

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

St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter

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

Attendance

Our attendance this week is 93.54 %

News from across the school

Advent



Last Monday, as we entered the season of Advent, we lit the first candle on our Advent wreath – the candle of Hope. Advent is a time when we wait in joyful hope, preparing for the coming of Christ. We hope the Advent prayer card, that your child brought home, will be an encouragement to look to God as we prepare for Christmas, but also to take notice of the world around us. At Mass on Friday, our school choir sang a beautiful hymn, written by Mr. Fawcett, called Stay Awake – the prayer on the first candle reflects its message beautifully.

Las Posadas



Thank you for your kindness and generosity – Mary and Joseph have stayed in some wonderful, and might I say exotic places, over the last week – please see the end of the newsletter for some of the photos! We also have a growing basket of contributions for the food bank that I will be able to deliver – they are very busy at the moment and very grateful for all your donations.

World Gifts

The school chaplains managed to make their target of £20 on their stall at the Christmas Fair and they are hoping to boost it even more – keep an eye out, and bring some £ with you, after school as they might be outside (weather permitting) in the hope of selling their last few items.



They have challenged every class to choose a World Gift

and then decide how they will raise the money to buy it! More details about this will come home from classes.

Mass



In Mass on Friday, we lit our second Advent candle – the candle of Love. It was lovely to see so many visitors: families, governors and parishioners. Year 2 were able to give them the beautiful collage to take back for them to display in church during the coming weeks – I think there will be another surprise for them for Christmas.

We are celebrating Mass again on the last day of term, Friday 20th December at 9am in the hall – you would be most welcome to join us, and for a coffee and mince pie afterwards!

Swanage School Panto

On Tuesday, the whole school was treated to a wonderful pantomime, performed by students from the Swanage School. It was lovely to see some of our former students taking part and judging from the response during the show a great time was had by all.

Clifftop Advent Calendar

Year 6 have been busy making an Advent Calendar for our friends at Clifftop Care Home – open the door to see the hand drawn picture inside and the chance to enjoy a tasty chocolate treat - Fairtrade of

course!

Years 5 and 6 are also

making some Christmas bunting to be delivered this week and year 6 are off to visit them and sing a few carols this Friday!

Christmas Tree Festival.

Reception and year 5 had a lovely morning making decorations for our tree at the Christmas Tree Festival at Emmanuel Baptist Church –I’m sure you’ll agree, our tree looked super.

We are looking forward to the exciting, if hectic, last two weeks of term , and of course to seeing as many of you as possible at our various performances and church services.

Thank you for your continued support –

Advent blessings.

Christmas lunch – party day This Friday 13th December. Dress down day/

Christingle for years 3 and 4 - Date for diary Thursday 19th December – 2pm - All Saints Church – all children take part in the service - more details to follow this week.

Year 5 and 6 Carol Service - Tuesday 17th December – 6pm – St Edward’s Church – All children take part in the service – more details to follow this week.

News from the classes



<p>Reception</p>	<p>Reception has been very busy practising their nativity this week ready for our performances next week. We have been so impressed with their singing and their dance moves and we can't wait for you all to come and watch! We had a lovely Wellie Wednesday walk to collect lots of things for our afternoon of Christmas tree decorating with Year 5. We also have a book advent and have been opening and sharing a new Christmas story every afternoon.</p> <div data-bbox="293 1360 889 1734"> </div>
<p>Year 1</p>	<p>Year 1 has had another busy week. They have been working really hard remembering the songs and their lines. The children are very excited to show their family the Nativity. In RE we have been thinking about the birth of Jesus and why God sent us His son Jesus. The children have been getting into the roles of Joseph, Mary, Donkey and a sheep to answer</p>

different questions pretending they are the real characters. We have finished our English work on the book 'Whatever Next' and the children re-wrote the story independently.

Year 2



Year 2 has excelled in learning their lines and all the songs for our Nativity extravaganza; we cannot wait to perform for our parents next week! In RE, we have learnt about Advent Wreaths and what the different candles, leaves and shape symbolise. We made our own Advent Wreath for our classroom and made a collage for the parish that will be put on display at the Church of the Holy Spirit and St. Edward's. In Maths, we have been looking at fact families and revising number bonds while in Geography we have continued our exploration of human and physical features on different continents. Well done, Year2! Keep up your amazing work and effort!

Year 3

Year 3 has had a productive and busy week. We are enjoying our class text Stone Age boy and have been working very hard in Maths. We have continued with our DT puppets and in RE carried on finding out a little more about Mass. Our rehearsals for the Christmas Concert are going well and we are looking forward to seeing you at the performance this Thursday afternoon!

Year 4

This week Year 4 has continued to work hard in class and rehearsed for their concert which is on Thursday 12th December – hope to see you there!! However, the highlight of the week was their trip to Dorchester to the County Museum and the Roman Town House. They had an interesting and informative day, and the Museum staff complimented them on both their behaviour and their knowledge of the Romans! Thank you to all the staff and volunteers for organising the trip and their support on the day.





Year 5

Congratulations to year 5 on another productive week. They have been working very hard again on all areas of fractions. We have started to look at finding fractions of an amount and multiplying them. In History we have learnt about what Propaganda is and how it affected the outcome of the Battle of Britain. We also made some fantastic posters displaying our understanding of the battle. In Netball, we played full court matches, making sure we all knew the roles and responsibilities of each position. We also did our first cross country run of the season. (I hope the trainers were not too muddy...)

We spent a lovely morning session with Reception, making decorations for the school tree at the Christmas Tree Festival.



A reminder for parents that we have our Tank Museum trip coming up in the New Year on the 10th of January.

Year 6

This week Year 6 has created an Advent calendar and some beautiful bunting for Clifftop care home. They have also started to use 'Tinkercad' with Mrs Nash in ICT, pupils are able to design a 3D product then rotate and duplicate their work. In English Year 6 wrote an alternative ending for 'The Adventures of Odysseus' and then finally read the original. Some children were rather surprised with the gruesome conclusion and actually preferred their own!

Stars of the week

Reception – Harry & Buster

Year 1 – Bea & Margot

Year 2 – Sofia J & Theo

Year 3 - Joshua & Freyja

Year 4 – Victoria & Ellie

Year 5 – Grace & Poppy

Year 6 – Leo & Piper

Whole class stars – Year 3 & Year 6