



Do Everything with Love (1 Corinthians 16:14)

October Newsletter 2020



A note from Mrs Christopher

October is a month of change. The temperature cools, the daylight shortens and the season begins to change with splatters of autumnal colours and symbols scattered around outside. Somehow, summer seems a distant memory and the feeling of hibernating thoughts enter some of our heads! What a wonderful world we live in with such beauty evident all around us.

October is also the month of the Rosary prayer. The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

The feast was introduced by Pope St. Pius V (1504-1572) in the year 1571 to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Christian forces in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The pope attributed more to the "arms" of the Rosary than the power of cannons and the valour of the soldiers who fought there.

As a child, my parents, sisters and brother would kneel down each night and say the rosary together for about 10 minutes. At this stage of my life, I joined in but did not fully realise the impact prayer could have in my life. I did question the point of ritual and prayer life later on in my teenage years but I would always find myself coming back to it- almost like a dietary need, the need for stillness and reflection which adds strength to my being. My mother has more time for prayer now in her later years and she still says the rosary prayer daily. Her belief is that her prayers help to protect her family and friends. Rosary beads are used to support the prayer and help the person to focus as distraction can be all too easy. However, the beads are not essential.

Click the link below to find out how to say this powerful prayer.

https://grow.ourcatholicradio.org/grow/how-pray-rosary?gclid=EAJalQobChMI-vLwpoOk5QIVC8DeCh2AAAGDEAAAYASAAEgLYP_D_BwE

Mrs Christopher





Congratulations to our New 2020 Prefects!

The 'High 5' Reading Challenge Update

I'm delighted to announce that some children have now received their 25 reading signature certificates. Well done children, keep up the practise and you'll notice the difference it makes. Maybe some of you could make a poster with book recommendations to entice others into the magical world of reading? If you can, we will advertise these on our new outdoor notice board on the playground for all to see.



The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.

-- Dr. Seuss



Dates for your diaries:

Individual photos - **Thursday 12th November** (All children can wear school uniforms rather than PE kits on that day. PE lessons will be adapted to suit the dress)

Flu Immunisations- **Tuesday 1st December**

ECO WARRIORS BLOG:

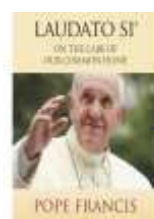
Our children have been reminding the teachers of our responsibilities in recycling including food compost. As a result, we have purchased food-recycling bags for each class to use for any snack waste. We have also had a letter from Blake in Year 3 who has raised concerns over the use of palm oil and is asking us to check that we are not using it as it is contributing to rapid deforestation. Can you check at home too? More details on the negative effects of this product are on the following link:-

https://www.orangutans-sos.org/take-action/learn/palm-oil/?gclid=CjwKCAjw_sn8BRBrEiwAnUGJDm2DZ1jg_P885PnK_Es27aU-BTrnH_a-CNLkIOY-awGM9dis8xiy3RoCpV4QAvD_BwE

Next half term, we will be assigning our new Eco warriors from Y5 so please watch out for their Eco messages in the next monthly newsletter.



'I want you to act like your house is on fire!'



'Listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor'



Thank you to all your donations for our 'zoom' harvest festival last week. The volunteers at Wareham food bank have told us that this will be a welcomed surprise for the families in our local area who need support at this time.

Thank you.

Attendance Feedback

100%

Well done everyone for your attendance at school this half term. It has been a very uncertain time and some of you rightfully have taken the necessary precautions in keeping your children at home when needed. We recognise the difficulty in making decisions but know that self-isolation is necessary in controlling the pandemic and its impact on our carers and NHS workers. Dorset school attendance has consistently been amongst the best in the country this term. It has been wonderful having the school full again and many of the children have expressed their joy at being back with their friends. We hope and pray this will continue for next half term.

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

As our school council reps did not have a full year to complete their roles, we are keeping the same children for this term and will look to appoint new reps in January 2021. In case you have forgotten who they are, we have the photos below.



Phonics

Phonics & Reading at home

On the link below you will be able to access phonics guides for parents and lessons to use at home which will reinforce the sounds children are learning at school. Although it states Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 videos, these are really **for all children** who need that little memory jerk in remembering the sounds they met earlier on in school. This will help them to fill the gaps and gain confidence in their reading and spelling.

Year 2 children missed their phonics screening last June so this will now take place in December. All the children will be assessed on their phonics knowledge to see if they have reached the age related expectation. The videos online will help the children prepare for this screening and Mr Pickavance will keep parents informed of what the children need to practise in order to reach this age related standard.

<https://www.lettersandsounds.org.uk/>

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

The deadline for applying for a secondary school place is **October 31st**. If your child is currently in Year 6 you will need to complete the online application form to apply for the secondary school of your choice. Please see:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-secondary-or-upper-school.aspx>