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8th September 2017

Dear Parents

Weekly Newsletter

Welcome to the Autumn Term of 2017 at St Mary's, I hope you all had a good summer and we are pleased to welcome all the children back to St Mary's and will be welcoming our new Reception class next week. I would also like to welcome back to St Mary's Mrs Warner-Lee who is now teaching in Year 1 and welcome to St Mary's, Miss Libby who will be our new Reception class teacher.

Reception Class

This week Miss Libby and Mrs Peach have been visiting our new Reception children at their homes in the build up to them starting at St Mary's. Next Monday and Tuesday will be having half the children in mornings or afternoons and they will then all start full time on Wednesday. We are really looking forward to welcoming our new pupils.

Parent's coffee mornings

The coffee mornings will be starting again on Friday 15th September at 9am and each following Friday morning. Our coffee mornings are an opportunity for parents to chat, get to know each other and enjoy a drink and a biscuit. These Friday mornings are held in our Kidszone building (the breakfast & after school club building). All parents are welcome to pop along on any Friday morning.

Animal Agents – The Summer Reading Challenge in libraries

During the summer holidays Dorset Libraries ran a Summer Reading Challenge called "Animal Agents" which was open to children across Dorset. This year more than 8,000 children registered to take part in the challenge of reading and reviewing six books.

Dorset Libraries have asked me to remind children who took part in the Reading Challenge but not completed it yet that the deadline for letting library staff know about the last books they have read is tomorrow (this Saturday). If you wish to finish the challenge and have not done so, pop into libraries tomorrow as they are keen for as many children as possible to receive their certificates in school this year.



Changes for new KS2 pupils - Year 3

Now that children have moved up from Year 2 and into KS2 there are some slight changes to their days. Each child is asked to bring a piece of fruit with them to school each day as fruit snacks are not provided for KS2.

PE sessions will be on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons. Start times for the school day are, doors open at 8.45 with the day starting at 8.55am. KS2 pupils have a morning playtime and lunch time break but they do not stop now for an afternoon playtime. The day finishes at 3.25 pm and children are collected from the Year 3 door on the playground which is accessed via the gate by the swimming pool.

DASP Music Information (Dorset Area Schools Partnership)

DASP are interested to know if your child enjoys performing, would like to learn an instrument or get involved in a DASP music ensemble. They have many DASP Music ensembles running weekly in various locations across Dorchester.

Groups that are suitable for first schools pupils include Skylarks Choir, Training Windband, Stringalings and Colourstrings music sessions.

To find out more or to register your interest, please email daspmusic@thomas-hardye.net or visit their website www.daspmusic.co.uk. All ensembles start the week 18th September.

Lost Property

Next week, please check through the lost property boxes by the classes as after next week we will be recycling any lost property that we hold at present as it has been in the boxes for some time now. Many thanks.

Change of Name

Just to let you know that Mrs Oddy, our Year 2 teaching assistant has changed her name and is now Miss Atmore.

We are looking forward to an exciting and interesting Autumn term.

Yours Sincerely



Mrs Paula Fearn
Head Teacher