

# Newsletter

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022



St. Mary's Catholic  
Primary School

## Dear Families and Friends

We have reached the end of the school year and what a year! I can't believe I have been here for an entire school year - thank you all for making me feel so welcome and part of the St Mary's school family. I would also like to thank the staff team who have worked tirelessly all year to ensure your children continued to thrive.

As you can see – we've had lots of exciting learning and events this year.

Have a lovely summer holiday with your children and I look forward to seeing you all again on 5<sup>th</sup> September!





### Cancelled trip

We were so disappointed about not being able to go on our school trip to Moors Valley due to the Amber Weather warning, but having experienced the heat, I'm glad we did. The children however still had great fun with water and it certainly cooled them down.



### Sports Day

Thank you for joining us on our Sports Day – the children enjoyed their races and it was great to see so many families supporting them. It was such a lovely atmosphere with the PTFA picnic following on. Thank you to all who helped, looked after the stalls and spent lots of money!!



### Sports Week

Premier Sports came in last week and they were very impressed with our children. The children were given lots of opportunities to drink water and rest in the shade so they could thoroughly enjoy all that was on offer including fencing and archery!



### Marnhull Flower Show

All the children contributed at least one exhibit to the Marnhull Flower Show. When Catherine, one of the organisers came to collect the work, she was very impressed with the quality of work produced. The show was a huge success, and the visitors absolutely loved all the self-portraits, poems and cress heads. They were able to dedicate a whole marquee to the children's entries. Well done, St Mary's!



### Hot school meals

Please be aware that there is a price increase for hot school meals – they will now be £2.50. The Autumn Menu will be available for booking in August. You will receive an email to alert you when the booking is open. Thank you

## Start and end of day

From September, to meet the Government's requirement of all children being in school for 32.5 hours, we will be opening the gates between 8:30 and 8:45 in the morning, and the gates will be open from 3:15 to 3:25 in the afternoon. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding in this matter.

## Road etiquette

Unfortunately, I have received a complaint from our neighbours relating to parking on the road at pick up and drop off times. Last week, the neighbour was unable to get to his house due to someone parking on the road and blocking it. Also, the bin lorry was unable to get past the parked car and as a result the houses did not have their rubbish collected. Please be mindful with where you are parking so as not to block other drivers both on the road and in the car park. Thank you.



## News from the PTFA

We are delighted to let you know that our final total for the picnic was £370.96. The ice creams went down a treat, especially at the school performances!

We would also like to thank everyone who has supported, donated and helped over this year. It has been very much appreciated.

Looking ahead to September and the new term, here are a few dates to keep an eye on with more to follow:

- Next PTFA meeting - 20th Sep
- Break the Rules day - 30th Sep
- Bag2school collection of good quality clothing, shoes, handbags, belts and accessories - 18th Oct

We also have Christmas wreath making workshops and our Christmas fair being organised with dates and more details to follow.





## We're all going on a SUMMER HOLIDAY – Summer Production

Thank you for coming to see the children performing the end of year summer production to you on Thursday evening and Friday morning. I was so proud of how the children carried on despite several children being in and out of school due to absence. There are some budding young performers there!



## Farewell

Today we say goodbye to our Y6 children who are moving on to the next step of their journey in education. I wish them every success in their new schools and know they will do themselves proud!

We say goodbye to Mrs Tytheridge and Miss Horton wish them well in their new schools. We also say a fond farewell to Miss Fletcher today. We thank her for all she has done to give the children in her class a strong start and we wish her good luck for her future. They will all be missed.



## Governors

We say a sad goodbye to our Chair of Governors, Nick Chambers. He has been serving on the governing board for over 13 years, with the last 3 years as Chair. I would like to thank him for unstinting support of the school. From September, we will have joint Chairs of Governors – Mr Ben Holdsworth and Deacon Mike Turnbull. I would like to thank them for taking on this position of responsibility within our school community.

With Nick's departure, our fantastic governors are looking to recruit at least one Foundation Governor (please see the flyer below) as well as a Parent Governor – if you are interested and would like to find out more in the new term, please email our Chairs of Governors, Mr Ben Holdsworth and Deacon Mike Turnbull via the school office.



# Calling all Catholics! – We need you



- **We need committed Catholics to become foundation governors in our schools.**

- We want the Diocese to have a community of outstanding schools in which our pupils flourish in safe, happy and stimulating environments, so they leave us with the knowledge and skills, personal qualities and aspirations, to make the world a better place, inspired by the Gospel.
- You could make a huge difference in our Diocese. Your faith and encouragement could help the school community to develop their Catholic identity, keep our children and staff safe and help them in their commitment to the vision of Pope Francis who said, 'Only by changing education can we change the world.'
- A background in education or safeguarding would be desirable but no experience is totally necessary – your passion, faith and commitment is what is really needed as lots of friendly advice and training will be given.

- Inspired by our teacher, Jesus Christ, and his good news to the poor, we have a commitment especially to those who are disadvantaged. We are determined that a child's start in life need not determine their future. We are committed to the well-being of the earth, our common home, inspired by the example of Pope Francis: to live wisely, think deeply and love generously
- I would ask you to truly consider if you can take on this vital role. If you feel you can help, please speak to your parish priest about the next steps on the journey.
- May the Lord reward your service and may you be blessed in the generosity of sharing your gifts.

*Rev Canon Mark O'Keeffe*  
Episcopal Vicar for Schools  
Plymouth Diocese



## Fire Safety

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service want your child to have a fun and safe summer. Please take a moment to discuss with your child how they can help keep themselves and others safe, especially as they become older and more independent and may be spending time outside with friends rather than family:



Fire safety outdoors: BBQs and campfires. Due to the high fire risk, BBQs and campfires are banned in many parts of Dorset. If you do have a BBQ further safety advice can be found here <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safety-outdoors/barbecues/> If clothes catch fire: stop, drop and roll. If someone is burnt: cool, cover and call for help <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/burns-and-scalds/> Never play with matches or lighters.

Water safety: If possible swim at a lifeguarded beach between the flags. Jumping directly into water can cause cold water shock. If you do fall into water unexpectedly, or feel scared when in water then **Float to live:** lie on your back with your arms and legs out like a star until your breathing calms. If you see someone in trouble in the water, encourage them to Float, do not enter the water yourself, if possible throw them something to hold on to and call 999 and ask for the coastguard if at the coast or fire and rescue service if inland. Be aware of tides and currents and underwater hazards. Further safety information can be found here: [Know the risks \(rnli.org\)](https://www.rnli.org/)

Road safety: always wear a seatbelt (and if required use a car seat) when in a vehicle, take care and stay alert as a pedestrian and wear helmets when on bikes, scooters and skateboards. [THINK! – Road safety](#)

If your child needs help in an emergency call 999. If they have a mobile phone, ask them to download the **what3words app** which will help them give an accurate location. [what3words /// The simplest way to talk about location](#) Calling the emergency services as soon as possible will make sure help gets there as quickly as

possible, but never call 999 as a joke or hoax call. This video is suitable for older children (age 8 plus) [\(462\) Stern Hoax Call Message - YouTube](#)

You may find these short videos useful to start a conversation with your child:

Foundation and year 1 (ages 3 – 6 ) Staying Safe [\(462\) Summer Safety Foundation and year 1 - YouTube](#)

Years 2 and 3 (ages 6 – 8) Be Aware and Take Care [\(462\) Summer Safety Year 2 and 3 - YouTube](#)

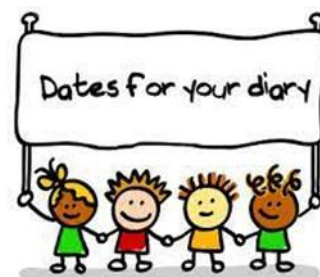
Years 4,5 & 6 (8 -11) Think Firefighter [\(462\) Summer Safety Years 4 5 and 6 - YouTube](#)



**Please follow us on Twitter @stmarysmarnhull** – it would be great to increase the number of followers we have – we now have 85 followers.

**Dates for your diary:**

- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – Children start Autumn Term**



<b>Term Dates 2022-23</b>		<b>Half Term holidays</b>	<b>Inset Days</b>
<b>Autumn Term</b> <b>01.09.22 – 16.12.22</b>	Children <b>start</b> school <b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>  Children <b>break up</b> for Christmas holidays on <b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022</b>	Children <b>finish</b> for half term on <b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup></b> <b>October 2022</b> and <b>return</b> to school on <b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022</b>	<b>01.09.22</b> <b>02.09.22</b> <b>31.10.22</b>
<b>Spring Term</b> <b>03.01.23 – 31.03.23</b>	Children <b>start</b> back at school <b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023</b>  Children <b>break up</b> for Easter holidays on <b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023</b>	Children <b>finish</b> for half term on <b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>February 2023</b> and <b>return</b> to school on <b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023</b>	<b>20.02.23</b>
<b>Summer Term</b> <b>17.04.23 – 21.07.23</b>	Children <b>start</b> back at school <b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023</b>  Children <b>break up</b> for Summer holidays on <b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023</b>	Children <b>finish</b> for half term on <b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup></b> <b>May 2023</b> and <b>return</b> to school on <b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b>	<b>05.06.23</b>

God Bless

Sharon Betts  
Headteacher



# Summer Camps 2022

*Junior Camp 7th - 12th August - Buckfast Abbey*

*Yrs 3-6*

*Senior Camp 31st July - 5th August - Buckfast Abbey*

*Yrs 7-10*

*St Petroc's 31st July - 5th August - St Rita's Honiton*

*Yrs 11-13*



*Further information:*

*[summercamps@predtr.org.uk](mailto:summercamps@predtr.org.uk)*