



St Mary's Primary School

Newsletter 17

17th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been a very sporty week in school this week, with children in Orchard Class enjoying their trip to the Flamingo Pool in Axminster for the first of their swimming sessions this term. Children in Key Stage Two have also enjoyed taking part in netball as their focus sport for this half term and they undertake this each Friday. It has also great to see such eagerness from the children to participate in all lunchtime and afterschool clubs. I am particularly pleased to have been able to offer sports provision focused on team work and alternative sports this half term. We would like more children to participate in Friday's after school sports club with Mr Knott from PH Sports, so if your child is keen to join in, do let us know.

On Monday, we wish our pupils the best of luck as some of them will be participating in the Acorn Multi Academy Trust Sports Participation Tournament. Later this term, we look forward to hosting a cross-country event with other local schools.

Pippin class children continue on their learning journey, their current focus is Dinosaurs which is being thoroughly enjoyed by all!



Curriculum Information

On Monday, you will receive your child's new topic map which details the areas of the National Curriculum that each class will be covering this term. Our topic maps are in a different format to previous ones, but we hope that our new maps provide more detailed information regarding the knowledge, skills and vocabulary the children will be learning.

Royal Institute Maths Master class

This week, as part of the Royal Institute Maths Master classes, some of our talented Year 6 mathematicians explored Sikorsky Triangles at Lodgers Academy with children from across the Acorn MAT.



Celebration Service

Congratulations to Orchard Class Pupils who performed their focus song 'Happy' By Pharrell Williams in Celebration Service. It was great to see all pupils participate with eagerness and it was lovely to share more musical talent with you. It was also lovely for our youngest pupils to show some of their recent artwork linked to their theme of dinosaurs.

Music Lessons

As we mentioned last term, we will shortly be offering individual guitar lessons with Mr Charlie Mason alongside our current music tuition provision. We are currently confirming a weekly slot for lessons and will let you all know when this will be. Several parents contacted the office to indicate their interest in lessons – could you kindly contact the office to reconfirm your interest so that we can arrange sufficient slots. Mr Mason is able to offer lessons to all age groups, although the youngest children would start with a ukulele until they are big enough to be able to play a guitar.

Mrs Hovil, who teaches the cello, also has some lesson slots available.

I have been playing the cello since the age of 11 when I started in the orchestra at my secondary school. I have always loved the cello and have played ever since, and for a long time in France where I was part of the local Conservatoire de Musique. I have a PGCE and a lifetime of experience teaching. My lessons aim to be fun and progressive, playing individually and together with others as much as possible and performing whenever we can. Graded exams can be taken when it is right and can provide motivation to take steps forward. The cello is one of the most beautiful instruments to play and a great way to start enjoying music.

Cost of lessons: Payment for lessons is in advance for a term by cash or bank transfer. 30 min lessons are £15. There are usually 10 lessons a term. To book lessons, please leave your details at the school office, or get in touch with me directly on 07483 242974 or e-mail ihovil@hotmail.fr

School Council Healthy Bake Sale

The School Council have decided that they would like to raise money for animals and people affected by the Australian bushfires. They are going to hold a break-time bake sale on Friday 24th January, with anything left over being sold at the end of the school day. They have decided to hold a 'healthy' bake sale and to reduce the amount of sugar on offer. We would therefore be very grateful for any donations – a paper plate will be sent out next Thursday to remind everyone to bring donations and pennies (50p will be ample). All proceeds will go to bushfire emergency funds. Thank you! – Mrs Murray and the School Council.

Parent Governors

There are currently two vacancies for Parent Governors on the Governing Board. A letter and nomination form will be sent out alongside this newsletter. If you would like any further information on this, please contact the office who can direct you to further online resources or to one of our current governors, any of whom will be pleased to discuss the role with you.

Important Dates

Friday 17 th January	2.45pm Celebration Service
Monday 20 th January	PE event at Axminster Primary
Wednesday 22 nd January	Orchard Class swimming at the Flamingo Pool
Thursday 23 rd January	School Nursing Team Reception Measurement Checks
Friday 24 th January	School Council Healthy Bake Sale No Cello Lesson

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Kind Regards

Miss Smith