20th September 2024

Issue 3



St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter



Let's Go Wild in Purbeck

Many thanks to all who came to explore the 'wild' area outside the playground last Friday afternoon – it was lovely to see so many families enjoying the opportunity to have fun outdoors together. Keep an eye on the website to see the pictures. Thanks also to all the adults in school who worked hard to make the afternoon so successful and to our wonderful volunteers for helping outside and producing some delicious and much needed refreshments.

Lots of people asked about another opportunity to 'go wild' and we are thinking that it might work as a seasonal activity – I will get my camera out to create a winter hunt. Please look on the website for an autumn activity card that you can complete for the Washpond Greenspace opposite school.

St Mary's Wildlife Photographer of the Year

We have had some entries already but there is still time to send in your photographs from last Friday – please email them to Mrs. Meteau <u>meteau@stmarysswanage.dorset.sch.uk</u> by the end of day this Tuesday. Alex, from the National Trust, is going to judge the competition; the Trust is also donating prizes.

Corfe Castle and Studland Free Tickets

As part of the project to encourage families to enjoy the local area where they live, we still have 5 sets of free family passes for:

- Corfe Castle (entry to castle_
- Parking in National Trust car park Corfe
- Parking in National Trust car park Studland

These can be borrowed from the school office. So, if you fancy a day out pop in and sign a set out.

Harvest



Many thanks for all your generous donations for CAFOD and the Swanage Food Bank. As you can see, I will be making a substantial delivery to the foodbank this week and we will also be able to send £121 to CAFOD for their Harvest Appeal. The children had certainly Brightened Up for Harvest -

looking very colourful indeed. We celebrated Mass together in the morning – year 5 looked after year 1 during Mass and it was lovely to see the care in which they carried out this role and year 5 and 6 lead the prayers and readings – thank you.

<u>Mass</u>

You are always welcome to join us for Mass and our next Mass will be on Friday 4th October @ 9am, when we will be celebrating the feast Of St Francis of Assisi. We will try to let you know if your child will be reading in Mass.

First Holy Communion

I have had some interest regarding children taking their First Holy Communion and have spoken to Father Tim. If your child is in year 3/4/5/6 please let me know if you would like more information; you can email me or let Mrs. Maidman know at the office.

Website

Just a reminder to keep an eye on the new school website as we do try to regularly put photographs of what we have been up to in school into the news section.

Photograph Permissions

Just a reminder if you haven't completed this yet, please can you asap as it helps when we are taking pictures of the various learning, activities and events that take place in school. If you aren't sure whether you have, please ask your child's class teacher or Mrs. Maidman and they will be able to help you.

News from across the school

Recep tion	This week in Reception, we have been looking at the story 'The Colour Monster'. We have been thinking about all the different emotions we feel and recognising different emotions we might see. We had a lovely time on 'Wellie Wednesday'; we enjoyed a walk to collect lots of leaves and acorns as well as some singing and games outside. We have also been finding out about Fairtrade – especially Fairtrade Bananas!
Year 1	This week in Year 1, we have continued looking at the book 'Rosie's Walk'. They have thought of some exciting questions to ask Rosie and the Fox. In RE, we have been
	thinking about what God has made: we went for a 'wonder walk' to discover things that God had made. We have
	continued our learning on numbers to 10 in Maths. The
	children enjoyed practising their mouse skills in computing. As part of Fairtrade Fortnight, Year 1 have been thinking
	about why we should look for the Fairtrade sticker when
Year 2	buying food.
rear 2	In Year 2 this week, we have continued reading our class text <i>Where Ocean</i> <i>Meets Sky</i> and followed Finn's adventures so far and how he built his boat with
	interest. We each though about the best name for Finn's boat. We have started
	two new maths activities: Click It's and Learn It's and will continue to do these
	activities that help us develop our number fact recall every week. In Art, we have
	created our own pictures using the primary colours inspired by the artist Piet
	Mondrian. For Fairtrade Fortnight, we have designed a chocolate bar using only

	Fairtrade ingredients and also drew chalk pictures on the playground to remind people of the importance of buying Fairtrade products. It was lovely to meet those parents who could attend the Parents' Information Session on Wednesday; I hope it was useful. If you weren't able to attend, please don't worry as I have sent a letter home outlining the key information.
Year 3	This week the children have continued to work really hard in all subject areas.
-	They are settling into the new classroom really well and have impressed us all
	with their commitment to the class charter.
	In English this week we have continued with our class text 'Stig of the Dump',
	where we have been writing letters to describe Barney's first meeting with Stig.
	The children have been focusing on adding adjectives and using interesting
	words.
	In music, we have been looking at rhythm, pulse and volume and how this can
	influence the way that music makes us feel. We wish you all a wonderful weekend.
Year 4	We've had a good week in year 4. We've continued reading our class text and
	exploring the main characters in further detail. A highlight for us this week was
	our whole class football fixture against Sunninghill School. Everyone performed
	admirably, the games were played in great spirit, and I'm pleased to say we won
	3 matches out of 4. Well done, Year 4
Year 5	Another great week for year 5 where we have improved our math's with many
	children improving their times table speeds. In PE we are starting to learn the
	footwork rules in Netball. On Tuesday we played rounders cricket as all the
	pupils were in their school uniform due to school photos. We completed our work on fair trade and are really looking forward to doing some environmental art
	later today!
Year 6	This week we have started Computing; we have learnt about internet domain name servers and will be moving on to how a search engine works so quickly. In Science we have explored how light travels in straight lines and reflects into our eyes. We also discussed how different materials can block light. In preparation for 'Let's Go Wild', we created some imaginative environmental artwork which you may have seen on route to your scavenger hunt!

<u>Useful Dates</u>

September

- Tues 24th Year 3 School Trip Stonehenge
- Wed 25th Year 1 Parents Meeting 2.50pm school hall
- Thurs 26th Reception Parents Meeting 2.45pm school hall
- Frid 27th Year 5/6 Parent Meeting 2.45pm school hall