Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy

First Federation Trust

Living, Learning and Growing Together

Autumn Term 26-27 Newsletter Issue: 10 Friday 20th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 6 have been completing their Mock SATs this week, and we have been incredibly proud of the resilience, determination and motivation they have shown throughout. They have approached each paper with such a positive attitude, and it has been lovely to see them giving their very best. We are so proud of each and every child and all that they continue to achieve.

This week, we have also been recognising Road Safety Week. As a whole school, we came together to discuss the importance of road safety, sharing our thoughts, ideas and experiences. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear the children's contributions and to reflect on how we can all keep ourselves and others safe. Living in a rural village, we are fortunate to have opportunities to take our learning beyond the classroom and explore the local area. Developing an understanding of road safety is therefore a particularly important part of our curriculum, helping to equip our children with the knowledge and confidence to stay safe in the community.

Finally, it has been Parents' Evening week. Thank you so much to all of our parents and carers who took the time to attend. These meetings are such a valuable opportunity for teachers and parents to come together, celebrate each child's individual strengths and achievements, and discuss their progress and next steps.

Mrs Jessica Evans
Head of School

Our core value this term is:

Thankfulness

Our golden apple winners for this week.

A child in YR1

(Mrs Wheaton has emailed parents!)



The winning house this week:

Copper Beech

W/B .16.2026

Monday
R/1/2 PE
Y3,4,5 Autumn Assessments this week

Tuesday
Forest School
R/1/2/3 PE
Year 6 Measurements

Wednesday
Music Lessons
Home Learning club
4/5/6 PE

Thursday
Orchard Home Learning due

Friday
YR Library Books
Odd socks day!

Daily Breakfast Club | 8-8:30am
A relaxed start to the day with breakfast and play.

Daily After School Club | 3:15-4:30pm
Child-led play and activities based on children's interests.

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.

"Little steps, big dreams."

Every child is growing, every parent is trying, and every day is a new chance to shine.

St. Mary's CE Primary Academy, Chard Street, Thorncombe, Somerset, TA20 4NE
Phone: 01460 30535 Email: office@stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk
Website: https://www.stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk/

Class News from this Week!

Little Acorns - Claire

This week Little Acorns have thoroughly enjoyed our story of the week 'Jack and the beanstalk' and have engaged in exciting activities based around the story. The children have created some beautiful beanstalk art work and have loved retelling the story through roleplay and using props to bring the story to life. For our gross motor sessions the children have been learning to copy and create movements. They have enjoyed stretching up high and tall like a beanstalk then curling up small like a bean. We have also had lots of fun copying different yoga poses, supporting their balance and coordination. It has been a wonderful week. Have a lovely weekend!

Pippin Class - Mrs Wheaton

This week in maths was all about 2D shapes! We counted sides and vertices and used rulers to draw shapes with straight sides.

In DT, years 1 and 2 practised preparing fruit safely and hygienically, using a fork to hold it steady as they cut. Year 2 had the extra challenge of cutting equal sized pieces. We tasted the fruit and tried freshly squeezed orange and lemon juice! 🍊🍋

In English, years 1, 2 and 3 each wrote a letter to Santa for their independent writing assessment. The letters will go in our Writing Through the Years books. Some of us looked back at earlier work and saw just how far our writing has come! ✍️

Parents evening was brilliant - I'd like to say a personal thank you to all of you for being so engaged and helping your child. It truly is a wonderful class and it's great to see how well each child has settled into school this year.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Wheaton

Orchard Class - Miss Taylor & Mrs Balcer

The children have been busy writing their newspaper reports, about the discover of Tutankhamun's tomb, in English this week. They have been fantastic with their imagination and it is lovely to see them engaged in the topic!

In Art, Orchard class began designing their papyrus scrolls, the children looked at the traditional Ancient Egyptian colours, patterns and symbols to inspire their design. They used their History lesson, all about life in Ancient Egypt, to help them plan their theme.

Year 6 had their Autumn assessments this week and they all were fabulous! Whilst year 6 were being fabulous, year 3 and 4 were learning about inverse operations in Maths. I was so impressed with how clearly they understood it! Year 5 were confidently tackling adding fractions and mixed numbers.

In RE this week we looked again at the Creation story and discussed how this might influence Christians to look after the world, the children thought Christians would want to look after animals and plants, not drop litter or cause pollution.

Have a great weekend!

Over the next week...

- Hear your child read at least 3 times each week. Please record this in their reading records. 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!







Year 3 and 4 were investigating magnets and working out which metals were magnetic in Science this week!

The Ancient Egyptian inspired papyrus is looking great!





What a lovely week!

Jack and the Beanstalk





Safeguarding Information

Mrs Jessica Evans
Head of School
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Merryn Wheaton
Senior Teacher
Deputy DSL



Our child protection policy can be found here.