



St Mary's News

C.E. Middle School, Puddletown

MERRY CHRISTMAS ST MARY'S

18th December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

A fabulous, action-packed Autumn Term comes to a close and, as ever at St Mary's, what a great time we have all enjoyed!

Back in September, Year 8 explored the Jurassic Coast on a sunny geography trip to Swanage and Durlston Head, studying coastal erosion and sea defences before enjoying a thrilling speedboat ride to Old Harry Rocks. Year 5 visited St Mary's Church to learn about its history and significance, while our musicians shone at a jazz improvisation workshop at Bryanston School. We also celebrated harvest festival with generous donations to Dorchester's food bank—thank you to all our families for their support! Year 6 enjoyed an action-packed four-day stay at New Barn Field Centre, taking part in activities from clay work and orienteering to Viking crafts and meeting animals. Our school marked Armistice Day with a heartfelt remembrance service and poppy wreaths. November also brought a sweet scent as Lush visited to teach the science behind cosmetics, with students making their own bath bombs. And, throughout the term, St Mary's has welcomed prospective new families at to our wonderful school at our Open Evening and open mornings. All this is made possible by our terrific team of the most caring, dedicated staff imaginable.

Today, as a fitting antidote to the busyness of school life, we enjoyed the opportunity to reflect on the true meanings of the season as we all headed down to our church, St Mary's Puddletown, to join the Reverend Sarah for our annual Christmas carol service.

As sometimes is the case at the end of a term, we end up saying goodbye and good luck to staff who are leaving us for pastures new. This Christmas we say goodbye to Mr Stow who has been a cherished member of our Year 6 team since 2020. It is fair to say that Mr Stow LOVES maths, and he has done the most fabulous job of sharing his love for numbers across the school! As well as teaching and supporting countless children and families during his time at St Mary's, Mr Stow has been the driving force behind implementing our new mastery approach to maths in Years 5 and 6 which has helped so many children thrive in the subject. We are very grateful to Mr Stow for everything he has brought to the school and we wish him the very best of luck for the future.

As always, on behalf of everyone at St Mary's, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and community for their continued and valued support during 2025. We wish you all a peaceful and relaxing Christmas with your families and we look forward to the beginning of an exciting new term in January. *Dr T Ennion*

Check out the winners of the Tutor Group Christmas Tree Competition!

- 1st Place**—The Bridge—Spruce Springsteen
- 2nd Place**—7OD with a Gonk tree
- 3rd Place**—8SE - Merry Squidmas

Well done all!



Aspiration, Fairness, Kindness



Huge well done to **YEW** house for
winning overall this term



Well done to all of our St Mary's students for a great Autumn term

Citizenship Awards

Evelyn H 5A	Minnie S 5YM	Jacob H 5M	Sarah R 5W
Poppy W 6DW	George E 6ST	Nola W 6SQ	Jack S 6CW
Hebe H 7BE	Mollie Ritson 7C	Jack Dennison 7OD	Erin B 7R
Ben B 8TF	Robbie A 8M	Arlo E 8SE	Seren B 8H

Progress –Whole School

Harrison S 5W	Thali S 6CW
Katie O 7R	Evan C 8M



Year 5 Core Subject Awards

English Progress	Winter H-H 5YM	English Attainment	Jess L 5A
Maths Progress	Wilder D 5M	Maths Attainment	Stanley L 5YM
Science Progress	Rudy C-M 5W	Science Attainment	Albie R-T 5A

Year 6 Core Subject Awards

English Progress	Matilda D 6D	English Attainment	Eleanor W 6SQ
Maths Progress	Grace K 6SQ	Maths Attainment	Harry M 6CW
Science Progress	Ebonie N 6CW	Science Attainment	Myles E-D 6D

Year 7 Core Subject Awards

English Progress	Georgie R-S 7	English Attainment	Mollie R 7C
Maths Progress	Jenson C-B 7OD	Maths Attainment	Jack D 7OD
Science Progress	Bailey H 7BE	Science Attainment	Alice C 7BE

Year 8 Core Subject Awards

English Progress	Cameron P 8SE	English Attainment	Ethan P 8M
Maths Progress	Cameron P 8SE	Maths Attainment	Eric I 8SE
Science Progress	Oliver B 8TF	Science Attainment	Amelia G 8TF

Congratulations to you all!

Accelerated Reader awards

Autumn Term

Most Words Read			
Year 5 Digby E-R 5A 1,237,082	Year 6 Harry C 6S 1,173,874	Year 7 Lyra K 7OD 1,139,781	Year 8 Evan C 8M 5,689,522

Millionaire's Club—Autumn 2025

Digby E-R	5A	1,237,082
Harry C	6S	1,173,874
Lyra K	7OD	1,139,781
Willow N	7OD	1,120,898
Evan C	8M	5,689,522
Oscar C	8M	1,075,773

Tutor group leaderboard for words read collectively

7OD 10,123,632	5W 2,128,526
8M 9,927,804	8TF 2,095,221
6CW 3,647,684	6S 1,990,253
6D 3,569,057	7C 1,758,125
8H 3,142,72	5YM 1,461,574
8SE 2,594,849	5M 1,203,554
7R 2,226,409	6SQ 1,111,343
5A 2,188,801	7BE 1,032,217

House Winners for super Attendance since September

KS2 95.8% Oak

KS3 94.6% Ash

Overall Winning House

Yew 94.7%

Well done to you all!

Music @ St Mary's

Dorchester Young Musicians Many pianists and instrumentalists from St Mary's Middle School entered the Dorchester Young Musician Festival. They were given the opportunity to perform and receive positive professional feedback from experienced adjudicators **Duncan Honeybourne** (piano), **Clare Jackson** (woodwind, strings), and **Philip Pooley** (brass, voice).

Poole Lighthouse 30 members of St Mary's choir were privileged to take part in a fantastic concert at the Lighthouse in Poole, on November 30, 2025. They performed Vivaldi's Gloria alongside singers from the Bournemouth Symphony Youth Choir and Wessex Schools. The performance was organized by the Poole Society for Young Musicians. The event also featured performances by a symphony orchestra and big band comprised of young musicians. It was also wonderful to see so many of our ex-pupils singing in the Thomas Hardy Choir and orchestras.

Bryanston Wind and Brass Jazz Improvisation Workshop The Music department had the honour of visiting Bryanston school who hosted one of the world's most accomplished musicians, Barnaby Dickinson, on Thursday 9 October for a Wind and Brass Jazz Improvisation Workshop.

Renowned as a composer, arranger, educator, and performer, Barnaby's illustrious career includes working alongside the likes of Elton John, Sting, and Robbie Williams, and sharing his knowledge as a professor at the likes of The Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music.

Barnaby led two exceptional workshops focused on improvisation—one for the Bryanston pupils and another for pupils from local prep schools and St Mary's Middle School. His sessions were not only musically enriching but deeply inspiring, with pupils and staff alike privileged to take part.

Wessex Music Concert Year 5 & 6's pupils from St Mary's Middle School learning an instrument on the Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme (TOPs) joined collaboratively with the other middle schools at THS to perform Razza Sazza on Wednesday 3rd December. It was an amazing performing experience for them and also allowed them the opportunity to watch more advanced players from our school performing in Stringalings and Bandemonium. Well done to our singers who were in fine voice performing for the Middle School Choir.

Christmas Carol Competition The whole school have taken part in the Christmas Carol Competition developing skills in melody and harmony, storytelling through lyrics, rhythm, and technical knowledge of song structure. Not only do they learn the fundamental skills of song writing but the importance of teamwork and communication. Well done to all who took part.

Over 70's Christmas Lunch Members of our school choir had the pleasure of singing for the over 70's Christmas lunch on Wednesday 10th December. The choir sang Hooray in a Manger followed by some traditional carols with the audience.



St Mary's Christingle Service On Sunday 14th December, some pupils for St Mary's School choir sang for The Christingle service. Mollie opened the service angelically singing the first verse of Once in Royal David's City. Oliver, Noah and Lewis took the lead for We Three Kings and Olivia, Isabelle and Mollie, captured a moment of true reflection with a beautiful rendition of I wonder as I wonder accompanied by the Harp. All singers came together to perform Hooray in a Manger with the first verse lead by Oliva.



Xmas Carol Competition

KS2

Year 5

5M – Harriet, Thomas, Freddie DB, Jacob and Issac

Florence and Lorena
Harry and Rory

5A – Oliver

5Y – Florence and Millie
*Hazel, Hadley & Tom
Owen, Devon & Freddie.*

Year 6

6SQ - Isabelle, Nola, Alice and Hatty,
*Reserve - Bertie's group
Phoebe and Eleanor*

6W - Eloise, Ebonie and Libby (Fleur & Imelda)
Isabella, Amelie, Austin, Gethin and Rosie

6ST - Summer, Zoe, Elouise and Aayliah,
Charlie, Benji, Abe, Lewis and Edward H,

6D – Clara and Mabel
Noah, Lewis and George B



KS3

Year 7

7C - Joseph, Mollie, Amy, Kayla and Alfie
Ben and Noah

7B - Giyan, Mackenzie, Finley and Alfie
Georgie and Georgia
*Reserve – Harry and Lewis
Alice, Spencer etc*

7R - Marley, Mabli, Erin and Ella

7OD – William, Charlie and Jenson
Rosie, Holliday, Archie, Piper

Year 8

8M – Honey and Jessica
Matthew, Ethan, Sam, Adam and Tom

8H – Max, George, Harry D and Finley
Gwen and Alina

8TF – Tom, Ben and Morgan
Charlotte Brooke, Phoebe and Esme

8SE - Esme, Maia, Phoenix, Daisy, and Freya
Joey, Samuel, Mikolaj, Henry and Thomas





St Mary's
CE Middle School Puddletown

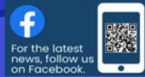


OPEN MORNING

Thursday 8th January 2026
9.30am - 11.00am

We invite all parents of Year 4 children to join us for our school Open Mornings and Open Evening where you will have the opportunity to meet our staff, tour the St Mary's site and find out what it is like to be a part of our wonderful school.

To confirm attendance, please email office@stmarys.wessex.ac - we look forward to welcoming you.



The pupils who have done exceptionally well...



Year 5

Hazel H – M 5YM
Albie R-T 5YM

Year 6

Clara D – 6D
Eloise C – 6CW

Year 7

Nayte C – 7R
Fran M – 7OD

Year 8

Ethan P – 8M
Brooke H – 8TF



Reminder... The new Local Food Links Spring 2026 Menu is now live, please do not forget to order your child's lunches ahead of returning to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026. (Menu attached).



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE DRAW 2025

A HUGE thank you to everyone that kindly donated gifts to the Christmas Raffle

St Mary's, thank you for supporting the School Association in purchasing tickets!

A whopping amount of over £1,000 has been raised, very grateful!





If any further information is required, please visit our website at www.stmarys.wessex.ac