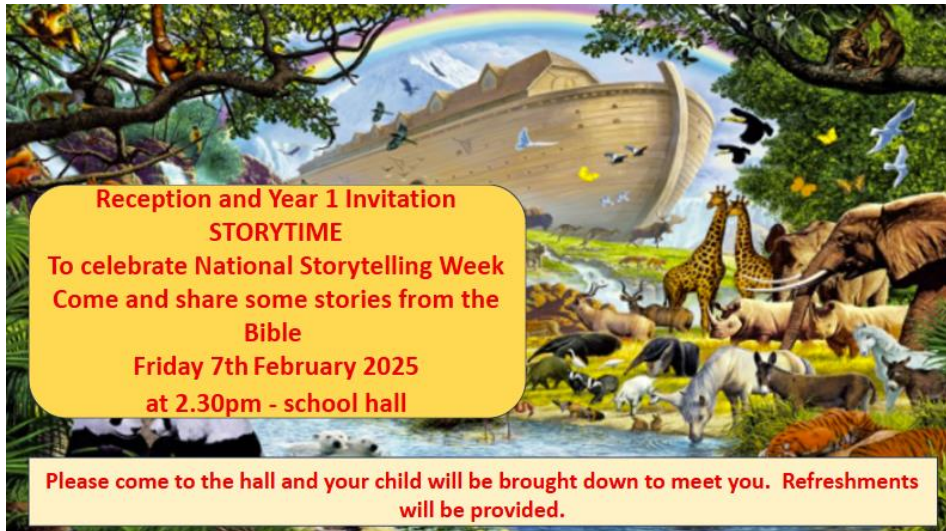


Be Loving and Truthful
Saint Mary's
R.C.

St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter

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Next week is National Storytelling week and we are looking forward to seeing Martin on Monday and other activities throughout the week.



Parking

Please can we ask you to be considerate of our neighbours in the local area, when parking for drop-off and pick-up. Thank you.

News from the classes

Reception

Reception have been superstars this week! We have been learning about the Lunar New Year and the celebrations that take place. We have learnt that this year is going to be the year of the snake and have shared the story of 'The Great Race'. We enjoyed making lanterns, dragons and a giant snake!



Year 1	Year 1 have had another busy week. We have started our new book in English, we are reading different Paddington Bear books. This links in nicely with the work we have been doing in geography. In Maths we have been focusing on the teen numbers, and they have worked hard with this. We have started our learning on Grace Darling in History and thinking about why she was a heroine. Great work Year 1, keep up the hard work.
Year 2	Year 2 has impressed Mrs Norman and me greatly with the amount of work they have completed this week and how focused they have been! We used the historical knowledge we had found out about Florence Nightingale's work in Scutari Hospital when completing an imaginative English task: we wrote a letter pretending that we were a nurse working with Florence Nightingale and referenced all the facts that we had learnt. In RE, we looked at different paintings that represented the baptism of Jesus (as if we were in a gallery), writing down comments and wondering questions. In Maths, we've started looking at column addition (without regrouping). In DT, we worked through a design cycle by investigating fixed and rotating axles and then designing our own vehicle in accordance with some strict design criteria. We wrote detailed instructions and then greatly enjoyed making our vehicles (especially measuring and sawing the wooden dowels)! We will be decorating them and testing them next! Well done, Team 2.6! Keep up your amazing work!
Year 3	Year 3 have been continuing to read their class text – Poppy Pym and have had a busy week. We enjoyed an afternoon of singing with Suzannah learning songs for our concert that takes place in March. We are looking forward to her next visit.
Year 4	We've had a good week in year 4. We've carried on our class text Beowulf and have written a character description about the main character in the story. In Science we've come to the end of our topic on 'Animals Including Humans', rounding things off with a fun investigation about the digestive system. In RE we've been learning about the parable of the prodigal son and linked it to other famous stories that we are familiar with that teach the message of forgiveness. Well done year 4 for another great week.
Year 5	Year 5 has worked hard this week and demonstrated many positive attributes towards learning. We had a lovely time going on our birdwatch where we were able to spot some robins and blackbirds and a thrush. No goldfinches sadly though, or my favourite, a nuthatch. In Maths, we have continued to work hard in finding a percentage of amount. Next time you see a discount in a shop, don't be afraid to ask them if they can calculate it. If you are fortunate enough to get to Spain on holiday, our children may well be able to order you some food from the local cafe...
	This week Year 6 has continued with their class text 'Children of the Quicksands'. They have written some imaginative setting descriptions and the next part of the story. In Science pupils learned about the work of Charles Darwin and how he developed his ideas on evolution. In Geography they have identified the differences between human and physical features of Africa. Pupils have also learnt new chords on the ukulele and are now able to play and sing a variety of songs.

