



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth

24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy week in school which started with an Inset day on Monday. This was an opportunity for all our staff to update their safeguarding and health and safety knowledge and to work together developing the curriculum for the year ahead. We began by welcoming our new staff to our school family and an opening prayer.

We held our 'Information Evenings' for each year group on Tuesday last week. Thank you to those of you that were able to attend and for the positive feedback. If you were unable to attend the meeting then you can still watch the recording which is on Google Classroom or Tapestry. I am delighted to share with you that 80% of children are now signed onto the Google Classroom. We just need the final few to join us now. Another great piece of news is that we have managed to transfer the classes forward on IXL so that the teachers can set homework. You will find what homework has been set each week on the google classroom.



On Wednesday and Thursday we participated in a 'Peer Review'. The feedback from the visitors was very positive. They shared with us that our children are 'delightful'. They understand clearly that they come to school to learn, they are willing to take risks to improve and talk with pride about their learning. They felt that all our staff were 'reflective, honest, and had a strong sense of purpose'. They particularly wanted to thank the Governors that support the review process, the feedback was that the Governors have a clear understanding of the school priorities and that they have the enthusiasm and knowledge to help our school move forward. It was a very busy 2 days and I wanted to thank everyone who took part in the conversations and for showing a passion and understanding of how to take our school forward.

Congratulations to all the children who made their First Holy Communion last week. It was wonderful to be able to congratulate you at the end of liturgy today and to present you with a mini prayer book.



**"Inspiring each other to learn, in the light of Christ"**

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Well done to Rosie in Year 3 who earnt her 25m swim badge last week. I can see that you are very proud of your badge.



We wish Mrs Evans all the very best as she leaves us to begin her maternity leave.

We look forward to meeting your new baby soon!

Next week we will be holding our first 'School Mass' for a long time. We will be celebrating 'Harvest'. Please can we ask that your child brings in a donation to school on either Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. We will use these to make a display in church on Friday and then we will be taking all the donations to the local food bank.

The Food Bank is always grateful for what we, and the other churches in Poole, provide. Some items such as tinned fish, pasta, long life milk and long life fruit juice are particularly welcome. Food should ideally have a shelf-life of 6 months and tins with ring-pulls are very useful. Here is a list of items which the Food Bank always needs:

Milk (UHT/Powdered)	Pasta/Rice (1kg)	Cereal	Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Soup	Tea bags/Coffee	Instant Mash Potato	Tinned Meat/Fish
Fruit Juice (carton)	Pasta Sauces	Baked Beans	Tinned Fruit
Rice/Sponge Pudding (tinned)	Sugar (500g)	Tomatoes (tinned)	Biscuits/Snack bars



Harvest Mass for children in Year 1-Year 6 - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Arrive at the St Mary's Church Hall at 8.45am. Children using Freedom Coaches will be dropped at church and children at Early Birds will have a quick breakfast before walking to church.

Children will be registered in the hall and will go into church with staff at 9am. Parents can participate in the Harvest Mass at 9am from the church hall which they can go into once the children have moved into church, the Mass will be relayed on the screen. After the Mass the we ask parents to support us in

walking back to school with the children. Children in Foundation classes will have their own service in school.



We were able to celebrate the house points at the end of the liturgy today. Well done to all those children who were awarded a house point this week.

Red – 307    Yellow – 322    Green – 326    Blue - 359

Thank you for your continued support.

*Helen Armstrong*

Yours faithfully,  
Helen Armstrong