



September 2023 Newsletter



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Northbrook Road, Swanage, BH19 1QE

01929 424909

office@stmarysswanage.dorset.sch.uk

Welcome back to another new school year and a warm welcome to our new Reception class and their families. We also welcome new to pupils to Year 2 and Year 4. We hope you have had an enjoyable and restful holiday and are looking forward to an exciting and busy year ahead.

This newsletter is for a few reminders and some information for the coming year – more details of forthcoming dates will be sent out in due course.

Beginning and end of the day:

Reception and Year 1 pupils should be dropped off and collected from the gate by Reception classroom; all other pupils should enter and be collected through the pupil entrance except Year 2 who are collected from the door by the main office at the end of the day.

Uniform:

A gentle reminder that pupils need to be in full uniform including school shoes, not trainers, every day except the days when they have PE lessons. Please ensure all your child's uniform, including coats, is labelled with their name.

Pupils should not **wear jewellery or smart watches** and long hair should be tied back.

Water Bottles and Snacks:

Water bottles should be brought in and taken home on a daily basis – please ensure they are labelled.

Fruit (fresh or dried) or vegetable snacks may be brought for morning play – please label any pots!

Toys:

Children should not bring toys etc. from home into school – this avoids upsets when they get lost or are broken – thank you.

Medication / Hygiene:

Asthma inhalers need to be brought in for any child who needs one as many were taken home over the summer; they should be handed in via the office and an up to date form will need to be completed- please check inhalers are in date.

A reminder we are a **NO NUT SCHOOL**

Children wash their hands before they eat at both snack and lunchtimes. As we head towards winter, we would remind you that if your child is sick or has diarrhoea they should not return to school for 48 hours after the last episode. We encourage the 'catch it; bin it; kill it' approach to coughs and sneezes in school.

Attendance:

If your child arrives after 8.50am they will be recorded as late and should enter via the office - this has an impact on your child's attendance data.

If you need to attend appointments or your child needs time off for any reason you should complete a leave of absence form - available at the office

Parking:

We have only been back at school just over two weeks and already the parking outside school is becoming an issue. We would politely request that people are considerate in how and where they park at drop off and pick up. We had rather a lot of complaints from our neighbours last year and would hope that this year we can do better.

The car park at the end of DeMoulam Road is free before and after school and you can enjoy a walk through the park.

Ms Becky:

As you may know, Ms Becky who has worked with us in our Reception class for the last 10 years is leaving this coming Friday. We will be very sad to see her go but wish her every blessing for her future adventures!

If you would like to make a donation towards a gift for her, this may be sent into school or left with Miss Lisa in the office.

Permission for Photographs:

This year we have expanded our consent form for photographs to enable us to display more photos on the website and social media etc. Please complete the form on the link below outlining your preferences.

Link to form: [Microsoft Forms](#)

School Support:

Until half term I will be temporarily supporting another school in the academy trust. This will reduce the time I am at the school. If you would like to speak to me about anything, please ask Miss Lisa in the office and I will contact you to arrange a time.

Useful Dates:

6 th October	Year 4 trip
13 th October	Year 5 trip
18 th October	Open Evening
23 rd – 27 th October	Half Term
30 th October	Training Day – Children not in school
31 st October	Children back to school
28 th November	Year 4 trip
1 st December	Christmas Fair
4 th December 1:30pm	KS1 and Reception Nativity
5 th December 1:30pm	KS1 and Reception Nativity
7 th December 2pm	Year 3 & 4 singing event for parents
12 th December 6pm (TBC)	Carol service
15 th December	Last day at school
18 th December – 2 nd January	Christmas Holidays
3 rd January 2024	Back to school