



# St Mary's Primary School

Newsletter 12

4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Pippin Class have continued to practice their nativity this week. Year 1 & 2 have created 3D aerial maps of Thorncombe for Geography. They worked together and showed lots of perseverance. The children have also been busy decorating the classroom for Christmas, by creating some patterned paper chains, linking to their current maths topic, 2D and 3D shapes.



Orchard Class have begun a persuasive writing unit and have really taken to using their toolkit and creativity to begin writing. Watch out – the letters to Father Christmas this year will be hard to deny! In RE, Orchard Class will be embellishing their Buddhist temples and trying meditation. Science continues to inspire Orchard Class – this week Years 5 and 6 experimented with the forces applied when releasing parachutes and Years 3 and 4 explored the properties of different magnets.



## Parents Evening

We will be holding Virtual Parents' Evenings before the end of term. We hope to speak to all of you about how your child is progressing and their next steps. You will shortly receive an email from the school office outlining how you can sign up for a phone call with your child's teacher.

## Dorset Musicianship Programme

We are delighted to announce that Dorset Music Service will be providing instrumental music lessons to Orchard Class on a weekly basis in the Spring term. This year we will be learning to play the ukulele and each child will be loaned their own instrument for the term. We look forward to seeing the children's progress!

### Christmas Events

We have lots of festive activities and events planned for the lead-up to Christmas. Children will be able to send cards to each other, please bring all cards to school on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> or Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. We will then quarantine the cards over the weekend so that they can be given out the following week.

Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> /Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Bring all Christmas cards into school
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day - £1 to Save the Children
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Online Panto (If you have any questions or concerns about this please let us know.) Local Food Links Christmas Lunch (order by 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec at the latest)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	PFA Christmas Party Lunch 2pm Pippin Class "A King Is Born" Performance (live streamed to parents and carers) 3pm School Choir Performance and Whole School Carols - children will stand in the wildlife garden and parents are invited to sit in cars or stand in the car park to watch and join in! Social Distancing must be adhered to and will be reiterated nearer the time. 3.15pm School breaks up for the Christmas Holidays

### Breakfast and After School Club

In After School Club we've been helping Miss C with some pictures for a Portal Stories display, watching Early Man in Film Club and making fat balls for the birds. We'll be watching Christmas films on Mondays and doing some Christmas crafts on Tuesdays for the next two weeks. If anyone would like to join us, just let Mrs Aspinall know.



### Warm Coats and Pyjamas Appeal

Dorset Council are running an appeal asking families to donate new or nearly new warm coats and pyjamas for children aged 3-12, so these items can be passed on to families who need them. Details of the scheme are on the email accompanying this newsletter, including drop-off and pick-up points. There is also information included about other support available for families.

### TSM Parents and Carers Facebook page

We have a private Facebook page which only parents and carers are able to view and access. This virtual notice-board can be a very useful way of communicating reminders and other school-specific information, as well as a way of asking questions and connecting with other families. If you'd like to join, search on Facebook for "Parents & Carers of Thorncombe St Mary's" and send a request to join. One of the admins will add you to the group.

### Flu Nasal Vaccine reminder

The School Age Immunisation team will be visiting us on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. Please register your consent with them as soon as possible, if you have not done so already. Details of how to do this were sent out last month but do contact the office if you would like this to be resent to you. Children will only be vaccinated if parental consent is registered in advance.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,  
Miss Smith