



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your support and positive feedback over the past couple of days. It is going to take a little while to get into the new routines but I am sure with your continued support we will get there. We welcome all feedback and aim to make all routines and transitions as smooth as possible for everyone.

I wanted to begin with a special thank you to Mr Aldworth and Mrs Hazell. They have both gone above and beyond over the summer holidays and if they had not then school would not have been ready to open yesterday.



This week we received a welcome back to school message from the Plymouth Diocese Education team:



*As we start the year together, we are hopeful of a faith filled year for all our school families when we reflect upon the words of Jeremiah, 'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'.*

*It was in his Lenten message this year that Pope Francis also spoke of hope when he focused on the three theological virtues, he asked us to "renew our faith, draw from the living waters of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God hope.*

## LET'S CELEBRATE

Sunday, 5th September is Celebrate Creation Day and as well as thanking God for his wonderful creation in Mass with praise, prayers and hymns we will also be celebrating by re-launching coffee after 930am mass at St Mar's Catholic Church.

As well as serving tea and coffee they will have various stalls and activities to celebrate creation such as plant and vegetable stalls, soft toy animals, ideas for recycling and suggestions on how to protect our planet.

This is a wonderful opportunity for them to restart their social activities after such a long break and Father John hopes that you will come and join and celebrate with them.

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

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It is wonderful to know that so many children are now participating in clubs and activities again. Please share with us any successes that your child has achieved outside of school.

This week we heard that Codey in Year 5 had received a thank you card from 'Stagewise' (performing arts) with amazing feedback about his contributions. The card said that his imagination was amazing! Well done Codey.



Also in Year 5 is Natalia. Look at all her medals and certificates, for Gymnastics, football, the Summer Reading Challenge, the Wild challenge and speedway. Well done, Natalia.

Please pray with us for the start of the school year:

*Loving God,*

*Our creator, our saviour, our companion, bless this journey of a new school year that we undertake this week.*

*Refresh our souls and renew our spirits as we embrace the beautiful ministry you have called us to.*

*We welcome those who are new to this community and ask that you strengthen them to share the wonderful gifts you have given them.*

*Lord, make our hearts pure as we prepare for the return of students to this school, and may you guide them to return with open hearts and minds eager to learn.*

*We ask this in Your name,*

*Amen*

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

*Helen Armstrong*

Helen Armstrong  
Headteacher