



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the new term and first newsletter of the summer.

SEND

A message from Mrs Higginson, SENDCo:

Hello everyone.

I just wanted to introduce myself as the new school SENDCo and tell you a little bit about myself.

I have worked across both primary, specialist and secondary schools; most recently as a SENDCo at a large secondary school.

I have a passion for working with all children, but I am particularly interested in SEN and strategies used to support all broad areas of SEN needs.

Although I only work as a SENDCo on Wednesdays to Friday, I am working at Mary Dean's every day so please drop me an email if you need to have a chat, I will be only too happy to help. My email address is

– Sharon.higginson@firstfederation.org.uk

I would also like to invite parents to a coffee afternoon on Thursday 23rd of May at 1:15-2:30pm to get to know you all. During this time, I hope to have a representative from PIAS to offer support and advice around resources and groups that they offer as part of their service. I have worked closely with the PIAS team in the last two years, and they really have some great resources to support parents and children. If you would like to attend, please do email me to let me know. I look forward to meeting with you soon.

Mrs Sharon Higginson, SENDCo

Our Achievers last week.

Well done!



Sporting Achievement

Rowing

All the children showed excellent perseverance and resilience during the event. They all tried their best and didn't give up. They cheered each other on and worked well as a team. All the children were fantastic ambassadors for the school. Well done to Seb and Harry who came 2nd in their heat.



Year 3/4 Football Tournament, 22nd April at Manadon Sports Hub.

The team from Mary Dean's, kindly trained by Mike Maynard, entered this tournament and had a fantastic time. Many of our girls had not played football before, but applied themselves superbly and along with the more experienced girls, put on a good team performance. Daisy, playing against girls two years older than her, led the line. She scored two goals, one being set up by some great passing from Aoife and cross from Ava. In defence, Bella G, Maddie and Imogen played excellently with Munroe and Bella W making some vital saves taking turns in goal.

Well done girls! There was some wonderful effort and 'sportswomanship' shown and plenty of potential for tournaments in the future.

Mr Tom Peters, TA.



Cross Country

The sports fields of Staddiscombe were a-buzz with energy for the long-awaited cross country event. Nowhere more so than in the Mary Dean's camp where, of 23 runners, we had 23 fantastic finishers! It was a gruelling course for both age groups with the year 5/6 trail challenging all competitors to do their best.

Poppy, Lyla, Nolan and George lead the way in their respective Year 3&4 races, Ella-Mae making a particularly heroic effort to complete the course. Mathilda, Autumn, Rowan and William finishing top from Mary Dean's in Year 5&6. We will await the final results from the organisers,

but it was a delight to compete and see how all the children came together as a team to support and cheer each other on. Mr Tom Peters.

Cross country results:

- 3rd overall for year 3/4 girls
- 5th overall for year 3/4 boys
- 3rd overall for year 5/6 girls
- 4th overall for year 5/6 boys



Our Achievers this week.

Well done!



Maths workshops for Parents/Carers

'BAG OF NUMBER'

Confusing those bar models with those Venn diagrams?

Fractions frustrating you?

Baffled with the 'bus-stop' method?

If you would like to:

*Brush up on your maths knowledge and confidence in the areas of Number, Calculations, Fractions, Measures, Geometry, Money & Statistics

*Learn 'current' modern-day Maths terminology and vocabulary

*Explore the 'tools' and resources that children use in maths lessons

*Explore the range of calculation methods your children are using in school

*Learn real-life maths links and applications

*... and of course, how you can support your child at home?.....Please read-on...

Joining up with 'On Course South-West', Mary Dean's would like to offer Parent / Carer workshops covering all aspects of your child's maths journey through primary school. As part of the Government's 'Multiply' project, we can offer weekly **FREE** sessions, entitled 'Bag of Number', led by Noel Mitchell, an experienced Primary school teacher, working for 'On Course South-West'.

There will be four of these 2 hourly **FREE** sessions. We have provisionally booked these sessions to take place in the Summer Term - Mornings - 8:45-11:00am from Wednesday 5th June - Wed 26th June.

Those who attend will receive a bag of maths goodies to support your children on their maths journey through school and lots of information to build your confidence to support your children with maths at home.

If you would be interested in taking part in these sessions, please let the school office know.

Thank you. Noel Mitchell

School Meals

From Monday 29th April, the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be able to order a sandwich for lunch using ParentPay.

May Carnival

Please support your PTFA and visit the teddy and bottle tombola stall at the May carnival.

Save the date:

*Strawberry fair in the church hall on 22nd June

Reminder:

Bag 2 School returned by 9am on Thursday 2nd May

Please leave in the carpark, under the covered way in front of the school offices. Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support.

Donna Wilson
Head Teacher

