

Newsletter

Friday 23rd September 2022



St. Mary's Catholic
Primary School

Dear Families and Friends

We have now been back in school for just over three weeks, and a lot has happened in such a short time. As you are well aware the first week ended with the sad news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. As a school, we prayed for her and the family at this sad time and remembered her extraordinary reign as our queen. The children had fond memories of celebrating her platinum Jubilee, and the younger children especially remembered her having tea with Paddington Bear. We thought it fitting to share this poem written by the much loved children's poet, Roger McGough published by The Poetry Society to mark the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

*God Rest the Queen
She spoke volumes quietly.
Is everywhere and will remain so
Our shared interest, our common currency
The nation cannot let her go.*

*Stars untwinkle one by one
The moon, in shock, averts its gaze
No words express the grief we feel
How we loved thee, let us count the ways.*

*The future, fearful, has gone awol
Life goes on but not the one we know
Though wreaths and words may wither
The nation will not let her go.*

*Guns fall silent, the flag lowered
She who kept us close is gone
Winter is composing a sad anthem
It will play on and on and on.
8 September 2022*



Parents Evening

Please remember that parents' meetings are on: **Monday 26th September 2022 from 5 - 7pm**

Wednesday 28th September 2022 from 3:30 – 5:30pm

Please contact teachers directly through **Class Dojo** requesting your preferential day and an hour slot, from which you will be allocated a 10-minute appointment.

Please note – after school clubs will not run that week.



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

We are excited to launch our new website! We are continuing to update it and will do so throughout the year. Please do have a look.



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 3rd October, 10th October, 17th 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 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: 3rd October, 10th October, 17th October 2022



The closing date for applications on 15th 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>

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 or telephone 01305 221090.

Do you know about...

free school meals

If your child qualifies for free school meals, they will have a **healthy meal every school day**, and can get:

- access to **free holiday clubs**
- **extra money for their school** towards more teachers and activities

You could save over £450 a year!

It's easy to find out if you qualify - complete our confidential checker at [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals) or phone **01305 221090**

Pupil Premium

If your child is in reception to year 2 and you receive qualifying benefits, **you could get extra £££'s for your school!**

Apply for the Pupil Premium at [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/pupil-premium](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/pupil-premium)



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 23 rd September	St Mark's	
Friday 30 th September	St Francis	
Friday 7 th October	St Alban's	
Friday 14 th October	St Anthony's & Explorers	
Friday 21 st October	St Mark's	

Coats

As the mornings are getting cooler and the weather is now becoming more autumnal, please remember to send your child in to school with a coat, so they can still play outside comfortably – even in a light drizzle.



There will be no teacher led After School Clubs in the week beginning 26th September, due to parents' evenings.

After school clubs will start up again from **week beginning 3rd October**, and will continue to be as follows:

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

Busy Bees After School Club WILL still continue, 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.



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



PTFA

We had a very productive meeting this week with lots being planned for the coming term including a possible school disco and wreath making workshops.

Don't forget that Friday 30th is Break the Rules Day - we are very much looking forward to seeing which rules the children decide to break! Our Bag2School donations



are being collected on Tuesday 18th October with more details to follow.

Our suggestion box is now ready and awaiting your suggestions. This is in the school foyer and we would love to hear your thoughts and ideas as well as what you would like to see over the coming year.

On Thursday 29th September from 2pm, we will be helping to spruce up some of the pre-school area. Any willing volunteers would be most welcome and if you could bring your own brush and or roller, it would be useful!

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.

Information from the Safer Schools Team

Online Safety for Parents – elevated risks

Online Exploitation and abuse

- The internet has made it easier to build relationships online.
- Offenders can find out a lot about individual children before they make contact by looking at things a child has posted.
- Once an offender has contacted a child on a platform, they can very quickly move from these platforms to a private, unmoderated chat

'The internet lasts forever' is a popular saying, but it is not necessarily true – particularly for indecent imagery of children. The internet watch foundation (IWF) can remove criminal content in just two hours. Through engaging with international agencies, they locate the server the image is hosted on, and then take action to remove content.

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command – CEOP

CEOP is part of law enforcement. It helps keep people safe from sexual abuse and grooming online. CEOP are unable to respond to reports about bullying, fake accounts or account hacking. When you make a report to CEOP it will be read by a Child Protection Advisor, who will get in touch to discuss what you have reported, and what will happen next.

Risks on most common platforms:

- **Roblox, Discord, Steam:** multi-platform moderation is hard. Evidence of extremist content and users creating community spaces.
- **Whatsapp:** Significant disinformation/fake news sharing. Encrypted platform lends to anonymity
- **Tik Tok, Twitter, Instagram:** Pornographic content, platforms hard to moderate, Twitter algorithms amplify negative voices.
- **Youtube:** Large platform content moderation nearly impossible. Significant amounts of extremist content. Strong algorithms.



I am a child or young person

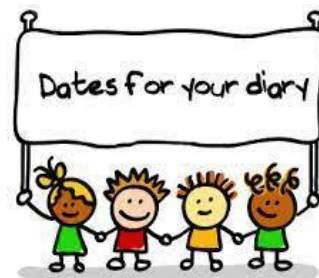


You can change who you would like to see information for here

How can CEOP help me?

Dates for your diary:

- **Monday 26th September – parents' meetings**
- **Wednesday 28th September – parents' meetings**
- **Friday 30th September – Break the Rules Day**
- **Friday 7th October - CAFOD Harvest Day**
- **Tuesday 11th October - Next PTFA meeting at 2pm**
- **Tuesday 18th October – Bag2School collection**
- **Friday 21st October - Non school uniform day**
- **Friday 21st October – break up for half term**
- **Monday 31st October – INSET Day**
- **Tuesday 1st November – children return to school**
- **Sunday 4th December - Christmas fair**



Thank you for your continued support,

Sharon Betts
Headteacher