



St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter



Attendance - 93.29%

Our last newsletter of the half term – it hardly seems possible, however half term has arrived, and we hope you enjoy the break.

School starts back on Tuesday 25th February (Monday 24th is an INSET day).

HATs on for the Homeless - St Mungo's

In aid of



Thank you so much for your support and generosity today with our annual fundraiser for St Mungo's - a charity that works with homeless people in the UK offering frontline support and helping them to move forward with their lives – our local branch is based in Bournemouth. You can find out more information about their work at: <https://www.mungos.org/>



Mass Dates:

Friday March 14th Mass - Lent Pray Fast Give

Friday March 28th Mass - Lent

Pray, Fast, Give through Lent

Details of our focuses through Lent will be shared after the holiday but it will include: writing and sharing prayers for those we love, our community and world; Fairtrade; Comic Relief; The CAFOD Big Lent Walk and finding out and sharing information about the history of our relationship with our partner school in Uganda – in preparation for a visit from their head teacher, Brother John, next year.

World Book Day – 6th March

More details to follow, after half term, but think about any ideas for character costumes!

Storyteller

For class pictures and more information from our storytelling week, you can follow this link: [**News from the classes**](#)

Reception	<p>We have had a lovely week! We have been looking at the story ‘<i>Mr Wolf’s Pancakes</i>’. We had a very relaxing ‘Wellie Wednesday’ walk, we enjoyed some singing and time exploring in nature. In PE, we have finished our gymnastics unit of work and have been exploring high and low movements. We have been thinking about our feelings this week and how we could share them, we did some beautiful paintings of what makes us happy. Well done, Reception!</p> 
Year 1	<p>Year 1 has had a lovely week. We have started our new English text- The tiger who came to tea. They have been writing some character descriptions for Sophie and the Tiger. In RE we were looking at how Jesus welcomes everyone and that He wants us to welcome others too. We made invitations for Mrs Nash, and the children welcomed her into the classroom. They made banners, pictures and a special chair for when she came into Year 1. Another great half term Year 1!</p>



Year 2



We finished our class text on Stubby, the hero dog from World War One that we have taken into our hearts! We wrote a recount of the battle from Stubby's point of view. In


History, we concluded our focus on Florence Nightingale by thinking about why she is a significant figure referring to all the information we had learnt; after half-term, we will be comparing her work with Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell. In Maths, we looked at using part-part-whole models to help solve missing number sentences. In Geography, we continued looking at features of hot and cold places and in Guided Reading read a non-fiction text on Antarctica. We also enjoyed wearing our hats for Hats on for the Homeless and raising funds for this very worthy charity (thank you for your donations). Another amazing week of hard work from Team 2.6 - we can't quite believe that we are halfway through the academic year! Well done to all the children for the progress they have made and thank you to all their families for their support – it is greatly appreciated!

Year 3

Year Three has had yet another busy week. In Science, we have been conducting a range of experiments relating to different forces. It's been wonderful to see how enthused all the children have been by the practical side of Science learning. In our English lessons, 'Poppy Pym and the Pharaoh's curse remains a favourite text with the class. This week we have been writing telephone conversation transcripts and writing responses to letters that featured in this week's chapters. The River Nile was the focus in our History lessons. We learnt why the River Nile was so important to the Ancient Egyptians and how it benefited them on a daily basis. We also looked at the Egyptian landscape and identified different features on a map. We finished off our week by modelling some scarab beetles out of clay; they all look incredible and the intricate patterns the children carved into them look amazing. These will be painted next half term, and we are all so excited to see the finished products. We wish you all a wonderful holiday.

Year 4

Y4 has had an excellent week. We've continued our learning about our class text, Beowulf. We have been writing a Saxon poem that tells the story of Beowulf vs Grendel. In Maths, we have been learning about fractions, using a fraction wall to help us notice equivalent fractions. In RE, we've been learning about the Sacrament on Reconciliation and the

	<p>Sacrament of the Sick, thinking about how these can help Christians when they're in need. In PE, we've been finishing our dance topic and showing the dances we've created to the rest of the class. Well done Year 4 for another great week!</p>
Year 5	<p>Year 5 has had a great week where they have produced some excellent scores in their arithmetic. We have enjoyed learning why we think earth is a sphere and not flat. In Geography, we have been recording some facts on rivers of the world and knowing where they are. Have a go yourself if you like by clicking on this link... Rivers of the World Quiz - World Geography Games</p> <p>Maths Homework sheets for the 25/2/25 are 32 and 61.</p>
Year 6	<p>Year 6 has had a busy week completing their mock SATs papers; they've shown remarkable resilience and perseverance and we're very proud of them! In Geography, they learned about the 'Big 5' animals that are native to Africa, and they have started writing a non-chronological report on the animal of their choice. They have also enjoyed making heart shaped sun-catchers for Clifftop Care Home to celebrate Valentines Day. We had a successful meeting with Cumulus Outdoor Centre on Wednesday afternoon, where Cumulus explained all the details of our upcoming residential trip. We hope you have an enjoyable half term break, Year 6!</p> 

The Sports Report

Hockey Tournament

Congratulations to the Year 3 & 4 hockey team who enjoyed a fantastic hockey tournament held at Sunninghill in Dorchester. The A Team was unbeaten throughout this tournament in which we also competed against another school called Leweston. As always, the pupils were a credit to our school, demonstrating great sportsmanship and exemplary manners. Thank you to Mrs Maidman and Mr Bollani for this fixture.



Tag Rugby

Pupils from Year 4 attended an excellent tag rugby skills session run by the Purbeck School. They spent an hour learning skills and then an hour playing matches against other local primary schools. Our pupils gave it their all and did lots of running in some bitterly cold weather, showing great resilience and determination! Their fantastic effort paid off and they won every game! Congratulations to all the pupils who took part and well done on representing our school so well!

St Mary's Stars

Arthur & Carter

Mia & Kobe

Zara & Scarlet

Adelaide, Scarlett & Jenson

Stella & Wren

Grace & Max F

Whole Class Stars

Year 6

Sporting star to the hockey teams