

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Autumn Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 2 Friday 19th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

In our worships this week, we explored how routines can help us to feel ready for the day. We thought about the difference that a calm morning can make compared to a rushed one. I then set the children the challenge of making mornings at home smoother by coming up with some new routines to help. I wonder if any new ideas have been suggested at home! To link with this, the children also reflected on the Creation story in the Bible and the order in which God made the world ready for life.

Today marked my final working day before maternity leave. I want to thank you all for your kind well wishes and support throughout this pregnancy – it has not been the easiest, but being able to come into school each day and work with such a wonderful team of staff, children and parents has truly helped me through it.

I currently plan to return in the final week of this academic year. I am very excited to see how much the children will have grown and achieved during this time.

As said in last week's newsletter, Mrs Sally Davies will be Acting Head during my leave. I feel very secure knowing the school is in her capable and experienced hands.

Jessica Evans
Head of School

Lateness Reminder

We are noticing that some children are arriving after the gate has closed at 8:45am. Please ensure your child arrives before this time, as arriving late means they are missing the same part of their learning each day. A smooth and punctual start makes a real difference to children feeling ready to learn.

Please like, comment and share on our social media posts to spread the word of our wonderful school!. Click below to be taken to them.



Thought of the week:

"If a child
can't learn
the way we teach,
maybe we
should
teach the
way they learn."

Our core value this term is:

Love and Compassion

*Our golden apple winner
this week is...*



The winning house this week:

English Oak

W/B 22/09/25 At a glance:

ASC = After School Club

Monday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

PE Lessons

Lego+Board games ASC: 3.15-4.30

Tuesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

Bikes+Trikes ASC: 3.15-4.30

Wednesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

PE Lessons

Sports Skills ASC: 3.15-4.30

Thursday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

Creative ASC: 3.15-4.30

Friday (forest clothes in bag)

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

Forest school sessions

Chromebooks ASC: 3.15-4.30



St. Mary's CE Primary Academy, Chard Street, Thorncombe, Somerset, TA20 4NE

Phone: [01460 30535](tel:0146030535) Email: office@stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk

Website: <https://www.stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk/>



Class News from this Week!

Little Acorns - Claire Stockford

This week, Little Acorns have been learning all about the season Autumn. We have been on so many wonderful autumnal walks around the school to collect items that represent Autumn. On our walks we found many colourful leaves and this sparked some wonderful conversations about why the leaves fall off the trees. Little Acorns have created some artwork using the leaves we collected. They also made some yummy looking jam tarts for our cooking sessions this week. The children enjoyed making these, from rolling out the dough and putting in very big spoonfuls of jam!

I just want to say how impressed I am of Little Acorns again this week, the way they have all settled back in and show such kindness towards each other is absolutely amazing!

Pippin Class - Miss Chestney

As a class we have been looking at The Colour Monster this week and exploring our emotions. We thought about how we can help ourselves when we feel tired, with ideas like quiet time in the reading area, colouring, or having a snack for energy.

Art was super fun this week. We created mosaic, abstract stained glass style pieces of artwork using maps we had created from previous lessons.

In Maths, Year 1/2 have been using number lines and comparing numbers with greater than / less than / equal to. They can keep practising this at home on Numbots to help secure their learning.

In English, we have been writing rainforest information posters and the children have EXCELLED. I am very proud of their writing journeys - see the photos on the next page for examples of their wonderful writing.

In RE, we explored Christianity, Islam and Judaism, and how people show they belong to their religion through special items such as crosses or caps.

Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

In Maths, Year 3 and 4 have been fabulous! They have tackled place value and number lines with fierce determination! I have been very proud! Year 5 and 6 have finished the week rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000 and 1 million!

In French, Year 3 and 4 have been learning different greetings for different times of the day and they combined this with famous French landmarks. Year 5 and 6 have been describing how many and what colour modes of transport.

Science was fun this week! Year 3 and 4 created a model of the digestive system, showing the journey of food from teeth and saliva, through the stomach and intestines, and right to the end! Year 5 and 6 learned all about veins, capillaries and arteries, discovering how each plays a vital role in the circulatory system. Some even bravely watched a heart dissection video to see the science in action!

Over the next week...

- Hear your child read at least 3 times each week. Please record this in their reading records/BoomReader. Parents - children are never too old to have a story read to them. They gain so much from this special time with you.
- Practise your multiplication and division facts using TTRS or other resources.

Year 1	2s, 5s, 10s
Year 2	2s, 5s, 10s
Year 3	3s, 4s, 8s
Year 4, 5 and 6	all multiplication tables up to 12x12

Children learn
4,000 to 12,000
words per year
through reading.

What a lovely week!



What a lovely week!

Rainforest Information Posters Year 2 & 3

Rainforests

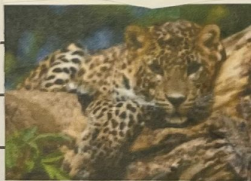
Rainforests are hot and wet full of trees. The Amazon is the biggest rainforest in the world. It rains every day in the rainforests.



The macaw is strong, fast and big.



The poison dart frog is blue and black.



The jaguar is a swimmer, dandy and spotty.



The capybara is brown, fast and muddy.

Rainforest

Rainforests have lots of trees and animals. Rainforests are hot and wet.



The capybara is brown and fast.



The jaguar is a good swimmer and it is spotty.

Rainforests

Rainforests can be temperate or tropical. In the rainforest it rains almost every day. More than half the world's animals and plants live in the rainforests.



This is a scarlet macaw. It's big, fast and strong. It has big claws

to grab on to branches.

This is a jaguar. It's speedy, big and spotty. It's the biggest cat.



This is a capybara. It's brown, big and muddy.



This is a poison dart frog. It's small, slimy and blue.



What a lovely week!



THORNGOMBE ST MARYS

PFA AGM

**WEDNESDAY 1ST OCT
2-3PM**

All welcome - will take place at school



Mental Health Support Services:

[Dorset Support](#)

[Somerset Support](#)

[Devon Support](#)

Safeguarding Information

Mrs Jessica Evans

Head of School

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss Merryn Chestney

EYFS Lead and Pippin Teacher

Deputy DSL



Our child protection policy can be found [here](#).