

December 2022



St. Mary's CofE Primary School

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OUR VISION:

'Working together, growing together, for all to flourish.'



Rights Respecting Focus -
ARTICLE 29 - Every child has the right to an education which develops their personality, talents and abilities to the full.

As we approach the end of term I just wanted to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. We've had a busy first term and the children have all done an amazing job. A special well done to all of our new starters too. They have all settled in really well this term and that has been really lovely to see.



Upcoming Events

December 16

Last day of term.

January 3

Start of the Spring Term

Before and After School Club

For anyone who needs to continue to use the before and after school clubs, please make sure that you book **in advance**.

For urgent bookings within 7 days, please continue to phone the office and confirm that we have space available before paying on ParentPay and completing a booking form.

REMEMBER - Friday afternoon bookings are no longer be available. Thank you

Rosen Class

This week we welcome back Miss Lee to school following her maternity leave. We're all looking forward to seeing her back in school. That also means that we need to say a huge thank you to Mrs. Howlett who replaced Miss Lee in Rosen Class during this period. Mrs Howlett has done an amazing job working with the new children and making sure that they have a really lovely start to their school journey. I am sure that the children will miss her although they will still see her every week and she continues to work in school.

Christmas Event

Thank you for coming along to our Christmas Event last week if you were able to make it. It was so good to see the school hall buzzing with excitement and we hope you enjoyed taking part. We certainly did! We managed to raise well over £600 for school funds.

Christmas Performance



What an amazing performance of 'It's A Miracle', by all of the children. After a couple of years when it hasn't been possible to produce a Christmas Nativity, it's been lovely to see this all happening again in school.

The children have clearly loved the show and have worked hard to learn lines and songs, and the staff have worked amazingly hard in putting it all together. It's really amazing how this whole thing comes together so quickly.

A huge thank you to you for all of your support whether this has been with providing costumes or helping to learn lines for the play. We hope that you have enjoyed seeing the show as much as we have performing it for you.

Reverse Advent Calendar



A huge thank you to everyone for your contributions to our Reverse Advent Calendar this year. We have collected a lot of food which we will deliver to a local food bank.

The final day for contributions is Thursday 15th December.

Parent Questionnaire

As you know, we value your views and opinions about aspects of school life at St Mary's. Parent evenings are a good way for you to talk to us about the progress your child is making in class, but to help us make further improvements, we would be very grateful if you would take time to complete this online google questionnaire.

We aim to use this information to give us an overall view of how you as parents and carers feel that things are going, as well as highlighting any areas that you feel may have been missed.

Please can I ask that if you mark disagree or strongly disagree, that you let us know who your child is so that we can address the issue and try to solve it. Questionnaires will be confidential and it is myself, together with the middle leader team who will get in touch with you, if you raise a concern.

Please complete the questionnaire using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/ZJanb3dTxDjui4ey6>

Uniform

School jumpers and cardigans – just to remind you that we have been very successful in selling our stock of pre-loved school jumpers and cardigans, all with the school logo on, but the stock is running out. We are happy to continue to offer these donated jumpers for £1 each, which is excellent value. If you would like to purchase one of these items, please let us know including the size you would like. We cannot guarantee that we have every size available but we will do our best.

Forest School – January 2023

The Forest School provision will continue in January and we will start again in week 1. See the table below for the rota for the coming half term.

Date	Classes
Wednesday 4 th January	Rosen and Potter
Wednesday 11 th January	Dahl and Morpurgo
Wednesday 18 th January	Rosen and Potter
Wednesday 25 th January	Dahl and Morpurgo
Wednesday 1 st February	Rosen and Potter
Wednesday 8 th February	Dahl and Morpurgo

Application for Primary School Places:



Applications for places opened on 15th November, for admission into Primary School in September 2023 and you can apply online at

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

You can apply for a place if your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019.

Applications must be in by 15th January 2023 or they will be considered as late and you may not get a place for your child in a school of your choice. Please make sure you apply for 3 schools of your choice. If you only

apply for one school and do not get a place, your child will be placed in a school where there is a space, which may not be a school you would choose.

Achieve4All Sports Clubs – January 2023

Achieve4All after school clubs for the Spring Term (1st Half) are currently on the booking system and ready for booking. See the details below:

Wednesday	3.15-4.15pm	KS1	Gymnastics and playground games	- Starts 4 th Jan 2023
Thursday	3.15-4.15pm	KS2	Football club	- Starts 5 th Jan 2023

You can book these sessions by going to www.achieve4all.co.uk, scrolling down and clicking on BOOK NOW and then you can either sign in or, if new, a one-time registration.

Diary Dates

Here is a reminder of upcoming dates for the diary...

Tuesday 3 rd January	Spring Term begins
Wednesday 4 th January	Forest School – Rosen and Potter Classes
Wednesday 11 th January	Forest School – Dahl and Morpurgo Classes

And finally ... THANKYOU

I just want to say a huge thank you to all of the St. Mary's staff. They work incredibly hard for every child in school and for each other, and I couldn't do this job without their constant drive, good humour and support.



Thank you for your continued support.

Adrian Clements

Head of School