



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth*

11th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by wishing you all a very Happy New Year and all very best wishes to all of you for 2019. Having spoken to lots of our children this week I do believe they all had a Christmas to remember.

We welcome back Miss Shaw, our Year 3 and 4 phase leader and Year 3 teacher, from maternity leave. We have had a number of staff illnesses but hopefully we will be back up to full strength next week.

It has been really lovely listening to children share the books they got for Christmas. Martha in Foundation Stage read a book from the library about 'Stinky the Guinea Pig', in Year 5 Nicole had a book called 'Lightning Girl', and Bella was given a book about 'How to be a Vet' as she wants to be one when she is older. There are such wonderful books for children to share, read and enjoy. We are always looking for donations of books for our library so if you have any that you need to find new homes for we would be most appreciative. We are also working on developing the children's vocabulary bank in school this is something you could easily do at home by having a 'word of the week', I look forward to the children sharing their words with me on the gate.

I am pleased to share with you that 'Lulworth' (blue) House achieved the greatest number of house points last half term and have chosen to have a non-uniform day on Monday 14th January. The house points have been busily filling up this week and the children have been desperate to come and share what they have achieved the token for.

This week, all Year 4 pupils started their whole class brass tuition, taught by an experienced brass teacher Mr Penfold. This is funded through the school's membership of SoundStorm Music Education Hub, in Poole and Bournemouth. As part of the scheme, all of our Year 4 pupils have the loan of a brass instrument (trumpet, cornet, trombone) for the next 10 weeks. They made an excellent start this week and produced some brilliant sounds!



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

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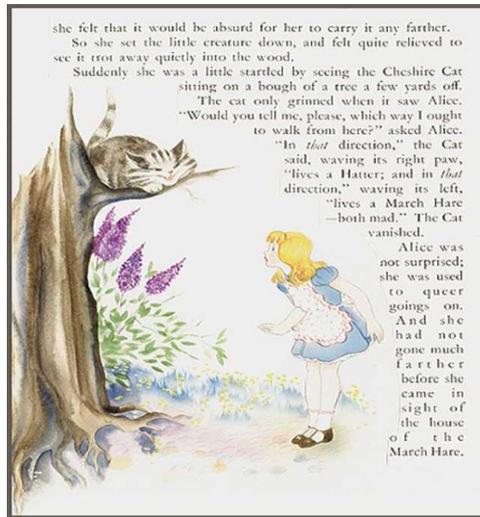
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Congratulations to Millie who has achieved a Merit in her Grade 3 Cello exam. Well done Millie!

Well done also to Andrea who was part of the Cinderella pantomime at Tivoli theatre in Wimborne. Andrea said that she had an amazing time and that she would love to do it again this year!



On the subject of productions, Mrs Wilson supported by all the staff, has decided that instead of a summer concert this year we will have a St. Mary's summer production of "Alice in Wonderland". We are at the early stages of planning but Mrs Wilson is looking for expertise in different areas. If you think you would like to offer your services to help make this production a success please let the office know and they will pass your name and details to Mrs Wilson and the production team.

Finally I wanted to share with you two super learners in the Foundation Stage. On Thursday they went to the teacher and said that they wanted to help the Year 2 children with their Great Fire of London Topic. They collected everything they needed and put it in a folder.

This morning they came into school and set about their task. They very proudly shared their work with Year 2. Well done Rosie and May, great work.

Yours faithfully,

Helen Armstrong

Helen Armstrong
Headteacher

