

# Newsletter



St. Mary's Catholic  
Primary School

[www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have started the new year off with our exciting topic launch! This term, our whole school topic this term is 'Peering into the Past', with great excitement the whole school gathered in the hall as the time machine transported them back in time...5000 years to ancient Egypt and then on to other time zones. The children thoroughly enjoyed travelling back in time to meeting key figures and characters from the past. Year 5/6 then learnt about the origins of the Shang dynasty and the significance of dragon bones in helping to interpret the past. They have written their own oracle scripts and made their own oracle bones out of clay. Year 3 and 4 spent the day immersed in hieroglyphics, pyramid problem solving and comparing life in Ancient Egypt to today. Year 2 were tasked by Florence Nightingale to investigate how germs spread and to find out what she did for nursing. They spent time researching, finding out why Florence is known as the lady of the lamp. Following a germ spreading experiment they made posters to display around school to promote cleanliness. They also became portrait artists and created pencil drawings of Florence. Year R/1 were set a task by Isambard Kingdom Brunel to build a strong bridge to help him with his Great Western Railway project. They learnt that the triangle was a strong shape for building with and became mini engineers planning and perfecting their designs. The results were fantastic and passed many complex tests.



After such a fantastic start to the new year and term we are all raring to go! More information on our topics can be found on the curriculum letters attached.

Best wishes,

Charlotte Targett

Headteacher

## Uniform

I have attached a uniform list to this email. Please can I remind you that trainers are not acceptable footwear in school and earrings should be limited to one small stud. As the weather gets colder, it is also essential that coats are in school as the children are out for at least an hour a day and may have some lessons outside.

**PE Kit:** Please ensure that PE kits are in school EVERY DAY. Can children in KS2 also have suitable trainers or footwear for the field, shin pads and long socks. We have a small stock of

## Exciting local event!

"Are you awake?!"

Stay Awake is taking place for the second year on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at The Thomas Hardy School, Dorchester. It will be a day of inspiring and encouraging talks, Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark, praise and worship and fellowship to allow ourselves to go deeper with Jesus and build Christian discipleship! There will be free Papa John's Pizza in the evening for dinner! Tickets are only £10 for those aged 15+ and **free for those aged 14 and below!** This is an event for everyone and anyone! To find out

<p>shin pads and trainers in school so please let us know if you have any problem.</p>	<p>more and to book tickets, please see <a href="http://www.stayawakejc.com">www.stayawakejc.com</a>"</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bad Weather Advice</b></p> <p>With some forecasts suggesting there may be a cold spell over the next few weeks, the advice on school closure is as follows. Parents will be contacted before 7:30am if we are closing via text (should the decision be made in the evening we will contact parents then). This information will also be available on the school website and Dorset for You. The decision to close will be made once we have considered the safety of the site for children and of the roads. If it is deemed unsafe to travel or we do not have enough staff to open the school due to their travel restrictions, we will close. Should you need to contact the school during closure, please email the school office.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Driving to school</b></p> <p>Please can I ask that you take care on the roads leading to school. We have had various incidents over the last few months and a further incident this week. We have also seen an increase in parents rushing to get in and out of the car park in the morning! We have children walking in the car park and down Old Mill Lane on the approach to school. Please can I ask that you keep speed to an absolute minimum as you approach and enter the lane and car park to avoid any unnecessary disasters! Thank you for your continued co-operation with this.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dates</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Jan - St Francis Class Tutankhamun visit</b>  <b>Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Key Stage Two Mass</b>  <b>Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Feb - Safer Internet Day</b>  <b>Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Feb - Break up for Half Term</b>  <b>Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Feb - INSET day</b>  <b>Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Feb - Back to school</b>  <b>Weds 26<sup>th</sup> Feb - Ash Wednesday</b>  <b>Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> March - Key Stage One Mass</b>  <b>Mon 9<sup>th</sup> March - Parents Evening 3:30 to 5:00pm</b>  <b>Tues 10<sup>th</sup> March - Parents Evening 5:00 to 7:00pm</b>  <b>Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> April - Whole School Mass</b>  <b>Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> April - Break up for Easter</b>  <b>Mon 20<sup>th</sup> April - Back to school</b> </p>	