

# Newsletter



St. Mary's Catholic  
Primary School

Friday 7th October 2022

Dear Families and Friends

Time is whizzing past us - we only have two more weeks before we break up for half term! The children have been working hard in their new classes, enjoying their learning. The weather has been rather a mixed bag, really cold one day and then warm and humid on others. So as to be prepared as the days become shorter and the temperature drops, please can I remind you to send your child in to school with a coat, so they can still play outside comfortably – even in a light drizzle.



## Parents Evening

It was so lovely to catch up with many of you last week. I hope you found it informative, I know the teachers enjoyed being able to speak to you about how your child is settling in to the new school year. If, for some reason, you were unable to attend, please contact your teacher through Class Dojo to arrange an alternative date.

## Coughs and colds

Whilst it is lovely for the children to be able to play together there is, unfortunately, a downside – we're now more susceptible to catching any bugs. There appears to be a rather nasty virus doing the rounds – sore throat and temperature. We have also had a number of children off school with tummy bugs or coughs and colds. Please remember that it is **48 hours** after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea before sending your child back to school.



## Celebration Assembly

We are continuing to invite the parents of one class at a time to attend our Celebration Assembly. Please arrive at 2:50pm and park on the playground, so we can start at 2:55pm. Thank you.



Celebration Assembly - 2:55pm	Class
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	St Alban's
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	St Anthony's & Explorers
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	St Mark's
Half term	
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	St Francis
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	St Alban's
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	St Anthony's & Explorers
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	St Mark's
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	St Alban's

## Free School Meals in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

As you may already be aware, Universal Infant Free School Meals are automatically offered to all pupils in reception, year one and year two.

If you receive any of the following benefits, please complete the pupil premium application form. This will secure extra funding for your school which can be used to support your child in school or help with the cost of uniforms or trips.

The criteria for free school meals/pupil premium is as follows:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit: if you're not entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual gross income is no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' payment (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit: if your household income is less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Pupil Premium Application form (found on Dorset's webpage:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/pupil-premium>).

If you need any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dorset's Free School Meals team using the following contact details:

[freeschoolmeals@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) or telephone 01305 221090.



## PE Kit

Please can I remind you again that on PE days, for health and safety, children should not be wearing any earrings. If this cannot be avoided, please ensure your child wears (surgical) tape over their earrings. Now would be a good time to introduce layers – joggers and shorts, depending on the weather.



**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.

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

### After school clubs

After School Clubs continue for the next two weeks and will restart again after the half term break, from **week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> November**

Day	Clubs
Monday	Lego – Mr Cato
Wednesday	Book Club - Miss Smith
Thursday	Eco Club – Mrs Myatt Football KS2 – Mr Young

The clubs run from 3:15 until 4:15pm

### Reception September 2023 – Open Days

If you know of anyone who is looking for a place for their child in September 2023, please let them know about our open days...

With the deadline approaching for new parents to make choices on a school for their four year olds, we will be having some open mornings from 9:30 on 10<sup>th</sup> October, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in addition to an 'open door' policy at school. Any prospective parents are welcome to call the school on 01258 820417 to organise a tour or just pop into the school office and ask to take a look around.

We also have spaces in preschool. We find that children who attend our preschool setting make a smooth transition into Reception, since they are familiar with the environment.



**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**  
**Headteacher - Mrs Sharon Betts**  
[office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk) Telephone: 01258 820417

Do you have a child due to start school in September 2023?  
Do come and visit St Mary's on a Monday morning, please see available dates below. We look forward to showing you around our lovely school and seeing our fantastic children enjoying their learning.  
Please telephone or email to book a date.

Time: 9:30 am  
Dates: 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022



The closing date for applications on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
Dorset School Admissions Contact: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-school-place>  
Please see St Mary's Catholic Primary School website for further information on our admissions policy. <http://www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/web>



## PTFA

It was so lovely seeing everyone's take on Break the Rules Day last Friday - we hope the children enjoyed it. We raised an amazing £125.85, so thank you for your support too!

We are also excited to invite you to our very first AGM on 14th October at 7pm in the school hall. Please do let us know if you can come or if you would like to join the committee by speaking to our parent liaison, Liv Taylor at drop off or pick up.

Friday 21st October is a non-uniform day - dress creatively day! Donations from this will be put towards funding the St Mary's stall at our Christmas fair.

Our suggestion box is now in the school foyer for you to use. We'd love to hear what you would like to see from us this year.

Last week you will have received a Bag2School leaflet explaining a little more about the company and what they will take in the collection, which is Tuesday 18th October. Please do ask family and friends if they have anything to donate because the more weight we donate, the more we receive for the school.

### BAG 2 SCHOOL

#### FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



#### St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



By using this paper leaflet we are helping to reduce unnecessary extra plastic. Please use your own bag or bags (there is no limit). The leaflet is FSC accredited, please recycle it.

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

**We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:**

**Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.**

*(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)*

***The more we weigh the more we pay!***

*Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit*

***Please return your Bag2School on:***

**Tuesday 18 October 2022 by 9am**



01609 780 222

[www.bag2school.com](http://www.bag2school.com)

[helpdesk@bag2school.com](mailto:helpdesk@bag2school.com)



# SENsational Story and Play



Join us for a fun session of sensory play, stories and rhymes.

Come and explore your local library whilst spending time with other parents and carers who have young children with additional needs. Join us for a story and chat with other families and relax with your children sharing a range of sensory toys. You can also borrow books to enjoy at home.



For 0 - 5 year olds and their parents/carers. Siblings are welcome.

**Saturday 22nd of October**  
and every third Saturday of the month  
10.30am - 11.00am

Gillingham Library  
Chantry Fields, Gillingham SP8 4UA

Please book in advance via Gillingham Library.  
For information 01747 822180



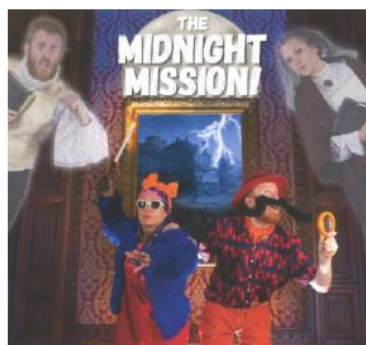
[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libra](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libra)

## Gillingham Library

Gillingham library is advertising some half term events, including a brilliant event for half term which is taking place during our closing time in partnership with BraveBoldDrama (this should be fantastic for families).

## The Midnight Mission!

Something's going bump in the night! Work against the clock, as you chase leads, decipher clues and interview suspects. A quirky family-friendly comedy, inspired by Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein'. Adult: £6.00, Under 18s: £5.00, Family of 4 (max 2 adults): £20



## Gillingham Library

**Wednesday 26 October**  
11:00am - 12:00noon



Booking essential on Eventbrite

For more information  **01747 822180**

Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent or carer.



@DorsetLibraries



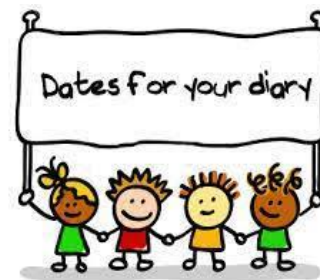
DorsetLibraries



[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries)

**Dates for your diary:**

- **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October - Next PTFA meeting at 2pm (at school)**
- **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October – PTFA AGM at 7pm (at school)**
- **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Bag2School collection**
- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October - Non-school uniform day**
- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – break up for half term**
- **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October – INSET Day**
- **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November – children return to school**
- **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas fair**



Thank you for your continued support,

Sharon Betts  
Headteacher