



Summer 2023

21st July 2023



Dear Parents/Carers,

At the end of the school year I would firstly like to thank all of the staff in the school, for their hard work and also the tremendous range of enrichment that has taken place throughout the summer term.

From trips to Thorpe Park, to musical events, geography trips to study rivers and the coast to a Shakespeare production visiting the school, there has been a huge number. These often require significant organisation and we are grateful to everyone who has been part of this, without which none of them would be possible.

As the school year ends it is a natural time of change. While it is sad to say goodbyes we are incredibly grateful for the time given and wish everyone the very best for the future.

The year 8 pupils will be missed by us all and we thank you for your hard work, involvement in so many parts of the life of the school, both related to schoolwork and also those vital areas of helping others, such as fundraising, being buddies and reading buddies to year 5 and so on. You all have great opportunities ahead of you. We wish you all every success. You are always welcome here at St Mary's and we look forward to hearing about your achievements.

Mr Gedge has been a super member of staff, working as an incredibly conscientious TA, with an excellent inner desire to make a real difference to the pupils he has worked with. Mr Gedge also worked extremely hard in his own time to become a qualified teacher 18 months ago; his deep knowledge of history has been appreciated by the classes he has taught, while many children have benefitted from his after school and lunch-time Warhammer clubs. Mr Gedge now heads to Winchester University, where he will be starting a degree course in the study of Medieval history.

Mrs Armstrong leaves to work at West Moors and St Michael's Middle schools, in East Dorset. In the past year she has committed herself wholeheartedly to her work in art, textiles and maths, introducing her own ideas which have been well received, showing a real passion for all pupils to achieve well in creative subjects, teaching well, promoting and celebrating the work completed. She has also been a dedicated tutor to 7AW and much valued in the staff team.

We thank Mrs Barlow for all of her work during this year. She has been a really courteous and valued member of the school staff, always willing to help others and make a difference for the pupils. This includes her work with the photography club.

Mrs Milligan has decided to retire at the end of this year. In her long career at the school she has been both an excellent TA and for a long time now, a cover supervisor. This is a responsible and often challenging role in all schools, having to regularly respond to changing circumstances at short notice, compile resources and even decipher some questionable cover notes! Mrs Milligan has been a caring colleague to us all and we wish her well in all that lies ahead.

Miss Brown departs St Mary's for a second time, having previously been a pupil here. We were delighted to see her return and both adults and children have benefitted from her bright and positive demeanor, while she has made a real difference to the individual children with whom she has worked. Miss Brown heads to Thomas Hardy School where she will be teaching cooking and nutrition.

Miss Cluskey has been a tremendous colleague, always willing to help out wherever required and someone who will always do the extra work needed to solve issues. Her administrative work in SEND has been admirable - accurate, thorough and excellent. Jo originally came to school to cover Mrs G in the office, then became a TA, the SEND!

I am also leaving St Mary's—Teaching is an all-encompassing job with so many skills needed over and above the vital one of what goes on in the classroom and the greatest skill is in the support of others and ability to be there when needed. I'm very grateful for everyone who has done that for me when I have needed it.

I have been so fortunate to have received the support firstly of an excellent SLT (School Leadership Team) this year, which has been full of ideas, energy and given much time over and above the 'normal' hours. I have often relied on them going over and above, for example volunteering to supervise events, while often going to individuals for advice.

The wider staff have been overwhelmingly committed to doing their absolute best for the pupils in the school and it is thanks to them that there has been a positive, polite and collaborative culture, which I am sure will continue.

The highlight of each day has been the chance to say good morning to the pupils and hear about what they have been up to and exchange a 'good morning' with so many of them.

Pupils of St Mary's, I wish you well. Work hard, enjoy the good times, be kind and always look to help others, in the knowledge that these qualities will give you the sense of belonging we all need. And, do say hello if you see me in the future.

I have met with many parents, in differing situations and regularly have enjoyed finding out how ex-pupils are faring and lives progressing.

Life is about people and valuing one another is what makes a great place to work with one another. This school's great strength is its sense of community.

To you all, enjoy a wonderful summer break and the very best for the future.

The new year will also bring new faces to the school.

Mr Trim is actually already here. He started in mid-June as the school's new Finance and business manager, coming here from Yewstock School. We are already appreciative of his commitment and capability, while fitting so well into the school 'team'.

Mrs Moore will arrive from Wey Valley school, as the teacher of art in years 7 and 8. She has great experience, will bring her ideas and enthusiasm to the role.

...and a welcome from Dr Ennion.

Mr M Hilborne

Message from Dr Ennion..... We are all very sad to be saying goodbye to Mr Hilborne this term. We wish him all the very best as he begins an exciting new chapter of life. Mr Hilborne has worked tirelessly to support thousands of pupils and staff during his time at St Mary's. He has achieved this with utter dedication and the utmost integrity. There is no doubt that things won't be quite the same at St Mary's without him, and we hope he will keep in touch and visit us next year. I have worked with Mr Hilborne for a number of years as part of the Dorchester Area Schools Partnership and it's no exaggeration to write that you would struggle to find a more knowledgeable and devoted school leader and, more importantly, a more genuine, generous person. *Good luck, Mike, and thank you for everything.*



Huge well done to **YEW** house for
winning overall this term



Well done to all of our St Mary's students for a great Summer term

Citizenship Awards

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Mai B 5AL | Georgia P 5MO | Honey A 5FM | Sophia C 5YD |
| Betty E 6DH | Rose M 6ST | Mario T 6WE | Elodie P 6SC |
| Carys R 7MA | Heather S 7BG | Arthur W 7MIB | Hector R 7AW |

Progress –Whole School

Bunny R 5AL Charlotte P 6SC Timothy B 7BG

Year 5 Core Subject Awards

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|
| English Progress | Harriet J 5YD | English Attainment | Emrys A 5AL |
| Maths Progress | Toby W 5MO | Maths Attainment | Evan C 5FM |
| Science Progress | Thomas N 5YD | Science Attainment | Adam N 5FM |

Year 6 Core Subject Awards

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| English Progress | Jasper R 6DH | English Attainment | Annabelle C 6SC |
| Maths Progress | Jake B 6DH | Maths Attainment | Darcie M-H 6SC |
| Science Progress | Martha C 6ST | Science Attainment | Lily A 6WE |

Year 7 Core Subject Awards

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|
| English Progress | Dima A 7AW | English Attainment | Poppy T 7AW |
| Maths Progress | Eloise J 7BG | Maths Attainment | Iris T 7MIB |
| Science Progress | Alice D 7AW | Science Attainment | William S 7BG |

Year 8 Awards are attached, Congratulations to you all!

Accelerated Reader awards

| Year 5 | | Year 6 | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Most points in quizzes | Robbie A | Most points in quizzes | Sophie M-W |
| Accelerated Reading Star (most progress) | Matthew Mc | Accelerated Reading Star (most progress) | Edward S |
| Millionaire's Club | Robbie A 5AL Evan C Ben B | Millionaire's Club | Sophie M-W Ben M Lauren C |

| Year 7 | | Year 8 | |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|
| Most points in quizzes | Violet T | Most points in quizzes | James O |
| Accelerated Reading Star (most progress) | Rhianne O'K | Accelerated Reading Star (most progress) | Erin M |
| Millionaire's Club | Violet T Iris T Poppy T Lily H Bethany J Sophia A-H Isabella A Henry W-M | Millionaire's Club | James O Felicity M |

Congratulations to Robbie Angus (5AL) who has read the most words in KS2 with **4,119,324** words and also to Poppy T (7AW) who has read the most in KS3 - **2,794,398** words.

Well done to you all!



The St Mary's School Association is looking for a new committee from September. If you think you would be interested in the Chair, Secretary or Treasurer position or would like to find out more about what it involves please

contact us by email as below.....

schoolassociation@stmaryscemiddle.uk or call the current Chair, Chrissy Hancock on 07841 291352.

Unfortunately, without a new committee the School Association will no longer be able to continue which would mean a huge loss of financial support to the school and its families.



Big **THANK YOU** to you all for your support towards the Summer Raffle, it was a huge success and also to Mrs G for sourcing all the prizes!

On Wednesday, all pupils were invited to school in non-school uniform in exchange for a £1 donation. St Mary's you did your fellow pupil proud, you have raised **£464.18**.

A massive thank you to all for your support!

 **Ewing's Sarcoma
Research Trust**

Parents Evening Dates 2023/2024

Meet the Tutor Evening (IN SCHOOL) – Thursday 5th October 2023
4.00pm-7.00pm

Subject Evening (VIRTUAL) – Thursday 30th November 2023
4.00pm-7.00pm

Subject Evening (VIRTUAL) – Thursday 14th March 2024
4.00pm-7.00pm

Parents Evening (Tutor Only – IN SCHOOL) Thursday 11th July 2024
4.00pm-7.00pm



Term dates for the next Academic year (2023 - 2024)

Autumn Term

1st September 2023 - INSET DAY

4th September 2023 - First day of school
Year 5 in School

5th September 2023
ALL Pupils in school

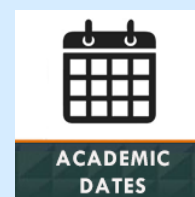
20th October 2023 - End of half -term for pupils
30 October 2023 - INSET DAY
31st October 2023 - Start of 2nd half-term for pupils
15th December 2023 - End of autumn term

Spring Term

2nd January 2024 - Start of spring term
8th February 2024 - End of half-term for pupils
9th February 2024 - INSET DAY
19th February 2024 - Start of 2nd spring half -term
29th March 2024 - End of spring term

Summer Term

15th April 2024 - Start of summer term
6th May 2024 - Mayday bank holiday
24th May 2024 - End of half-term
3rd June 2024 - Start of 2nd summer half-term
19th July 2024 - End of summer term for pupils



The **NEW Autumn Term 2023 Sports Clubs** list will go live ahead of arriving back into school in September, all clubs will commence from **Monday 11th September!**

We are incredibly grateful to the school association. As ever, this has comprised of a small band of people who have worked so hard throughout the year, coming up with ideas to raise money to support pupils and events where the main school budget is unable to provide.

Chrissy Hancock, Charlie Langlands and Nicky Ling, thank you all so much for your determination, positivity and drive.

Most of these parents are stepping down from their roles and the opportunity is therefore, if you feel you have what it takes and are keen to make a small but definite difference do please get in touch! *Thank you for all of your help!*

Wild Art Club forms are now attached for Autumn 2023, do not forget to sign up!!

HOT SCHOOL DINNERS IN SEPTEMBER!

At this moment in time, we are still trying to recruit a school cook.

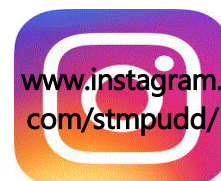
The new Foodlinks menu is now live but, unfortunately, all we can offer via them is packed lunches which are showing on their system, should you wish to place orders for September.

As soon as we have any update on the position being filled, all parents will be informed as to when you can order hot dinners.



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www.instagram.com/stmpudd/

If any further information is required please visit our website at www.stmaryscemiddleschool.co.uk