

We are a community
Loving God, Serving others and Flourishing together



NEWSLETTER



Resilient Confident Inspiring





Headteacher's Message

As we come to the end of another busy and successful month, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our whole school community for their continued support, positivity and hard work.

May has been filled with wonderful learning opportunities, exciting events and many moments that have made us proud of our pupils. From classroom achievements to sporting events, educational visits and creative projects, it has been lovely to see the enthusiasm and determination shown by the children each day.

A particular well done goes to our Year 6 pupils who approached their SATs with maturity, resilience and confidence. We are incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves throughout the week.

As we move towards the final half term of the academic year, there is still much to look forward to, including Sports Day, transition activities, performances and many more memorable experiences. The final weeks of term are always incredibly busy, but also some of the most rewarding.

Thank you once again to our staff for their unwavering dedication and to parents and carers for your ongoing encouragement and partnership. Together, we continue to create a caring, ambitious and supportive environment where every child can flourish. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term break... hopefully with plenty of sunshine ☀ !

With best wishes,

Mr Bright

Ear Piercing Reminder

With the long summer holidays just around the corner, we kindly ask parents to avoid having children's ears pierced during term time.

Please remember that, in line with our school policy, children are unable to take part in PE lessons while wearing earrings, and we do not permit earrings to be taped over for safety reasons. Newly pierced ears often require earrings to remain in place for several weeks, which can result in children missing valuable PE activities.

If you are considering ear piercing for your child, we strongly recommend arranging this at the very start of the summer holiday to allow plenty of healing time before returning to school in September.

Drop off and Pick up times

We would like to remind all families of the importance of respectful behaviour at the beginning and end of the school day.

We have recently received reports of some children showing unacceptable behaviour and rudeness towards adults during drop-off and collection times. We ask parents and carers to please supervise children carefully and ensure they are behaving appropriately and respectfully towards members of the public, other parents, staff and each other.

We are proud of our school community and appreciate your support in helping all children demonstrate kindness, good manners and respect both in and out of school.

**MAY
EDITION**

Holiday Tales and Honest Attendance!

A gentle reminder that when reporting children's absences, we do ask that parents are honest about the reason for absence.

The school register is a legal document and it is important that the information recorded is accurate.

Children are often wonderfully honest and very excited to share stories about their "poorly days" at the airport or their surprise holidays abroad...



Thank you, as always,
for your support and
cooperation in
helping us maintain
accurate attendance
records.



National walk to school week

This week, our school proudly took part in National Walk to School Week, encouraging children and families to think about healthier and more sustainable ways to travel to school.

Each class enjoyed taking part in the challenge using their special wall charts and stickers to track how pupils travelled to school each day. It was fantastic to see so many children walking, scooting, cycling or parking a little further away and completing the final part of their journey on foot.

The children showed great enthusiasm throughout the week and enjoyed celebrating their achievements together in class. Not only did the challenge promote healthy lifestyles and physical activity, but it also helped raise awareness of the positive impact we can all have on the environment.

Thank you to all families for supporting the initiative and helping make the week such a success! Thanks also to those staff members who ran, cycled, walked etc to support the week.





Reception visit to Farmer Palmer's

Our Reception children had a fantastic day during their recent visit to Farmer Palmer's! The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the farm, meeting and feeding the animals, and taking part in a range of exciting outdoor activities.

The visit provided a wonderful opportunity to support their learning about animals, life cycles and the natural world in a fun and hands-on way. It was lovely to see the children showing such curiosity, confidence and enthusiasm throughout the day.

A huge thank you to all of the staff and volunteers who helped make the trip such a success. We are very proud of the excellent behaviour and manners shown by all of the children — they were wonderful ambassadors for our school!



ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to former St. Mark's pupils Izzy, Alex, Isobel and Jess who were part of the GW Academies' team who won the U15 9v9 final of the Schools' Cup at Stoke City yesterday. We're really proud of you!



FC FUTURES SCHOOLS' CUP THURSDAY 21 MAY			
ESFA	ESFA EA FC FUTURES U13 9v9 Schools' Cup for Girls	9:30 am	Our Lady's Catholic High School
ESFA	ESFA EA FC FUTURES U15 9v9 B Team Cup for Girls	11:30 am	St Joseph's RC Academy



ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to former St Mark's pupil, Kathy, who shone at Lord's with a half century and wickets, helping her team secure 2nd place out of 900+ schools... and earning the accolade

'Player of the Tournament'!

Well done to Ella G who was also part of the BSG team!





Year 1 – Judaism workshop 'Shabbat'

On Thursday 7 May, Year 1 took part in a Judaism workshop led by Lynda from Living Judaism to help them learn more about Shabbat and why it is an important part of Jewish faith. They explored how it is the Jewish day of rest. During the morning, the children worked together to make braided bread called 'challah.' They also explored why special prayers and blessings are important.



Year 5 visit The Winchester Science Museum

Year 5 enjoyed an exciting and educational trip to Winchester Science Museum this month. Throughout the day, the children explored a variety of interactive exhibits and took part in hands-on activities that brought their classroom learning to life.

The visit gave pupils the opportunity to deepen their understanding of science through investigation, exploration and discovery. Highlights of the day included experimenting with interactive displays, learning more about space and the human body, and taking part in engaging workshops led by the museum staff.

The children represented the school brilliantly with their enthusiasm, curiosity and excellent behaviour. We are incredibly proud of the way they approached the day and the thoughtful questions they asked throughout the visit.





Year 5 Victorian Day

Year 5 stepped back in time this month as they took part in a wonderful Victorian Day experience. Dressed in traditional Victorian-style clothing, the children spent the day discovering what school life would have been like for children during the Victorian era.

Throughout the day, pupils experienced a range of activities including handwriting practice, arithmetic lessons, role play and learning about strict classroom rules from the past. The children thoroughly enjoyed comparing modern-day school life with that of Victorian times and showed great enthusiasm during all of the activities.

It was fantastic to see such creativity and effort put into costumes and participation. The day provided a memorable and engaging way to bring their history learning to life, and the children were a credit to the school throughout.



**MAY
EDITION**

SEND CORNER



Dorset Parenting Support Service

We offer parenting support and advice to help parents manage behaviours they find challenging

We work closely with a range of professionals including GPs, Paediatricians, CAMHS, Social Care, Early Help and schools.

Our Parenting Practitioners understand that you know your child best, we will work with you to identify and build on your strengths as a parent.



What we deliver for parents living in BCP and Dorset

Incredible Years Parenting Programmes

Incredible Years enables parents to gain effective tools in managing their child's behaviour.

- Pre-school for parents of children aged 3-6 years
- School Age for parents of children aged 6-11 years
- ADHD for parents of children aged 6 to 11 with a diagnosis of ADHD

Two and a half hour weekly sessions between 12-15 weeks (depending on type of programme) in venues across BCP, Dorset and some virtual delivery

"Behaviours That Challenge Us" Information Session

Join our one-off information session to find out more about how you can support and understand your child's challenges and difficulties.

- For Parent/Carer(s) of children aged between 5 and 11 years
- One off session delivered virtually or face to face
- Session is delivered by Clinical Psychologist

To find out more please visit our website actionforchildren.org.uk/dorset



E-Safety Corner



With some children making the leap to secondary school with their first mobile phone, internet matters.org have created the ABC Online Safety Checklist to help you keep your children safe online. Children spend a lot of time on their devices and the internet changes fast, so we understand how overwhelming it can be to try and keep on top of online safety. The ABC Online Safety Checklist gives you the building blocks to help protect them from online risks, with a series of actions for you to take.

Get your ABC Checklist

Activate parental controls

Use the controls and tools available from broadband providers, online platforms and apps to install safe search settings, block inappropriate content and prevent contact from strangers.



The actions you need to take will be different for older and younger children, and internet matters.org have created specific checklists for different age groups. Setting up specific parental controls can take just a few minutes – why not get started today?

**MAY
EDITION**

Spirituality and Community



Our Vision: We believe that by
Loving God and
Serving others, we can all fulfil our
potential in **Flourishing together**.

**This term we have been thinking about how we can
“Encourage on another and build each other up”.**

We’ve thought about...

How we share positives and encourage others.

**Rev Nick joined us this week to talk about
Pentecost, which linked nicely with 3JW’s
worship on this celebration at the end of Easter
and help us think about how the Holy Spirit
encourages us today.**



**Our Summer 2 term worship themes are
Rejoice & Flourishing together**

Mr Bright's Wednesday half -er of Wonderful Work

100
%



Ava B in EYFS for some amazing work on patterns in shape rotation



**We still have
Reception places
available!**

for September

ST. MARKS

Join us on Instagram

NEWS

info

updates



ST_MARKS_PRIMARY_BOURNEMOUTH



JUNE CALENDAR



MONDAY 1st June

All Day

Back to school 08:30

THURSDAY 18th June

All Day

Sports Day

WEDNESDAY 3rd June

9:30am – 3:00pm

Road Safety for whole School

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Road Safety Parent Volunteer Meeting

FRIDAY 19th June

All Day

Staff Training Day – Children not in school

MONDAY 8th June

All Day

Year 6 – Brenscombe Residential Trip

WEDNESDAY 24th June

2:30pm – 3:00pm

2JL Worship to Parents

TUESDAY 9th June

All Day

Year 6 – Brenscombe Residential Trip

THURSDAY 25th June

All Day

Reserve Sports Day

WEDNESDAY 10th June

All Day

Year 6 – Brenscombe Residential Trip

FRIDAY 26th June

4:30pm – 7:00pm

S&PA Summer Fair

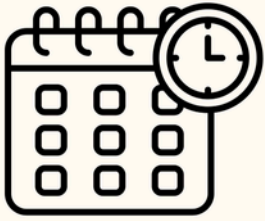
All Day

Year 2 – Beaulieu Motor Museum

TUESDAY 30th June

9:30am – 3:00pm

Y6 Christchurch Priory Service



Term Dates 2026–2027

Autumn term: 1 September to 18 December 2026

Inset Days: 1, 2, 3 & 28 September, 27 November 2026

Autumn half term holiday: 26 October to 30 October

Christmas holiday: 21 December to 3 January

Spring term: 4 January to 25 March 2027

Inset Days: 4 January, 26 February

Spring half term holiday: 15 February to 19 February

Easter holiday: 26 March to 11 April

Summer term: 12 April to 21 July 2027

Inset Days: 18 & 21 June

Summer half term holiday: 31 May to 4 June

Summer holiday: from 22 July

PANIC! FOR THE DISCOS

If we don't get more trustees
and volunteers, we won't
be able to run the school discos.



ST MARK'S C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUMMER FETE

FUN FOR
THE WHOLE
FAMILY

RAFFLE, FOOD, STALLS,
LIVE PERFORMANCES

FRIDAY 26 JUNE
4-6.30PM

TALBOT VILLAGE

GAMES
BOUNCY
CASTLE
TOMBOLA





COMING TO THE SUMMER FETE?

VOLUNTEER HERE



FREE BURGER
OR HOT DOG
FOR 1 HOUR OF
YOUR TIME

LET US KNOW
WHAT YOU WOULD
BE HAPPY TO
DO

FRIDAY 26 JUNE
4-6.30PM





PLEASE BRING EAR
DEFENDERS IF REQUIRED

Hawaiian Disco

WED 1ST JULY

R,1,2 disco 4 - 5pm

3,4,5 disco 5.15 - 6.15pm

School Hall



Tickets
£3.50

Please bring a water bottle
Squash available to refill water bottles
A packet of sweets will be given
to the children at the end of the disco
Purchase tickets via our S&PA online portal

Sponsored scoot, skate & cycle



SAVE
the DATE





— HOLIDAY CLUB —



MAY HALF TERM

TUESDAY 26TH – FRIDAY 29TH MAY



VENUES:



Kingsleigh Primary School

Hadow Road, BH10 5HT

KPS discount available

Sibling discount available

Stars Member discount available

£20

PER CHILD



Multi-Activity Holiday

Club for children aged 4–13

Activities include:



Football



Dodgeball



Dance



Arts & Crafts



Gymnastics



And many more!



Inflatable Fun

BOOK VIA CLASS MANAGER

OR CONTACT



kirsty@starscorportaeltd.co.uk





MAY HALF TERM ACTIVITY TIMETABLE



DAY

ACTIVITIES

Tuesday 26th May	• Football Matches • Arts & Crafts	• Team Building Games • Multi-Sports	• Inflatable Fun • Gymnastics
Wednesday 27th May	• Warm-Up Games • Football Skills & Drills	• Creative Crafts • Obstacle Course Challenges	• Playground Games (Tag, Capture the Flag) • Just Dance
Thursday 28th May	• Multi-Sports Tournament • Arts & Crafts	• Penalty Shootout Competition • Team Games (Relays, Races)	• Inflatable Fun • Gymnastics
Friday 29th May	• Warm-Up Games • Football Tournament	• Tennis Activities • Arts & Crafts	• Music & Party Games • End of Week Celebration



ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND MAY VARY DUE TO WEATHER OR CIRCUMSTANCES OUT OF OUR CONTROL



HIGHCLIFFE
CASTLE



BE
CREATIVE

May Half Term

24 - 31 May 2026

INDOOR ACTIVITIES

Unleash your creativity at the Castle this May half term with an interactive trail and activities for all ages.

INDOOR CRAFTS

Theatre mask crafts available on Tuesday and Thursday 10am-3pm.

Included in Castle admission, free for members

50% OFF FAMILY DAY

50% off admission to Highcliffe Castle on Wednesday 27 May.

Become a Highcliffe Castle Member

- Entry to the Castle for a year*
- 10% discount in the Castle Shop
- 10% discount in the Castle Pantry
- School Holiday activities
- Discount on selected events
- Castle e-newsletter updates

**Family
Membership
£50**

Up to two adults &
three under 15s

Highcliffe Castle is open Sunday-Thursday 10am-4pm

For more information, please visit: highcliffecastle.co.uk

FF Foundation Sports & Play **May Half-term Sports & Play Camps!**

Tax-free childcare, childcare vouchers and childcare grants accepted

👤 Our Team

Enhanced DBS Checked, Staff on the Update Service, Qualified in Sports & Childcare, SEND Trained, First Aid Trained & Safeguarding Children Trained. We are always putting the children's welfare first!

📍 Venues

Stourfield Junior School, BH6 5JG
BCS Preparatory School, BH14 9JY
The Epiphany School, BH9 3PE
Castle Court School, BH21 3RF
Christchurch Infant School, BH23 2AE
We are open for both Inset Days for Christchurch families

👧 Ages

3 - 12 years old. 3 year olds only able to book on at BCS & Castle Court.

⚙️ Activities

Our engaging programs have 3 areas of play: Sport (football, gymnastics) Play (board games, lego, outdoor exploration) and Craft (art, masks & biscuit decorating). We have activities for every child's interests.

🕒 Time

9.00am - 3.00pm with early drop off available from 8.00am & late pick-up times for 4.30pm & 5.30pm.

📅 Dates

Fri 22nd May - Mon 1st June. Dates vary by location. We will not be open on bank holiday. Please check your specific venue for exact dates.



**From
£27.50 Per
Day**

**Ofsted
Registered
Provider**

**Tax-free
Childcare &
Vouchers**

Bookings & Contact

Click : www.foundation-play.com

or scan the QR code to the right.

E: dorset@foundation-sports.com

IG: @fsportsandplay | FB: Foundation

Sports & Play Dorset

Phone: 01202 007785



SCAN ME



Schedule Example

For up-to-date information on daily venue activities, please check in with us. Below is an example of our scheduled holiday club activities.



Morning Schedule

08:00 - 08:45: Early sign-ins arrive! Our leaders will have activities set up ready to start the day before the majority of children arrive on camp.

08:45 - 09:15: The main arrival time. Sign-ins and warm-up with free play. Children can enjoy a variety of activities, including toys, sports equipment, and creative crafts to start the day.

09:15 - 09:30: Group circle time. All children will gather round for circle time as we introduce the exciting activities planned for the day ahead.

09:30 - 11:00: Sports carousel outside and a creative workshop inside. There will be a carousel of sports activities, allowing your child to freely explore a variety of games. Indoors, they'll dive into painting, drawing, and hands-on crafting projects. While outside children can enjoy our forest school areas, play on the trial equipment, build bug hotels & collect resources from nature to use in arts and crafts sessions

11:00 - 11:15: Snack Break! Refuel with snacks to keep energy levels high for the next batch of activities.

11:15 - 12:15: Your child will have the choice to participate in age-group matches such as football, dodgeball, and cricket, with alternative sports activities like gymnastics and dance also available.

Alternatively, there will be indoor biscuit decorating and themed crafting station, like making summer bunting, daisy chains and friendship bracelets.

Lunchtime & Afternoon

12:15 - 12:45: Lunchtime! Those who have paid for hot lunches will enjoy a warm meal with their friends. Lunches are made either on site by a chef or local restaurant.

12:45 - 13:15: We will continue the fun with outdoor play in the playground and outside gyms.

13:15 - 14:45: Your child will spend the afternoon choosing to join in with Nerf battles, gymnastics or showcasing their talents in a fun and interactive group talent show. We'll then head into a forest exploration adventure and finish off the week on Friday with a WATER FIGHT!

End Of Day & Late Afternoon

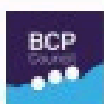


15:00: All children will gather together for our closing ceremony where children will receive certificates and enjoy music, ending the day on a high note as parents arrive for collection.

15.00 - 17.30: Those who are booked into late collection will have a variety of mainly child-led activities to help them wind down before collection. Snacks are provided for those staying late.

Childcare Vouchers & Tax-free Childcare:

Ofsted Registration Number: 2652421 Please use your child's first initial & surname as a reference when paying with vouchers.



Dorset
Council



MAY HALF TERM

EXCLUSIVE GIRLS

TUESDAY MAY 26TH
THURSDAY MAY 28TH

BOOK THROUGH WHATTSAPP OR EMAIL
SEE POST DESCRIPTION BELOW



CAMPS

MAY HALF TERM 2026

**BOOKINGS OFFICIALLY OPEN FOR
THE BELOW DATES**



TUESDAY	26TH
WEDNESDAY	27TH
THURSDAY	28TH
FRIDAY	29TH

BOOK - INFO@GENERATIONELITE.CO.UK