



ST MARY'S CE PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER



Newsletter 6 - Friday 18th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we have arrived at the end of the Autumn Term. What a lot we have packed into the term.

From all the staff at St Mary's, I would like to pass on our enormous thanks for all the Christmas wishes we have received from you all. You have been incredibly kind and generous and we are very appreciative.

Staffing update

As you are aware we are saying a sad farewell this term to Miss Haynes in Year 1, Mr Byrne in Year 4 and teaching assistant Helen Farmer. I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their dedication to supporting our children and wish them every success in their next adventures. I know they will be greatly missed. In January we will be welcoming Mrs Norton in Yr 1 and Miss Begum in Year 4. Both new teachers have been getting to know the children and school this month and are very much looking forward to joining our team.

Christmas message of Joy

Our worship theme during December was **Joy**. I am sure you will agree with me that one of the most special moments in school life is seeing children sing and perform and this week was a superb example of our hearts being filled with Joy as children shared the Christmas message. Our incredible Reception children launched the festive week sharing the Nativity story with wonderful confidence and sparkle. The students of Years 1 and 2 delivered a brilliant performance of the Christmas story. To conclude, our Key Stage 2 classes filled the church with beautiful, spirit-lifting singing. Well done everyone!

We have ended the week with a wonderful Christmas lunch (Thank you Ange!), fun in our Christmas jumpers and a celebration of our achievements for the term. I would like to take this final opportunity to thank you for all your support this term and wish you all a Christmas filled with love and joy.

Katharine Anstey

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Attendance

Everyday, Every lesson

This week our attendance is...

Reception - 92.9%

Year 1 - 92.8%

Year 2 - 95.1%

Year 3 - 95.1%

Year 4 - 91.1%

Year 5 - 95.8%

Year 6 - 96.6%

Whole School - 94.2%

Thank you for working with us to ensure that your child attends school every day.



Safeguarding

Our safeguarding team is Mrs Anstey, Mrs Samuel, Ms Barnett and Mrs Gerrard.

We work closely with families and professionals providing support when it may be needed. If you have concerns around the welfare of a child, you can also call Family Support and Advice Line on 01305 228558



Key Dates for this term

Monday 5th January 2026 - Staff Training Day No children in school
Except Yr 4 invited to Meet Miss Begum at 2.45-3.15pm

Tuesday 6th January 2026 - First day of term of Spring Term for children

Friday 13th February End of Spring 1

Monday 16th-20th February Half Term - No children in school

Monday 23rd February 2026 - Staff Training Day No children in school

Tuesday 23rd February 2026 - Children return to school

Friday 27th March 2026 End of Term 3.15pm Finish

Flourish Christmas Labyrinth

Tuesday 9th December

An enormous **Thank You Rev John Rees, Becky and Mr Gawen** who have worked with our wonderful **star club** children in Year 4,5 and 6 to lead KS2 children through the Christmas story in school and then in St Mary's Church. The immersive experience gave the children a chance to think, wonder and reflect on the Christian Christmas story. Reception, Year 1 and 2 read with Mrs Anstey 'The Grumpy Owl and the joy of Christmas' and reflected on what brings them Joy.

PTA Christmas Fayre raised £1133.27



'What a fabulous turn out we had for our 2025 Christmas Fayre! It was so lovely to see everybody having fun and a big well done to all our raffle winners for this year. Whether it was winning on the raffle or tombola, splatting an elf or catching a floating star, having your face painted or buying a gift in the secrets room, we hope you all enjoyed yourselves as much as we did. The PTA are very grateful for your donations and all the help we receive from teachers and parents alike, we are always looking for parent volunteers for our events so please do have a chat with one of us if it's something you'd like to do.'

Could your child be eligible for free school meals?

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll also qualify for the Holiday Activity and Food Programme. Food vouchers may also be available through the Household Support Fund.

Click [here](#) to complete a simple check to find out more.

CHRISTMAS SEN Activities



SEN Soft Play

Numbers are limited
SOFT PLAY BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Fridays 19th December & 2nd January
2pm to 3.30pm

Gymnastics beams, mats and foam shapes,
diddy cars, toys, soft play and bouncy castle.

Ages 0 - 16 years (adult supervision req)
£5.50 per child (squash and biscuits)

Dorset Max Card or DLA Award
to be shown on arrival.



SEN Pool Fun

Tuesdays 23rd & 30th December
2.15pm to 3.15pm

Floats, mats, woggles and toys fill
both pools, in this session for all the family

Pool Fun
and Swim Sessions
FREE to Bridport Swim
School members.
Plus all pool sessions
throughout the
holidays!

SEN Low Sensory Swim

Every Sunday 2pm to 3pm

Sensory-Friendly Sessions with reduced lighting
(when possible) and no music. Fun floats and water
toys provided to keep the session fun and engaging.

£6 adults, £4.75 young person (16-20 yrs)
£4 juniors, 3 and unders FREE

Parents/Carers can swim for a £1 upon production
of a valid Dorset or Devon Carers Card.

The pre-booking of the pool sessions is not required.



Bridport Leisure Centre
Brewery Fields, Bridport, Dorset DT6 5LN

Tel: (01308) 427464
www.bridportleisure.com

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY POOL FUN SESSIONS

at Bridport Leisure Centre



BIG SPLASH FAMILY FUN

Floats, mats, woggles and toys fill
both pools in these sessions for all the family

Monday to Friday

Friday 19th December 2025

to Monday 5th January 2026

(Excluding Thursday 25th & Friday 26th December
and Thursday 1st January)

1pm to 2pm

Saturdays & Sundays

12.30pm to 1.30pm

No need to pre-book, just turn up and splash. Spaces are limited, so be sure to turn up early

Bridport Leisure Centre

Tel: (01308) 427464 * www.bridportleisure.com



TRADITIONAL SANTA'S GOT TO GO

with entertainment and activities from
Pickle Bottom the Elf!

EVERY THURSDAY - SUNDAY
THROUGHOUT DECEMBER

SEN SANTA WED 17TH

£15
PER CHILD

£10
UNDER 2'S

BOOK ONLINE

GROVESNURSERIES.CO.UK/WEBSHOP/EVENTS

Christmas Holiday DAY CAMPS

Multi Activity Camps
at Bridport Leisure Centre

Fun and exciting camps for children aged 5 to 12 years, with a variety of sporting
activities that will encourage, engage and get children working together as a team.

Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd,
Monday 29th, Tuesday 30th December,
Friday 2nd & Monday 5th January
8.30am to 5.30pm

Day Camps include a Hot Meal

plus
Fresh fruit
kindly donated by
Washingpool Farm



£32.50
per child
per day



Call us on
(01308) 427464
to book

There are a limited number of fully funded spaces available for those eligible and in receipt of
benefit-related free school meals in the Dorset Council Area.

Winter in Dorset passcode must be provided when
booking funded space. For your passcode sign up at:
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/winter-in-dorset



Remember to bring snacks and plenty of drinks. Please wear trainers & dress for the weather.
7-day cancellation policy.

Bridport Leisure Centre, Brewery Fields, Bridport, Dorset DT6 5LN
Tel: (01308) 427464 www.bridportleisure.com

STARTING SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2026



IS YOUR 3 OR 4 YEAR OLD STARTING
SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026?

Welcome to St Mary's CE Primary
School Bridport!

Find out more about our school by
visiting our Website;
stmarybridport.co.uk

Please enquire if you are interested in a
School Tour.



*Building a caring community, where
all can learn and shine!*

Enquire now by contacting the School Office :
01308 423065 / office@stmaryscephprimary.org

