

Newsletter

Friday 31st March 2023



St. Mary's Catholic
Primary School

Dear Parents and Friends

End of Spring Term!

What a busy term we have had! The children have continued to be engaged in their learning and enjoyed finding out about new topics ranging from Scott of the Antarctic, The Great Fire of London to the Shang Dynasty in History to name but a few! It has been great to see the children's enthusiasm for learning both in class and when presenting their work in Celebration Assembly. We have had special events days such as NSPCC Number Day, World Book Day and Red Nose Day, where the children and staff wholeheartedly throw themselves into the spirit of the day!

I have thoroughly enjoyed being St Marks' class teacher this term and along with Ms Baynton, we are looking forward to teaching them in the Summer Term and the same can be said for the rest of the staff team about their classes.

Lent Day of Faith

We ended the Spring Term with our whole school Day of Faith. It was a time for the whole school to stop and reflect on the events of Holy Week, participating in an interactive prayer space. The opportunity to sit quietly with their own thoughts is always valued by the children and as always they engaged well with the prayers. Although the prayer spaces are primarily an opportunity for personal reflection they also spark thoughtful conversation and support our children's mental health and spiritual development.



On Wednesday, Mrs Myatt and our GIFT team organised a prayerful day for us to reflect on our own Lenten journey and that of Jesus during the events of Holy Week. We began the day with a liturgy, led by the GIFT team and during the day, the children had time to reflect on Holy Week in our prayer spaces. They all made a Holy Week ribbon and a coloured bracelet with beads as they said the 'Our Father.' Prayer spaces were set up around the hall, providing the children with opportunities to be thankful, celebrate and learn to understand people who are different to us; reflect on special friends; praying to God to ask for help just as Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane and saying sorry, knowing that we are forgiven through Jesus' death on the cross.

The day included with children thinking about compassion and Jesus' message: to heal the sick, feed the hungry and care for the poor whilst walking for our charity appeal.

The day was ably supported by Deacon Mike and two parishioners.



Turkey-Syria Earthquake

Our school family has continued to walk for charity in order to raise money for the CAFOD Syria and Turkey Earthquake Appeal. We want to raise awareness of those suffering from the earthquakes and to support those communities who have already been affected by conflict. All classes will walk daily after lunch for ten minutes. So far, we have raised £255 which is amazing. We may be a small school, but we have a big heart!

Here is a link to our Just Giving page where you can donate:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-mary-s-primary-school-marnhull2023>

This is link to CAFOD to see how they are supporting in Syria:

<https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/syria-crisis-appeal>



We would be very grateful for donations and really want to help those in need. We will keep the link open for another couple of weeks. Thank you

We say goodbye

We say goodbye to Fr. Francis who will sadly be leaving our parish at Easter, as he is returning to Buckfast Abbey. We will be very sad to see him go. Fr. Joseph Nwiboko will take his place as Parish Priest and I'm sure you will join me in welcoming him.

We also say goodbye to Ms Hunter, our lunchtime assistant. We wish her every success with future ventures.

We are now advertising for a Midday Assistant to start as soon as possible. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested, please refer them to our website for the advert and job description.

<https://www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/web>



Red Nose Day

Thank you for your generosity – we raised £85.60 and I had a giggle at some of the jokes the children shared with me.

Reading – the gateway to learning!

We enjoyed having the book fair last week and thanks to your continuing generosity and support of the school, we were able to buy some more books for the children's class libraries – more to follow in the PTFA Newsletter.

Unfortunately, our visit from Pete the Poet had to be postponed due to illness, but we are looking forward to him coming to school in the Summer Term instead. This visit has been kindly funded by the PTFA. I'm sure the children will tell you all about it after the visit.

Please can I remind you of the importance of **hearing your children read at home** daily – or AT LEAST three times a week, even when they are in Y6! Please record this in your child's reading record and ensure that they bring both their reading book

and reading record to school every day. Please also record if they are reading other books from home or the local library! If children can read fluently, they will enjoy their reading more and be able to access their learning more easily.

Packed lunches and healthy snacks

We have noticed that children are having crisps, biscuits and chocolate bars at break times for their mid-morning snack. Please can you ensure that these snacks are either fruit or raw vegetables. Thank you.

Please can also I remind you that we are a NUT FREE School.

We do have a child in school for whom nuts and **any food which contains nuts** (including a favourite chocolate spread) is highly dangerous. Please be aware of any foods which may contain nuts. Thank you for your understanding.



School Uniform

Children can wear Summer Uniform when they return in April. Please can you ensure your child comes to school with appropriate school uniform – there has been an increase in non-school uniform hoodies, trainers and boots being worn. It has also been noted that whilst the children are wearing uniform, they need to take more care over the neatness, with shirts tucked in etc. Can I also remind you that jewellery and nail varnish are not permitted.



Safety on the Lanes

Please can I ask you to be patient, respectful and safe in and around the car park and the lanes, especially on busier days when there are no clubs. Thank you again for your cooperation in this matter.



Please remember that we have **Breakfast Club** which starts at 8am every day and costs £2.50 per session.

Busy Bees After School Club has 3 sessions:

3:15 - 4:15pm - £3.50

3:15 – 5:00pm - £7.50

3:15 – 6:00pm - £10.00

Please use School Money to book your child in for any sessions, but note that you can't book through School Money on the day. Children being picked up after 5pm, will be charged until 6pm. Thank you.

After school clubs

Teacher Clubs will start up again the week after we return from the Easter Holidays on **24th April**.



Day	Clubs
Monday	Art & Craft Club – Miss Smith
Tuesday	Drama Club – Ms Baynton
Thursday	Eco Club – Mrs Myatt Football KS2 – Mr Young

Attendance and punctuality

Please remember that the bell rings at 8:45 and that is when the gates will be closed. Anyone arriving after that time will be marked late in the register. Thank you for your understanding in this matter. **Please email or phone the office to alert school for any absence or lateness.** Thank you.

Attendance Matters



Celebration Assembly

Please remember; in response to the parent survey, we have decided to open up Celebration Assembly to **all** parents starting. We look forward to seeing you at the slightly earlier time of 2.45pm, so we can start at 2.50pm. Thank you.



PTFA

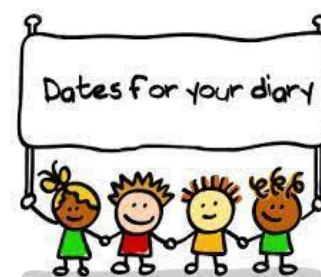
We have so much to share with you that we have our own end of term newsletter for you with news and dates for next term.



Thank you for all of your support this term and we hope to see you at our next meeting which will be on Tuesday 25th April 7.30-9.30 at The Royal British Legion.

Dates for your diary:

- **Friday 31st March** – last day of Spring Term
Easter Holidays
- **Monday 17th April** - children return to school
- **Friday 21st April** – Non-school uniform day in exchange for items for Rainbow Hampers
- **Tuesday 25th April, 7.30 - 9.30pm** - Venue: The Royal British Legion, Marnhull
- **Monday 1st May** – Bank Holiday – school closed
- **Friday 5th May** - Coronation Street Party
- **Monday 8th May** – Bank Holiday – school closed
- **Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th May** – Y6 SATS
- **Friday 19th May** - Pre-loved Uniform Sale from 3.10pm
- **Friday 19th May** - Night at the Movies
- **Friday 26th May** – break up for Half Term
- **Monday 5th June** – INSET Day
- **Tuesday 6th June** - children return to school
- **Monday 26th June** - Bags2School collection
- **Friday 7th July** – Sports Day
- **Friday 7th July** - Summer fun after Sports day
- **Saturday 8th July** - Marnhull Fest ... come along and see us
- **Friday 21st July** – end of term - break up for Summer holidays



I hope you have a lovely Easter Holiday with your families.
God Bless

Sharon Betts
Headteacher

Cricket Club

Aged 5-8? Sign up to your local ALL STARS CRICKET Centre NOW!
www.allstarscricket.co.uk



Aged 8-11? Sign up to your local DYNAMOS CRICKET Centre NOW!
www.dynamicscricket.co.uk



DYNAMOS
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