Issue 9 4th November 2024



#### **Attendance**

Our attendance this week is 93.67%



News from across the school

What a busy first week back! We have had a lovely week (as you can see below in our class news) with plenty of additional activities and visitors in school.

# **Commissioning of Pupil Chaplains**





We were delighted to welcome Fr Tim to commission our new pupil chaplains. As you can see from the news below, they have already been busy. We wish them every blessing as they commit to the service of our school, Parish, local community and wider world. I include the blessing for them, that was shared by all at the service on Tuesday and invite you to share this too.

Bless our new chaplains as they start their ministry in our school. Guide them in their actions. Help them to be gentle and compassionate in their care of others. Give them courage to stand up for those who need support. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

#### **Town Act of Remembrance**

St Mary's was represented by some of our Pupil Chaplains, at the Town Act of Remembrance today. They accompanied a group of children from Little Birds Pre School – they took part in the ceremony and planted crosses for all the men and women named on the war memorial.

#### RBL Poppy Sales

We have been delighted to support the Royal British Legion by selling poppies and other poppy related merchandise. Our chaplains have spent time making the poppies and then selling them to pupils and adults in school.





# **Clifftop Care Home Link**



Year 6 have made a beautiful collage to display at the Parish Church for the Town Remembrance Service on Sunday and to then deliver to Clifftop for the residents for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

# **Prayer Trees**

When the chaplains led class worship before half term, they worked with the children to think about things that were important to them that they would like to pray about. They have made their suggestions into prayer trees.



### Planet Purbeck and Sustainable Swanage

As part of Planet Purbeck's community engagement programme for Sustainable Swanage you're invited to join us at The Swanage School on Tue 26th November.

Discover the importance of the currently under-appreciated Swan Brook & other beautiful streams that flow through Swanage. See the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more details.

We'll shine a light on:

Mow rejuvenating our failing streams will benefit residents, wildlife & the environment

**a** Tackling local flood risks

Mary Improving our water quality

Boosting biodiversity

Solutions to help our local streams thrive

(from landscape scale stuff to simple steps we can all take)

🖒 Upcoming opportunities to discover more & get involved

#### **News from the classes**

#### Reception

We had a lovely first week back. We have been thinking about firework safety and doing some lovely but very messy firework artwork. We have been looking at 3D shapes in maths and had some brilliant discussions about what the shapes look like and if they roll or stack. On 'Wellie Wednesday' we enjoyed sharing our autumn challenge bags and we made some lovely nature artwork with all their findings.



## Year 1

Year 1 has been working hard this week. We have started our new English book 'Whatever Next'. The children have been re-telling the story and thinking about what Baby Bear might take to the moon. In maths, we have continued our learning on part whole models and addition up to the number 10. In Art, we have been making collages out of tissue paper. We have started to practice our Nativity songs, and the children were very excited because they have found out which role they will be playing in our Christmas Nativity Play.

# Year 2

We have been reading and reciting poems in Year 2, thinking about how poems are presented on a page, have rhythm and may have rhyming words. Next week, we will be writing our very own poems. We were very lucky to have a brilliant session with Chrissy (from Wessex Wild) filled with different activities. We found out more about her farm (that we visited in the summer term), the habitats that are around Purbeck and the animals and plants that live there. It was great fun going on a virtual bear hunt around the different habitats; there was lots of actions and a surprise at the end!









Year 3

It has been a wonderful first week back for year three. It was really lovely to see lots of smiley faces returning to school with lots of exciting tales of half term adventures.

This week we have been working hard with our RE topic, learning about Psalms and St Francis. The children wrote their very own psalms praising God for all the things that they are grateful for. They also completed some comprehension activities about St Francis. We have continued to read our class text 'Stig of the Dump' and are very nearly at the end. We are all excited about finding out what becomes of Stig and Barney. Next week will be moving on to our new class text 'Stone Age Boy'.

Like Year 2, we welcomed Chrissy from Wessex Wild and found out about her farm and also completed a workshop 'Green Fingered Farmers' - all about growing food-pictures of this will be in next week's newsletter.

It was fabulous to see so many of you at parents' evening, where I hope you were all able to see just how hard Year 3 has been working.

#### Year 4

Another great week in Year 4, all the pupils have been working so hard! In Maths, we have started to look at Measures and how to calculate area by counting squares. In English, we have started planning a newspaper article reporting on the Great Firework Display from The Firework Maker's daughter. They came up with some great headlines! We have also started learning verbs in Spanish, such as 'to dance, to sing and to cook'. We finished the week by designing our Christmas cards and listening to Christmas songs (it's never too early!) Well done Year 4!

#### Year 5

This week year 5 has been focusing on equivalent fractions with their maths . In History, we focused on the importance of the local community in defeating the Luftwaffe through the use of RADAR.

Finally, a little reminder that pupils can do extra times table practice by logging on to Times Tables Rock Stars – Times Tables Rock Stars .

Sport News: Well done to the 10 children from 5&6 that went out and participated in the handball festival at the Purbeck School with Miss Lisa. All were excellent and played to a great standard.

#### Year 6

This week Year 6 made periscopes in science and learnt about how light reflects off surfaces into our eyes. We also walked into Swanage and completed the Art Trail with local artist Andy Knill and Sara. They taught us about the importance of the sea barriers which provide safety for Swanage homes and businesses. We also made a poppy collage for Clifftop Care Home to show our respect for Remembrance Day.







# GETTING TO KNOW THE SWANAGE STREAMS



TUE 26 NOV 7:30PM THE SWANAGE SCHOOL

# **HEAR ABOUT**

PROTECTING HOMES
BUSINESSES FROM FLOODS
BOOSTING LOCAL WILDLIFE
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

SWANAGE STREAMS PARTNERSHIP PUBLIC LAUNCH





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FIND OUT MORE
&
BOOK YOUR
FREE PLACE





Dorset
National
Landscape





