



The banner features a blue background with the school crest on both sides. The crest is a shield with a cross, a dove, and the text 'Be Loving and Truthful', 'Saint Mary's', and 'R.C.'. In the center, the text 'St Mary's, Swanage Newsletter' is written in a large, bold, black font.

### **This Week's Attendance**

Our attendance this week is sitting at 94.98%. This is **2.18%** above the most recent national average figures.

### **New Bishop**



Today we received the wonderful announcement about a new bishop for our diocese. He is already a bishop - Rt Rev Philip Moger, an auxiliary in the Southwark Archdiocese, ordained in 2023, he came and celebrated our Chrism Mass that year. He is being installed on Saturday 9th November. Here he is (in the photo attached) with Canon Paul Cummins, diocesan administrator.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pope-appoints-bishop-moger-new-bishop-of-plymouth/>

### **Let's Go Wild in Purbeck – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2-4pm**

Come and enjoy the chance to get outside and explore some of the green areas around our school – collect your children and enjoy a scavenger hunt; take part in our Wildlife Photographer competition and admire some environmental artwork! In addition, there will be Fairtrade refreshments available for all. More detailed information will come out via Schools' Buddy on Monday – but keep the date free.

### **Harvest – CAFOD Brighten up for Harvest Campaign**



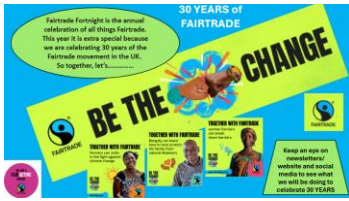
This Friday will be our Harvest Mass when we will be celebrating the wonderful gifts of food that we have; remembering those people who grow and produce the food that we eat and supporting and praying for those in our community and across the world who do not always have enough to eat. We will be encouraging everyone to come to school dressed in bright colours and bring either a donation for the local foodbank or a cash donation for CAFOD's Brighten Up Appeal. More detailed information will be sent out on Monday and the children will be learning more about Harvest during worship times next week.

**Planet Purbeck** - Have a look at the following links to find out what is happening at this year's Planet Purbeck Festival. [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Insta](#)

[Book your free tickets here](#)



## **Fairtrade Fortnight**



Fairtrade Fortnight has got off to a good start with the children learning about different aspects of Fairtrade in their classes – this will continue next week. You will be able to see what they have been doing by looking at the website or looking out in school next Friday at the Let's Go Wild in Purbeck event.

## **Churches Together Visitors**

We were delighted to welcome Ian and Natalie from St Mary's Church to lead our worship on Wednesday. As part of our links with the local churches we are delighted that we have a visitor, each Wednesday, from one of the Churches in the area.

### **Mass Dates:**

Mass will be celebrated on the following dates this half term at 9am in the school hall. Everyone is very welcome to come.

**Friday 20th September – Harvest – CAFOD Brighten up for Harvest/ Swanage Food Bank**

**Friday 4th October – Feast of St Francis of Assisi**

**Friday 18th October – Feast of St Luke**



**School Photos** – These will take place next Tuesday- please ensure all children come in smart school uniform.

**Clubs** - Information about after-school clubs will be sent out next week for them to commence the week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

**Parent Information Meetings** –Mrs. Maidman has sent home details about times and dates for these, and we look forward to seeing you then – it is an opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and ask any questions you might have about their new year group.

**Photo Permission** Gentle reminder to please complete the photo permission form that has been shared, indicating your preferences for the different permissions.

**Year 5 and 6 walking to school** - If you would like your child in years 5 or 6 to be able to walk to school, please complete the permission slip that has been sent out.

**Parking** - Despite the new road lines and signage outside of school, we are still getting cars parked on the zig zag and double yellow lines outside the school gate. This obviously raises significant safety concerns. Please help us keep our children safe. We have been informed by County that the new lines are legally enforceable, and they are no stopping, so it is an offence to stop even momentarily on the lines if picking up a child or dropping off - photos of anyone parking on the school keep clear area can be sent to Dorset police through their op snap initiative see below.

<https://www.dorset.police.uk/police-forces/dorset-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/operation-snap/>

We have already received complaints from nearby residents regarding driveways being blocked; please can we ask that you park in a responsible and courteous manner.

Just a reminder that the car park near Days Park (at the end of De Moulham Road by the Football Club) **is free** at school drop-off and pick-up times and no ticket is required.

**Bikes/ Scooters in School-** If your child scoots or rides their bike to school, please can you ensure they stay on the pavement inside the school grounds and do not ride them around the car park – it can be a busy place both at the beginning and end of the day.

**Christmas Market** - Friends of St Mary's have asked us to remind you that the tickets for the Bath Christmas Market are selling fast – book yours now to avoid disappointment!

We hope you have enjoyed the sunshine over the weekend.

With every blessing,



The staff of St Mary's

### **News from across the school**

#### **Reception**

Reception has finished their first full week at school. We have had such a busy week, our first PE lesson and our first Wellie Wednesday. We have been thinking about how unique and special we are.



<p><b>Year 1</b></p>	 <p>Year 1 has had a busy full week. We have started our PSHE topic about being healthy and the foods we should be eating. We have started our English book 'Rosie's Walk'. In RE we have been thinking about the creation story and the children painted some lovely creation pictures.</p>
<p><b>Year 2</b></p>	 <p>Year 2 has continued working hard and having fun when learning! The children have earned their first reward/treat because they've filled their marble jar – well done! We've started our class text by looking at objects belonging to the characters so we could make connections using conjunctions (challenge: ask them to find the conjunctions in this blurb – there are four!). In Geography, we've begun looking at the continents of the world (challenge: ask them how many there are); we've learnt a song about continents so we can remember them in size order. Counting in tens then ones then representing numbers in different ways (with dienes – we call them chips and peas) has been our focus in Maths. Another fabulous week – keep it up, Team 2.6!</p>
<p><b>Year 3</b></p>	<p>Class three have had a busy week. We have started our topic all about the Stone Age, which has prompted us to begin work on our class text 'Stig of the Dump'. This week saw us studying the front cover and the blurb and writing a prediction of what we think is going to happen in the story. We also learnt about cave painting and had a go at drawing our own on black card using pastels. We ended the week with our first PE football session, where we practised set skills before we progress to some mini matches later in the half term.</p>
<p><b>Year 4</b></p>	<p>Year 4 have had a good week. We've progressed with our class text, The Firework Maker's Daughter, the children really enjoyed the opening to the story. In Maths, we've been working hard at our times tables, resulting in some excellent progress. In History we've been looking at Ancient Rome, discussing what the Romans did to help them control such a vast empire.</p>
<p><b>Year 5</b></p>	<p>Year 5 has had an excellent week. We have started to learn about the Battle of Britain, and we were fortunate to see a Spitfire fly over our classroom on Monday. In maths, we</p>

have been working hard on our place value. The children enjoyed PE too, learning to play netball as well as being tested on their speed endurance.



**Year 6**

This week we have studied the chronology of Ancient Greece and other civilisations which existed at the same time across the world. We have also started our class text 'The Adventures of Odysseus', the children have shown excellent observational and inference skills. They have shown a real interest in the story and similar myths, they have begun their own narrative writing too. In Art the class have created a Greek pot design which will be transferred onto a 3D sculpture in the forthcoming weeks. Another productive week in Year 6!

**Useful Dates**

28 <sup>th</sup> Oct to 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Autumn half term
4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Training Day - no children in school
5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Children back to school
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 25	Christmas holidays
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan 25	Children back to school
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Apr 25 to Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Apr 25	Easter holiday
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr 25	Children back to school
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> May 25	Bank Holiday
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> May to Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> May 25	Half Term
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jun 25	Training Day – no children in school
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jul 25	Training Day
Thu 24 <sup>th</sup> Jul 25	First day of the Summer Holidays!