



St Mary's CE VC First School

Nurturing deep, strong Christian roots, helping us to grow and flourish

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Welcome to Key Stage Two



A warm welcome to Key Stage Two. It has been a busy first couple of weeks and we are loving our new project called 'Through the Ages' which looks at life through the Stone Age, Bronze Age and the Iron Age. Here are just a few notes to help you with routines in Linden and Ash:

Homework Diaries:

Messages regarding home learning will be in the Homework diary, please check daily. Please also use these diaries to sign that you have shared a book with your child. Diaries will be checked regularly to contribute towards the class reading challenge. Children thrive when they read with an adult regularly at home. Each week we will note any major events for the following week, to help with organisation. When we read with your children, this will be logged on our internal systems only, unless there is anything pertinent which we need to share with you.

Changing reading books:

To promote independence, we ask that your child changes their own reading book. This is done first thing in the morning as part of the start of day activities. Please remind your child at the start of the day if this is needed.

Spellings:

Over the next few weeks your child will be given a set of spellings to learn. When your child is confident with the spelling of these words they should ask the teachers to check them. This can be done on any day and not a specific day each week. If successful, they will be given the next list of words to learn at home. This replaces the more formal spelling tests which can cause a lot of anxiety for children.

Times Table Rockstars:

Hopefully everybody has received their log in for TTRockstars. Please ensure that your child is able to log in and that play at least twice a week. Regular short bursts seem to be more beneficial than long sessions once per week. This will really help children as they work towards the Tables Check which takes place in Summer Term, Year Four.

PE:

This half term, our PE days are Tuesday and Wednesday. Please send your child/ren to school in their PE kit. If your child has long hair please ensure this is tied back and any earrings will need to be removed or covered in tape.

Communication:

Each class now has its own email address -

linden@charminster.dorset.sch.uk

ash@charminster.dorset.sch.uk

Please use this for messages to the teachers. We will endeavour to respond within school hours but this might not be until the end of the day. Please continue to use office@charminster.dorset.sch.uk for all other important communications that need immediate action. We are in the process of moving from Class Dojo, over to a new service. Please bear with us whilst this is set up.

We are really looking forward to working with you and your child throughout the coming year.
Miss Thornicroft, Mrs Laval & Mrs Ohnstad

