



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

St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter

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Dear Parents,

Half Term already, it hardly seems possible!! We would like to wish you all an enjoyable and restful half-term break and look forward to seeing you when school starts again on Tuesday 5th November.

The next half-term is looking very busy, and we will send out a comprehensive diary date list in the first week back.

Open the Book



Israelites crossing the Jordan into the Promised Land.

We were delighted, as always, to welcome our friends from Open the Book who told us the story of the



Parent Evenings Parent meetings will take place during the first week after half term. Information regarding booking appointments will be sent out next week.

CAST 10th Anniversary Celebration



We have spent a lovely day celebrating 10 years of our academy trust (CAST).

All the children have spent time reflecting on the Gospel values and areas of Catholic Social Teaching and then worked to create a hanging decoration that shows one of these. Years 5 and 6 visited Reception and year 1 and 2 to help them with their artwork and all had a lovely time! A small group even visited

Little Birds to help them create a decoration too. Many thanks for your generous donations for The Catholic Children's Society in Plymouth – we will be able to send the just over £120 to support their work.

News from across the school

Reception	<p>Reception have been enjoying the story 'Pumpkin Soup' this week. We have done some super pumpkin printing and enjoyed making soup in our mud kitchen. We have been thinking about Autumn on Wellie Wednesday and collected some autumn leaves to make a lovely crown. We enjoyed a lovely art session with Year 5 and 6 to celebrate 10-year anniversary of our academy trust.</p>
Year 1	<p>This week, Year 1 have been learning their number bonds to 10 (keep practising in the holidays!) They have had great fun with their book 'Mrs Armitage on Wheels' - Quentin Blake is always a good read. On Friday pupils from years 5 and 6 came to visit year 1 to help them create the Gospel values hanging shapes that they have brought home today. As part of our day celebrating 10 years of our academy trust, we spent time reflecting on some of the values that we feel are important to the choices we make about how to treat others.</p>
Year 2	<p>Year 2 has become engrossed in our History topic of the Gunpowder Plot! We have found out the reasons why the plotters decided to commit treason and kill the king, and we have also written some amazing biographies about Guy Fawkes using the information we have found out about him. We have completed our RE topic by thinking how we need to be stewards of creation and look after the world God created for us and all the plants and wildlife. We greatly enjoyed building a hedgehog shelter and making our personal pledges on how we will protect wildlife. On Friday, we had a marvellous time with some of the pupils in Y5 and Y6 decorating crosses with gone of the Gospel Values in celebration of our academy trust's 10-year anniversary. All the pupils have worked incredibly hard this half term; Miss Georgie and I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term holiday!</p> <div data-bbox="327 1451 1289 1675"> </div>
Year 3	<p>It has been a super busy last week of this half term. The children have worked so hard, and our class displays are beginning to look fantastic showcasing all of their hard work we have completed. This week in English we continued with our class text 'Stig of the Dump' In the new chapter a leopard escaped from the circus. The children had to make wanted posters using information from the text to describe the Leopard.</p>

	<p>In Maths we have been using our knowledge of the five times table to answer questions from the fifty times table.</p> <p>In our topic work we designed our very own stone age costume and described the process of how the stone age people would have constructed their outfits.</p> <p>We hope you all have a fun filled half term and we are looking forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for some more learning.</p>
Year 4	<p>Year 4 have been making posters linked to the firework displays in their class text - we have very nearly finished reading it and we left it on a cliff hanger as we wait to find out what happens to Lila and Lalchand!</p> <p>After half term we will be studying a playscript about Roman Britain!! On Friday, we enjoyed making hanging decorations that reflect one of the Gospel values or an area of Catholic Social Teaching as part of the 10th anniversary celebrations for CAST – our academy trust.</p>
Year 5	<p>This week year 5 have been completing all their work on multiples, factors and prime numbers in preparation for looking at fractions after half term. In science they were able to write up their amazing science experiments that they conducted so well the previous week on dissolving. In PE they played some mini matches in netball to demonstrate how well they have progressed with their footwork, passing and shooting skills.</p>
Year 6	<p>In Topic Year 6 have compared the Ancient Greeks to the Romans, particularly focusing on different aspects of their cultures. We have continued with our class text and written some reflections from Odysseus' point of view using a range of ambitious vocabulary. We endeavour to finish our Greek vases this week and enjoy the various activities throughout the school to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Plymouth Cast.</p>