certain items. In Art, we are very proud of the clay hedgehog pots that we have made (based on Max the hedgehog from our class text) and are looking forward to painting them next week. Well done, Year 2!</p>

### Year 3



Year 3 had a busy and exciting week filled with learning and discovery! We began the week by celebrating the important role Mary played in Jesus' life. The children took part in a beautiful procession around the school grounds, carrying the lovely plants so kindly donated—thank you to everyone who contributed!

Despite the changeable weather, our trip to Studland was much enjoyed. The children explored the fascinating world of sand dunes and learned about “dune blowouts,” as well as discovering remnants of wartime ordnance and the rich variety of wildlife right on our doorstep. Their curiosity and enthusiasm made it a memorable day.

In science, we revisited our Year 2 plant learning by conducting an experiment to investigate what seeds need to germinate. Using cress seeds, the children discovered that seeds only require water and warmth to begin growing—no soil or sunlight needed at the very start! It's been a fantastic week of hands-on learning and outdoor exploration. Well done, Year 3!

### Year 4

This week, Year 4 has had lots of fun in science, learning how to identify solids, liquids, and gases. The children enjoyed spotting examples all around them and sharing their own ideas with the class. In English, we've been reading more of our class text and getting to grips with the features of newspaper reports, including catchy headlines and interesting facts. We also had a lovely visit from a local reverend, who spoke about how churches work together in the community. In PE, pupils have been full of energy while practising baton changes and working on their relay race skills. Everyone has shown great focus during their end-of-year assessments. Well done, Year 4!

### Year 5

We've had a fantastic week in Year 5, full of learning, activity, and fun! We're especially looking forward to our trip to Charborough Park tomorrow—a highlight we've all been anticipating. Many pupils have also successfully completed their Bike-ability training this week—well done to everyone who took part! Some children had the exciting opportunity to represent the school at the Dorset School Games at Bryanston—what a brilliant experience! In class, Year 5 has worked enthusiastically across all subjects. In Maths, we've been focusing on telling the time and solving time-related problems. In Science, we dissected buttercups to explore the parts of a flower—fascinating stuff! During PE, we learned how to perform a proper high jump, and everyone gave it their best shot. It's been a busy, active week and we're very proud of how engaged and focused the children have been.

### Year 6

This week, Year 6 has been busy exploring the world of microorganisms by setting up a science experiment to investigate the conditions in which mould grows best. Over the next five days, they will observe the changes and record their findings. As part of our health and

wellbeing curriculum, pupils also became 'mini medics' during a fantastic session with Kyle and Ian from Ark Medical Solutions. They learnt how to give CPR, use a defibrillator, follow the Doctor ABC procedure, and put someone in the recovery position. Thank you to the FOSM for funding this every year. In English, pupils have begun writing non-chronological



reports on environmental issues inspired by our class text, *Just a Dream*

## **The Sports Report**

Some Year 5's represented St Mary's at Bryanston School for the Dorset school games where they took part in activities such as archery, skateboarding and tennis.

## **St Mary's Stars**



**Reception:** *Leonor & George*

**Year 1:** *Stanley & Bea*

**Year 2:** *Sonny & Sofia J*

**Year 3:** *Teagan & Delilah*

**Year 4:** *Harrison & Heidi*

**Year 5:** *Alfred & Megan*

## **Whole Class Stars**

**Year 6:** For their brilliant behaviour and participation during the Mini Medics session.