

7th July 2025



St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter



Attendance - 93.29%

What a busy week it has been – and, as Mrs de Leon says later in this newsletter, despite it being ‘muy scorchio’, everyone has remained focused! The hot weather looks set to continue, and we appreciate your efforts to make sure children have sun cream. hats etc.

We hope you have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine.

First Holy Communion

Last Sunday, 7 of our pupils made their First Holy Communion. It was a very special mass and I am sure you will agree they all look very smart in their First Holy Communion outfits.



Mass

Today we celebrated a mass, giving thanks for our wonderful world, remembering our role to care for the environment and each other.





The children who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday wore their special outfits again and were able to take communion for the first time at a school mass. We remembered them especially in our prayer: We pray especially today for the children who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday. Help them to live out God's love and grace in their lives; showing compassion and care to others.

Small Spare Clothes

If you have any good quality girls' and boys' underwear (age 5-6) and smaller sized uniform (age 5-7) that you no longer need, we would be grateful if you could donate it to the school. Please drop any donations into the main office. Thank you for your support – it is greatly appreciated.

Reception	Reception pupils have been superstars this week! They were amazing in their first ever St. Mary's Sports Day; we were so proud of them! We have been looking at the story ' <i>Tropical Terry</i> ' this week and thinking about friendships. They were brilliant on our trip to the Blue Pool last week where we had a lovely day. We completed the fairy trail, went on the UK's longest rope bridge and fed pigs! What a busy day we had!
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Year 1	<p>Year 1 has had a hot and busy week! They all did a great job during Sports Day on Tuesday, and they all tried so hard. In English, we have started our new book, <i>'The Hungry Caterpillar'</i>. They had a go at writing their own version of the story but changed it to <i>'The Hungry Tadpole'</i>. In Maths, we have been looking at money and the value of coins and notes.</p>
Year 2	<div data-bbox="295 842 889 1388">  </div> <p>Despite it being 'muy scorchio', Year 2 has carried on working hard and making Miss Georgie and me very proud! All their practice and efforts paid off and the children competed brilliantly on Sports Day, not just in terms of how well they ran but in the way they supported each other and the children in other classes – well done! In English, we have continued enjoying our class text, <i>The Hodgeheg</i>, and ended on a cliffhanger this week as Max caused a milk van to crash – what will happen next??!! In Science, we have observed and recorded the first set of changes in our seeds as they have germinated. We have now made our salads in DT and took them home to enjoy with our families. The children made some delicious-looking salads, and the variety was amazing – as you can see from the photo. We will be reviewing the design process and thinking about any changes we would make next time we make such a salad. Well done, Team 2.6!</p>
Year 3	<p>What a fantastic week it's been in Year 3! Tuesday was our much-anticipated PE Day, and we were lucky to have perfect weather for it. The children showed incredible enthusiasm, determination, and team spirit as they took part in a range of races including sprints, long-distance running, relays, and hurdles. It was wonderful to see the encouragement and support they gave each other throughout the day. Their positive attitude and good sportsmanship made us all very proud. A huge thank you to all the adults and carers who came along to cheer the children on—your support means so much!</p>

	<p>In the classroom, we've been continuing our learning in maths by exploring measurements. The children have been working hard to compare and measure lengths using different units, and they are becoming confident in applying these skills in real-life contexts.</p> <p>In RE, we've been deepening our understanding of Islam and learning about how it connects with Judaism and Christianity. The children have been making thoughtful comparisons and asking brilliant questions as they learn about shared beliefs and values across the three faiths. It's been a week full of learning, effort, and community spirit—well done, Year 3!</p>
Year 4	<p>Year 4 have had a really good week, full of exciting learning and celebrations. We've finished reading our class text <i>Street Child</i>, which sparked some great discussions and reflections. In English, we've continued writing our newspaper reports, using all the features we've been learning about. In maths, we wrapped up our unit on statistics, showing great confidence in interpreting data. Sports Day was a big highlight—everyone took part with enthusiasm and showed brilliant team spirit! In science, we've continued exploring states of matter, and in RE, we've been working on our final project about how people are transformed by faith. Well done, Year 4!</p>
Year 5	<p>Year 5 have had a great week!</p> <p>The children really enjoyed Sports Day, with some exceptional performances and fantastic team spirit on display. Well done to Team Durlston for gaining the victory — a brilliant achievement!</p> <p>In Maths, we have continued learning about Roman Numerals, which the pupils are really enjoying.</p> <p>In PE, we have been playing tennis, developing our skills and having lots of fun on the court. In English, the children have been busy writing their own comic strips inspired by our class book, <i>The Silver Sword</i>. Their creativity and storytelling skills have been wonderful to see! Well done, Year 5 — keep up the amazing work!</p>
Year 6	<p>Year 6 have had a busy and exciting time recently! We enjoyed a fascinating visit to the farm at Tinkleton with Chrissy and Jake, where pupils learned all about farm life and the importance of sustainable practices. It was both informative and thought-provoking.</p> <p>In English, the children completed balanced arguments exploring the impact of technology in our modern society. They worked hard to consider a variety of viewpoints, presenting their ideas clearly and thoughtfully.</p> <p>In Science, pupils concluded their investigations into the conditions mould needs to grow. They carefully wrote up their findings using subject vocabulary, demonstrating great attention to detail and scientific thinking.</p> <p>Meanwhile, in DT, the class began designing and making mobile phone cases. Using a variety of stitches — including running stitch, back stitch, cross stitch and blanket stitch — pupils showed creativity and growing confidence in their sewing skills.</p> <p>Well done, Year 6!</p>

The Sports Report

Sports Day Highlights

Sports Day was a huge success!

A big thank you to all the parents for your continued support of this special event — your encouragement makes such a difference.

Well done to all the pupils who put in tremendous effort throughout the day. Congratulations to **Team Durlston**, who won this year — an outstanding team effort!

A special mention goes to the pupils who **set a new record this year**:

★ Alfred, Zack, Natasha, Oakley, Leo, and Oscar — what an incredible achievement!

We also celebrated some fantastic individual performances with this year's trophies:

🏆 **Salmon Shield** — Oakley

🏆 **Gadston Award** — Lia

🏆 **Leadership Award** — James

🏆 **Skip Cup** — Leo

We are so proud of everyone for their dedication, sportsmanship, and team spirit. Well done.

St Mary's Stars



Reception: *Sophie & Buster*

Year 1: *Loke and Logan*

Year 2: *Emilia & Scarlet*

Year 3: *Adeline & Pixie*

Year 4: *Harry, Henry & Vinnie*

Year 5: *Grace & Zach*

Year 6: *Jonah & James D*

Whole Class Stars

Reception: for their outstanding behaviour on their trip to Blue Pool!