

Newsletter

Friday 10th June 2022



St. Mary's Catholic
Primary School

Dear Parents and Friends

I hope you all enjoyed your half term holiday including the Jubilee weekend. Before we broke up, we had a super day reflecting on the 70 years' reign of Queen Elizabeth II, which culminated in our own Jubilee Tea Party.



The children had a fantastic time and thoroughly enjoyed the lovely treats provided by the PTFA. It was great to see so many parents and grandparents enjoying an afternoon cream tea – again provided by the PTFA.

We are really looking forward to this half term, as we have lots of exciting learning and events planned. It will be great to be able to share these with you over the next six weeks.

Staffing Update

We are sorry to announce that Miss Fletcher will be leaving St Mary's at the end of term. She has been at St Mary's for four years and although the children and staff will sorely miss her, we are very excited for her as she begins the next stage of her teaching career. In the meantime, we will be advertising for a teacher to start in September (please see <https://www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/home>).

In other news, we will be happy to have Miss Smith back on Monday. Whilst I have absolutely LOVED teaching Y4 every morning, I know the class (and staff) will be pleased to have her back.

Eco Club

The Eco Club had a fantastic visit from Jenny Morisetti organised by Marnhull Green Teams. The children learned about embellishing and reinventing clothing. We are hoping to do some further work with her.



Dorset Youth Climate Conference.

Well done to Grace, Phoebe and Madalena who attended the conference. They represented the school well listening and responding well to the councillors. We are looking forward to creating an Eco-Action group, which will work to make our school more eco-friendly. Marnhull Green Teams have agreed to help us with our action planning.



British Summer Weather!

This week has been especially challenging with short sharp showers! Please can you ensure you send your child in to school with a lightweight coat so that they can still play outside when there are showers. Can you also remember to send them in with sun cream already applied and a sunhat for when the weather is sunny? (probably on the same day!!)

Marnhull Festival

Thank you for your support with helping us 'man' the gates. It was lovely to see many of the children enjoying themselves there. Well done to the team who took part in the 'It's a Knockout' event, as it gave us a chance to promote the school's name out there in the village.



Sports Day

We are aiming to hold Sports Day on Friday 8th July from 1pm (weather permitting), with Wednesday 13th July being our reserve date. We look forward to seeing you!

PTFA

As already mentioned earlier in this edition, the PTFA have been working hard behind the scenes. I have attached the minutes of the last PTFA meeting to the end of this newsletter, as I am aware that not everyone has been able to see them. It has been a challenging year trying to getting an active PTFA off the ground due to the COVID restrictions and not being able to plan as much in the future as they would like, but I cannot thank the team enough for their commitment and enthusiasm in ensuring the events that have happened have been enjoyed by the children. They really want to be able to plan more and bigger events next year. The PTFA are very lucky to have such great support and they will be hosting an AGM in the Autumn Term. The AGM will provide an opportunity to publish information about how much money has been raised and how it has been spent. At the AGM, there will be an opportunity to vote for committee members for the new year, so if you are interested, please do let us know. The date of their next meeting is yet to be confirmed.



Celebration Assembly



We are continuing to invite the parents of one class at a time to attend our Celebration Assembly. Please arrive at 2:40pm and park on the playground, so we can start at 2:45pm. Please can parents not attending, park in the carpark so that those in the playground can get out. Thank you.

Celebration Assembly - 2:40pm	Class
Friday 10 th June	St Anthony's & Explorers
Friday 17 th June	St Mark's
Friday 24 th June	St Francis
Friday 1 st July	St Alban's
Friday 8 th July	No celebration assembly due to Sports Day
Friday 15 th July	No celebration assembly due to End of Year Performance

After school clubs

After school clubs will start up again from **week beginning 13th June**, and will be as follows:



After School Club

Day	Clubs
Monday	Lego – Miss Fletcher
Wednesday	Art & craft - Miss Smith
Thursday	Eco Club – Mrs Myatt Cricket KS2 – Mr Young



If you have one child at a club, you could book your other child or children into our After School Club.

3:15 - 4:15pm - £3.50

Please use school Money to book your child in for any sessions.



Governors

Our fantastic governors are looking to recruit a Parent Governor – if you are interested and would like to find out more, please email our Chair of Governors, Nick Chambers via the school office.

We are also looking for Foundation Governor – please see the flyer below:

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

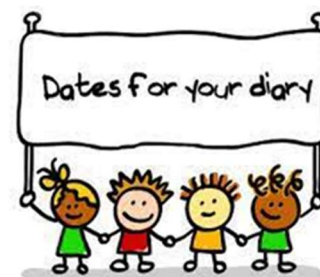
Plymouth Diocese



Please follow us on Twitter @stmarysmarnhull – it would be great to increase the number of followers we have – we now have 83 followers.

Dates for your diary:

- **Friday 24th June – Non-uniform Day for Catholic Children's Society (wear yellow, blue and white)**
- **Wednesday 29th June – Whole School Mass Feast of Saints Peter & Paul**
- **Friday 8th July – Sports Day 1pm**
- **(Wednesday 13th July – Sports Day Reserve 1pm)**
- **Wednesday 13th July - End of Year Reports to Parents**
- **Thursday 14th July – End of Year Performance 6pm**
- **Friday 15th July – End of Year Performance 1.30pm**
- **Tuesday 19th July – Leavers' Service 6pm (note change of date from 20th)**
- **Thursday 21st July – end of term break up for Summer holidays**



God Bless

Sharon Betts
Headteacher

PTFA, St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Marnhull - 16 May 2022

Attendees: Michelle Woods (chair), Sharon Betts (head), Carmen, Liv, Sarah, Lucy (minutes).

Apologies: Rachel (comms), Glyn, Rebecca, Jen, Heidi (treasurer).

School requests for funding and volunteers

Jubilee tea - PTFA asked to make scones for parents' tea; Sarah volunteered to bake, Liv volunteered freezer space. Ask parents to RSVP by Tuesday 24 May so we know how many scones are needed.

School trip - funding approved by PTFA for a whole school trip to Moors Valley Country Park (specially to help with funding the coach).

Year 6 Leavers' BBQ - usually organised by donations from the Year 6 parents.

Shade for outside areas - Sharon will look into whether Sports Premium can fund this.

Sports Day - Rachel suggested by email that the PTFA provide refreshments on the day for adults, and include the school uniform stall.

School music - PTFA have paid for glockenspiels.

PTFA

An evening Zoom meeting is being considered for parents who cannot make the daytime PTFA meetings.

Carmen voiced that many parents feel the PTFA needs to become more active, also more approachable and inclusive. Carmen also found it disappointing that the bank account is not resolved after seven months - although this is now moving forwards the PTFA should not be limited by not having it sorted. Sharon acknowledged this and also the difficulty in forming a PTFA effectively from scratch as there has been a long hiatus due to the pandemic and little continuity with the previous PTFA; once the bank account is set up, it will allow the PTFA to become a more formalised group benefiting from charitable status, AGMs, membership of Parentkind, etc.

Marnfest volunteers

Several parents have volunteered to help for an hour at the Marnfest Saturday 4 June 11.30am-4pm (Liv, Carmen, Mabel's mum Jenny, Gabriel's mum Jenny). TBC St Mary's will receive a donation in return for providing volunteers on the gate. Sharon to add request for volunteers to school newsletter.

St Mary's summer fair

Sharon to contact the Church to confirm a date, so we can organise the event.

Date of next meeting: TBC

Letter from Plymouth Diocese:

Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Camps 2022

***It's not only Queen Elizabeth II celebrating 70 years this
year.....***

The Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Summer Camps had their first "Summer Camp" in 1952, as a young Princess Elizabeth came to the throne. At that time the camps were organised and managed by the Catholic Women's League, and had the aim of providing young people, particularly those without access to Catholic schools, access to instruction in the Catholic Faith in a fun and enjoyable environment - living, playing, learning and praying together with young people of a similar age, building that personal relationship we have with Christ Jesus.

The original plan for the camps involved camps in a wide range of schools and parish centres across the diocese, with the C.W.L. organising volunteer helpers, catechists, cooks, and clergy to provide the campers with a safe, comfortable space in which to share their faith, and to give them a summer holiday that would be memorable for them.

In the 2006, responsibility for the Camps passed from the C.W.L. to the Diocese of Plymouth, under the control of a committee of volunteers, giving freely of their time and energy, which I have the privilege to chair. With a very kind invitation from Abbot David at Buckfast Abbey, we have been able to run the camps during a two week period over the Summer holidays, with separate camps for the Juniors (school year 3-6), Seniors (school year 7-10), and more recently St. Petroc's (School years 11-12). These have run with accommodation based at Grangehurst and the other small houses available at Buckfast Abbey. It has been a joy to share our Camp experience with the community at Buckfast on a year-by-year basis.

The past two years of Covid have been challenging for our Camp experience.

In 2020, the Junior Camp functioned on-line with Morning and Evening prayer and activities for the Campers during the day at home, St Petroc's also had online sessions, but interactive and enjoyed one day when they came together, suitably distanced, for a final Mass.

In 2021, with the theme of the Year of St Joseph, St Petroc's met for a face-to-face Camp, based at St Rita's Centre in Honiton, and the Senior Camp went online for a week of Morning and evening prayer and activities, followed up by a face-to-face short camp during the Autumn half-term in October.

This year our intention is to return the Camps to the pre-Covid format, meeting at Grangehurst, at Buckfast Abbey, for the Junior and Senior Camps, and St Rita's in Honiton for the St Petroc's Camp. **Camp fee: £210**

Junior Camp 7 th August. - 12th August	(Grangehurst)	(School Years 3-6)
Senior Camp 31 st July. - 5th August	(Grangehurst)	(School years 7 -10)
St Petroc's Camp 31 st July. - 5th August	(St Rita's, Honiton)	(School years 11-12)

HOWEVER.... We are in need of some help in order to ensure that the Camps continue to provide this faith-nurturing and enriching experience for the young people of the Diocese of Plymouth.

We are always pleased to welcome people, young adult right up to any age, to help on the Camps. This will involve completing an application form and a DBS check, as would happen in the parish environment if you work with young people. Safeguarding training is also provided.

In addition to the Camp helpers, we have **THREE** vital roles for the Catechetical Camps Committee:

1. TREASURER

To manage the finances of the Camp Committee, involving the overseeing the collection of fees for the Camps, paying for food and services; budgeting for the camps.

2. ADMINISTRATOR

To provide a single point of contact with the parents/guardians of the young people applying for camp; to liaise with the Camp Leaders.

3. CATECHIST (particularly for the Junior Camp)

To take the theme for the Camp and provide materials for use during the Camp, appropriate to the age group; to assist other helpers in delivery of the faith material.

This latter role is very important, particularly this year as we come back to face-to-face camps.

In addition to these roles we welcome people as:

CAMP HELPERS

We are always in need of people (aged 18 +) who wish to share their faith by helping with the Camps. If you are able to offer us a week of your time to assist in the day to day running of the Camps, please get in touch to discuss how you might help. All our helpers have to be recruited as volunteers and undergo D.B.S. checks through their parishes.

Bookings can now be made using the Online Booking Form located through this QR Code.



With blessings,

Mike

*Deacon Michael Turnbull
Chair, Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Camps Committee*

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