



It has been a busy first week back at school – on Monday we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany (see below), and everyone has settled well into our new term. We look forward to some interesting and fun learning opportunities; a chance to share and support each other and the wider world and, hopefully, some warmer and dryer weather!

With every blessing for the coming year

Epiphany

We started the week celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany, when the wisemen visited the Holy Family bringing their gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh for the baby Jesus.

Reception and Year 1 Farm Workshops

Next week, Chrissy from Wessex Wild will be visiting Reception and Year 1 for some workshops that will support their learning in science. Reception will be finding out about life cycles and Year 1 the seasons of the year. During the year, all classes either have a workshop here in school or get the opportunity to visit Chrissy's farm, in Tinkleton, or have a trailer ride at Middlebere. All session link to science/history topics for the classes and we are delighted that we have re-established a link with Wessex Wild.



Mass dates: (TBC)


Friday 17th Jan - Mass

Friday 31st Jan - Mass - Candlemas

Friday March 14th Mass - Lent 1

Friday March 28th Mass - Lent 3

News from the classes

<p>Reception</p>	<p>This week we have been thinking about the New Year and how it is celebrated; we enjoyed watching and listening to some New Year fireworks and making a New Year’s wish. We have looked at the Christmas Story in RE and focused on the Wise Men visiting baby Jesus. We learnt they followed a bright star in the sky, and we did some beautiful star artwork to start off our RE learning for this half-term.</p> 
<p>Year 1</p>	<p>Year 1 has had a busy first week back. We have started a new book in English: The Hundred Decker Bus. The children had a chance to plan a new deck, and they came up with some amazing ideas. The children have been working hard on their sentence writing. We have spent a lot of time this week writing sentences and using our Year 1 words. In Geography, we have started to look at our new topic, the United Kingdom. We had a look at the United Kingdom on a map and found where Swanage is. In RE, we have been thinking about Luke’s Gospel and the story of Simeon and Anna. We also started to look at Candlemass traditions. The children made their candle, and we had a candle procession, ending at the sand pit where they laid their candle and said a prayer.</p>
<p>Year 2</p>	<p>Year 2 has come back to school fully rejuvenated and has started the term brilliantly by working incredibly hard this week! In Science, we have started thinking about how we can keep our bodies strong and healthy. We carried out a science experiment to find out what happens to our body and why when we exercise, reflecting as well as on why exercise is important. We then looked at healthy and unhealthy foods and why healthy foods are good for our bodies. In History, we were brilliant historians when investigating sources (artefacts, photos and drawings) connected to our significant figure – Florence Nightingale; the sources gave us lots of information about her life. We really enjoyed working just like historians do! Well Team 2.6 - keep up the excellent work!</p>
<p>Year 3</p>	<p>This week we have started our new class topic ‘Poppy Pym and the Pharaoh’s Curse’. The children are really enjoying the text and have been writing their own predictions about what the story may be about, based on the front cover and the blurb. We have now started to learn about diary writing. Next week the children will be writing their own diary entry as if they were the main character in the story. Our new topic this term is Ancient Egypt. The children have wowed us with some of their prior knowledge on this subject and they all appear really enthused to learn more. In our Art lesson we learnt about Egyptian hieroglyphics. The children all had a go at writing their names in hieroglyphs and then coloured them in. These are now proudly displayed in the classroom and look fabulous. In RE we learnt about the Epiphany, the students acted out some freeze frames of the story. They then used these to order the story and explain which part of the story they felt was the most important and why.</p>

