

● NEWSLETTER

Prayer Focus

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/half-term-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&p=7&v=89.2>

This week's chosen word is COMPANION. We do not need to be clever, rich or popular for God to love us and to take care of us. Regardless of our weaknesses, God always loves us and offers us his comfort and everlasting companionship. Jesus came to take away people's fear and loneliness – to help people to feel loved and respected. We can experience Jesus' companionship through other people and through spending time with God in prayer.

Abbey Chorister Trip

We received this information from Mr Searles about the Choristers, including their trip to York at the weekend:

Last Thursday the choristers sang their last Mass of this academic year. They said goodbye to four girls in Year 9 who have been in the choir since its foundation in 2018, and five new choristers from St Mary's School received their cottas. Congratulations to them all! On Friday, they set off on a trip to York, where they sang a lunchtime concert on Saturday, and Mass on Sunday morning at the York Oratory. They also visited the National Railway Museum, walked the medieval city walls, went on a sightseeing bus tour and attended Choral Evensong at York Minster. In between all of this, plenty of pizza, ice cream and cupcakes were consumed!



Library Books

Please could you return your library books before the end of term, so that Mrs Walker can prepare for the start of the new academic year.

Recycled artwork

Many thanks to those of you who sent in recycled items for our artwork, which the School Council have been helping to design. Last week Mrs Bradford used all of the children's designs to plan and help a group of School Councillors/ Eco Avengers from from Avon Class, to create a wonderful recycling themed piece of art – well done to everyone who was involved!



Diary Dates

Mass for St Peter and St Paul (Avon Class to lead) – Wednesday 12th July
9.15am

Induction days for new Reception children – Thursdays 1.30pm

Summer Fair – Friday 14th July

Y6 Leavers Mass at Cathedral (Plymouth) – Monday 17th July

Sports day (AM) for KS2 Tuesday 18th July at 9.15am ***NOTE CHANGE OF DATE***

Leavers' Mass (Year 6) – Friday 21st July at 9.30am led by Burrator Class.

Last day of term – Friday 21st July

After school clubs

From September, we will need to charge for our after-school clubs. We are hoping that these will run on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays for specific year groups, in a similar way to this year. The sessions will cost £2 per and will need to be paid a half term in advance.

Breakfast clubs

Mrs Vallance has also been working with our School Business Manager, Mrs Newman, to work out the cost of running a breakfast club at St Mary's in the future. It has been calculated that sessions would cost £5 per child and would need to be paid for half a term in advance. To see if there would be sufficient interest in having a breakfast club at St Mary's, please email Mrs Vallance at the admin address: admin@st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk stating the days when it would be required (7.45-8.45 each day) and the number of children who would attend. If you wish to respond, please could you do so by the end of term, **Friday 21st July**. We will update parents/ carers on the outcome during the first half of the Autumn term.

Exeter Chiefs – signed rugby shirt

FOSMs (Friends of St Mary's) have a signed Exeter Chiefs Rugby shirt, which they will be holding a silent auction for at the Summer Fair.

Anyone wishing to place a bid can do so at the fair. They will need to provide their full name, contact number and their highest bid.

Anyone unable to attend the fair can email their bid to Mrs Scott-Gatty along with their contact details

fosmschair@gmail.com remembering to state in the subject heading 'Exeter Chiefs bid'.

All proceeds go to St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

Last bids must be received by **3.30pm on Friday 14th July**.



Congratulations!

Abbey Choristers - Cantoris (the left-hand side of the choir) won the Chorister Code Cup, for the most points achieved this year. Congratulations to them!



Attendance

This week's whole school attendance: 92.5%
Year to date: 95.0%

The attendance rate has fallen this week due to the high number of sickness cases recently. Hopefully the attendance rate will continue to increase again, as we enter the last two weeks of the academic year.

Community events...

Living Streets Campaign

Today marks the start of our **#CutTheClutter Week Of Action 2023 (10-16 July)**. Pavement clutter can have a serious impact on walking and wheeling our local journeys.

https://e-activist.com/page/108810/action/1?utm_medium=email&utm_source=engaging_networks&utm_campaign=email&utm_content=Clutter+WOA+2023+Day+One+General&ea.url.id=6473862&forwarded=true

Dartmoor National Park

A family friendly History Hunters day has been arranged at Postbridge on 15th July

<https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/enjoy-dartmoor/events/events-list/npa-events/prehistoric-postbridge> (see additional information attached).

Midsummer Music Event

26-27th July at Torquay Boys' Grammar (see flyer attached).

Lovetovisit website

10% off all activities using the code **SCHOOLS23**

Hello Summer

Please see the attached leaflet about the Hello Summer activities, taking place in Buckfastleigh between 24th July- 17th August.

Dadfest 2023

This takes place between 22nd -24th September at Beeson. Please see flyer attached for further information.

Summer Reading Challenge

Just a reminder that this is taking place in local libraries over the summer holidays. For children who complete the challenge, they will be presented with a certificate, medal and bookmark.

