



ST MARY'S CE PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER



Newsletter 11 - March 6th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term and although there are only 5 weeks in this term there is a lot happening! The sunshine has made a very welcome return, the grass field is drying off and our woodland areas are a lot less muddy!

Yesterday the school was absolutely buzzing as we celebrated World Book day. Thank you to everyone for your incredible efforts, the children and staff looked absolutely fantastic and it was a wonderful day showing a real love of books. Thank you to **Bridport Library** for coming in to visit us and inspiring us all with what is on offer in our amazing local library. Reception enjoyed a drama workshop with '**Stuff and nonsense Theatre Group**' providing ideas that will be incorporated into a show that will be performed later this year. They will be back next term to work with Year 1 and gain more inspiring ideas from our creative St Mary's children.

Congratulations to yr 4! Last week children from Year 4 attended a **Dance Festival** for local schools. The children worked hard on a piece to perform linked to their Egyptians topic and were absolutely delighted to achieve 3rd place. The event was a really fun opportunity to watch dance performances, participate and join in with a disco too! An enormous thank you to Ms Begum and staff who took the children and worked hard on making the performance such a success.

Our **Edible Garden Community** came to talk to the children in KS2 this week, about the plans for the garden over the coming months. Some children will be working with the edible garden team to develop the area as we are now moving into the growing season. We also have some children at lunch time developing our woodland area for **Forest School** with Robbie the Forest School leader. **Star Club** have been working with Mr Gawen and Rev John as we approach Easter with an exciting film themed Labyrinth event on the last day of term. Lastly, our year 6 **Junior Leadership Team** have been making plans with me for some exciting ways to make our playtime even better for the summer term. More to come!

Next week is **British Science week** and the theme is 'Curiosity: what's your question?'. All classes will have science lessons that focus on this theme, using the resources available which are bursting with fun, hands-on ideas to spark curiosity and inspire young minds to explore the world around them. I can't wait to hear more about it!

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend,

Katharine Anstey

BUILDING A CARING COMMUNITY WHERE ALL CAN LEARN AND SHINE

THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Attendance

Everyday, Every lesson

This week our attendance is...

Reception - 96.33%

Year 1 - 95.2%

Year 2 - 98.66%

Year 3 - 98.57%

Year 4 - 96.54%

Year 5 - 94.14%

Year 6 - 89.74%

Whole School - 95.76%



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

Friday 20th March 2026 - St Mary's has got talent! More details to follow

Tuesday 24th March 2026 - Easter service in St Mary's Church - whole school & parents welcome

Friday 27th March - Easter Labyrinth Event in School - Children only

Friday 27th March 2026 - End of Term 3.15pm Finish

Monday 13th April 2026 - Staff Training Day - No Children in school

Thursday 16th April 2026 - Year 4 Theatre Workshop

Tuesday 21st April 2026 -KS1 Multiskills Festival at Colfox

Friday 24th April 2026 - NHS Reception Measurements

Thursday 21st May - School Disco TBC

Friday 22nd May 2026 - School finishes for Half Term

Monday 1st June 2026 - Children return to school



This week at St Mary's... with World book Day

Reception worked with the Stuff and Nonsense theatre Group exploring the theme 'Things that you lose and trying to find them'.

The leaders left saying "What a lovely class, they are all so kind!" and what a great class teacher they have. What amazing feedback!

Year 1 played games and had a quiz to guess the characters from well known stories. They really enjoyed the day.

Year 2 joined a live lesson with Robert Starling author of 'Super Sloth'. They took part in a draw along of a sloth from the story and listened to where he gets his inspiration and why he loves being an author. What an opportunity to inspire us to be authors!

Year 3 shared their favourite authors and books and created fortune teller games. They are very proud of their work!

Year 4 continue to love their Ancient Egyptians topic and have made Ancient Egyptian masks this week which are absolutely fantastic.

Year 5 used their folding skills to make origami book covers .

Year 6 had a quiz where they had to guess the title of the book from silhouettes of the character and themes from stories.

Attendance

Congratulations Yr 2 and yr 3 on having the best attendance in the school this week. 98%! Amazing!





Exciting Opportunity to Join Our PTA Team!

Time is flying this year, and as we look ahead to the next academic chapter, we're excited to invite some new faces to become part of our fantastic PTA team.

Our current Chair, Treasurer and Secretary will soon be handing over their roles as their children move on from the school. This means we have a wonderful opportunity for a new group of enthusiastic volunteers to step in and continue the amazing work the PTA does. The PTA is a friendly, supportive team that works together to organise much-loved events such as school discos, Christmas and Summer fayres, and other fun activities throughout the year. It's a brilliant way to meet other parents, be part of school life, and make a real difference to the children's experience – all while raising valuable funds for the school.

While the roles do require commitment and teamwork, no one does it alone. The PTA works collaboratively, sharing ideas and responsibilities to make events enjoyable and successful. To make things even easier, our current committee will provide a warm and thorough handover over the next academic year, ensuring new volunteers feel fully supported and confident in how everything runs.

If you've ever thought about getting more involved, this is a perfect time to join a welcoming, energetic team and help shape the future of our PTA.

If you would like to find out more or have an informal chat, please contact Amy Turner (Chair) or Hannah Cort (Vice Chair). We'd love to hear from you!

Together, we can keep the fun going and continue making a positive impact for our school community.



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.

Staff Training Update

On Monday 23rd February teachers from St Mary's, Burton Bradstock and Bridport Primary School met for Maths Curriculum training. This was an excellent session led by our Maths leads on developing effective strategies to model new learning to children. As Initio learning trust schools, it was a fantastic opportunity to collaborate together and develop our teaching practice.

We have our final training day of this year on Monday 13th April. All St Mary's staff will be participating in neuro diversity training led by our school link Educational psychologist and specialist teacher. This training is provided to all staff as part of our agreement with the local authority to have a special resource base Hub.

**St. Mary's school Bridport Edible Garden
Join our Growing Community!**

**Follow us on Facebook:
St. Mary's school Bridport Edible Garden
Volunteer with Us
Even just an hour a week makes a difference!**

- **Enjoy light gardening tasks**
- **Support our kids' garden groups**
- **Be part of a friendly, green community**
- **Learn new gardening skills**

**Interested?
Contact us today!
sarahawilberforce@gmail.com
We'd love to hear from you.**



Family film club

2ND SATURDAY EACH MONTH
10TH JANUARY
14TH FEBRUARY
14TH MARCH
11TH APRIL

£1 a family for popcorn and drinks

BEACON CHURCH
DOORS OPEN 9.40AM | PRIORY LANE
FILM STARTS AT 10AM | DT6 3RW

Please email seb@beaconchurchbridport.co.uk
for film details

FREE TRIAL Dance Classes with Bridport Youth Dance March 10th and 17th

Cost: Free

Tuesdays
Contemporary dance
4.15pm-5pm
for ages 8-11
5-6pm
for ages 12-15
6-7.15pm
Advanced contemporary
for ages 14-19

To enrol please contact Nikki Northover
at nikkinorthover43@gmail.com

Steps studio,
Crepe Farm Business Park
Symondsburry
DT6 6EX



www.bridportyouthdance.org.uk

Photograph by Len Copland



SWIMMING CLUB

We are a competitive swimming club offering swimming lessons and competitive swimming opportunities to Bridport and the surrounding areas.

We are a volunteer based club striving to provide young athletes the opportunity to develop their swimming ability and gain the opportunity to compete in the sport of swimming

- Fun, engaging lessons & coaching
- opportunities to compete
- welcoming team of swimmers & coaches

CONTACT DETAILS

EMAIL: membership@swimbarracudas.o.uk

WEBSITE: <https://uk.gomotionapp.com/team/swrddb/page/home>



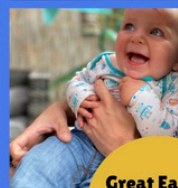
VISIT US

WELCOME THE MAKER: CREATIVE WORKSHOPS

PARENT & CHILD SPRING WREATH WORKSHOPS

Ideal early
Mother's Day
gift!

LEARN TO WEAVE A WILLOW
WREATH FRAME & DECORATE WITH
SEASONAL FOLIAGE & EASTER
DECORATIONS.



Great Easter
holiday
activity!

TO BOOK A SLOT CONTACT:

WELCOMETHEMAKER@GMAIL.COM
07948 419 899

SESSIONS

MUM & BABY SESSION

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH
9:30 - 11:30AM

A CHANCE FOR MAMAS TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW, HAVE FUN & MAKE A GORGEOUS SPRING WREATH IN A BABY FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT. BABY SENSORY TOYS WILL BE PROVIDED SO LITTLE ONES CAN ALSO EXPLORE AND HAVE FUN.

£32 FOR 2 HOUR WORKSHOP

LOCATION:
BRIDPORT UNITED CHURCH HALL, EAST STREET, DT6 3LJ

PARENT & CHILD SESSION
(RECOMMENDED AGE 5+ YEARS)

TUESDAY 31ST MARCH
10:30 - 11:30AM

WORK TOGETHER TO WEAVE A WILLOW FRAME, DECORATE WITH SEASONAL FOLIAGE AND PAINT SOME SPECIAL EASTER DECORATIONS TO ADORN YOUR WREATH.

1 HOUR WORKSHOP

£16 - TICKET INCLUDES SPACE FOR ONE PARENT & ONE CHILD

LOCATION: ST MARY'S CHURCH HOUSE HALL, SOUTH STREET, BRIDPORT, DT6 3NN

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING RECEPTION IN SEPTEMBER 2027?

SCHOOL READINESS INFORMATION EVENT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

TUESDAY 17th MARCH
2.30pm - 4.00pm

VENUE: Bridport Children's Centre

As you prepare for your child's transition into reception year at school, you are warmly invited to a school readiness event hosted by Burton Bradstock, Bridport Primary and St Mary's who are working in partnership to support all our families as you prepare for your child's transition into school in September 2026.

This informal event is open to all families - no matter which school you plan to apply for.

These Early Years professionals will be available to offer practical advice, answer questions and share ideas to help your child feel confident and ready for school.
We look forward to welcoming you.



THE ULTIMATE K-POP EXPERIENCE

SCAN FOR TICKETS

K-팝 슈퍼스타들

K-POP SUPERSTARS

PERFORMING NON-STOP HITS FROM:
K-POP DEMON HUNTERS | BTS | ROSE
NEWJEANS | BLACKPINK | HUNTRIX

PLUS GUEST SUPPORT:
DJ JUDE KINZETT

LIVE VISUALS FROM VJ ULTRA

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL

BRIDPORT ELECTRIC PALACE

DOORS: 2.30PM - (EASTER HOLIDAYS MATINEE SHOW!)

ALL AGES UNDER 16s MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

TICKETS: electricpalace.org.uk - seetickets.com - eventbrite.co.uk



PRIMARY SPORTS & EDUCATION

EASTER

SCAN TO BOOK!

SALWAY ASH ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMP

5-12 YEARS OLD

NERF GUN BATTLES, FOOTBALL, ARTS & CRAFTS, DODGEBALL, GLOW IN THE DARK SPORTS, EASTER ACTIVITIES, CRICKET, NINJA WARRIOR & MUCH MORE!!!

PRICES:
STANDARD DAY - £22

TIMES:
STANDARD- 8:30AM - 3:30PM

2026 Dates:
TUESDAY 7TH APRIL
WEDNESDAY 8TH APRIL
THURSDAY 9TH APRIL
FRIDAY 10TH APRIL

SALWAY ASH PRIMARY SCHOOL
1 SILVERDALE
SALWAY ASH, BRIDPORT
DT6 5JE

BOOKING LINK - <https://www.primary-sports.co.uk/events/2026/04/07/salway-ash-holiday-camps-easter-holidays-2026>

More Information: james@primary-sports.co.uk / 07415293798

