



St Mary's Priory Catholic Infant and Junior Schools'

School Newsletter

Where great lives begin

Dear St Mary's Community,

6th March 2026

This week we were thrilled to celebrate World Book Day across the whole school. Our infants had a wonderful start to the week as parents were invited in to read with their children, filling the classrooms with stories, laughter and shared moments. Throughout the week we also held our Book Harvest, where families donated books to help refresh and grow our reading corners and our library. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity shown.

Children across the school embraced the spirit of the day by dressing up as their favourite book characters. The creativity was fantastic to see, and a highlight came when some of our pupils delightfully hijacked our assembly to perform *The Gruffalo*. Their confidence, teamwork and joy truly captured what World Book Day is all about.

Years 1 and 2 enjoyed a special trip to St Ann's Library, where they not only explored a wide range of books but also had the exciting opportunity to meet an author during their visit. Meanwhile, our older children paired up with younger classes for shared reading sessions, helping to build friendships and foster a love of books across year groups.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to share that a Book Fair will take place during the week beginning 16th March. Children will be able to use their £1 World Book Day tokens at the fair, giving them the chance to choose a new book to enjoy at home.

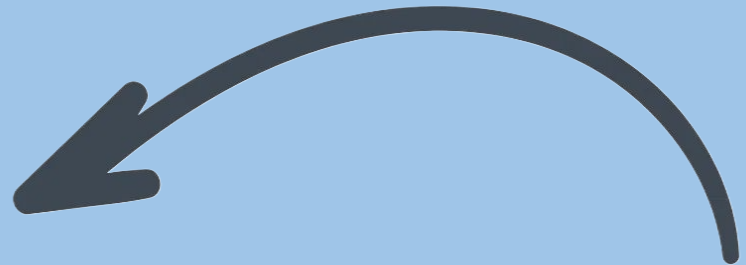
In other news, 5B completed their Bikeability lessons this week. Most of the class went out on the road to learn essential cycling and road safety skills, and they represented the school brilliantly. 5W will take part in their training next week, with Year 4 scheduled to participate in the coming weeks.

Warm regards,

Ms Reynolds
Deputy Headteacher

School calendar:

When:	What:	Who:	Where:	Time:
All year	Clubs: Monday: Y1-6 Football (Top Sports Academy)/ Street Dance (Y4-6)/ Arts and Craft (ASC) Tuesday: Multi-sports (ASC) Wednesday: Performing Arts (ASC) Thursday: Y1-6 Multi-sports (Top Sports Academy) Friday: Homework (ASC)		Variou US	9am
March	Wb 9th March Bikeability lessons- 5W 25th & 26th March Year 4 Bikeability	Year 4/5		
Wb 16th March	Book Fair		Junior school	3.30
17th and 18th March	Parent Teacher Consultations	All	Junior Hall	3.40-5.50



Parent survey for school dinners.





Stars of the Week



Wb 2nd March 2026

Class:	Stars:	
Owl Class	Acacia	Velihan
Robin Class	Kajetan	Kelly
Dove Class	Matylda	Joseph
3C	Marlene	Joel
4D	Pola	Rakeb
5W	Adrian	Nainika
5B	Toprak	Valeria
6J	Archie	Angela

Congratulations to our Stars of the week!
These pupils have worked exceptionally hard to stand out amongst their peers. Well done everyone!





Stars of the Week

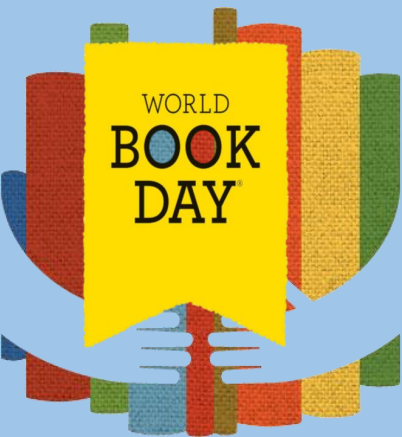


Wb 23rd February 2026

Class:	Stars:	
Owl Class	Ana	Natan
Robin Class	Joiah	Emma A
Dove Class	Ibukun	Yohane
3C	Arianne	Ryan
4D	Eldora	David
5W	Denis	Jaida
5B	Sharlene	Cain
6J	Antos	Sophia C

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These pupils have worked exceptionally hard to stand out amongst their peers. Well done everyone!





book harvest

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we would like to increase the amount of books we have at our school.

We are looking for second hand **chapter books**, in excellent condition that you no longer need.

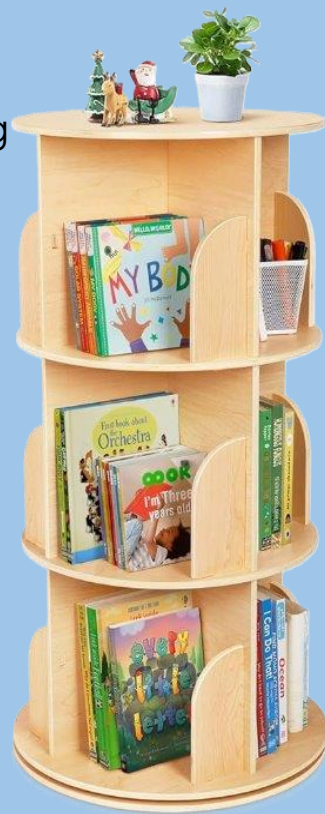
To take part in our Book Harvest, simply donate books **wb 2nd March** to your child's class teacher and we can add them to either class libraries, or our junior library.

Fundraising

We are also looking to purchase furniture (such as book shelves and seating) to improve our Junior Library. If you would like to donate towards this, you can send in either cash donations or use [this link to donate](#). Please state the reason for the donation as 'library'.

If parents know of any companies who would be willing to donate, please get in touch.

Ms Reynolds



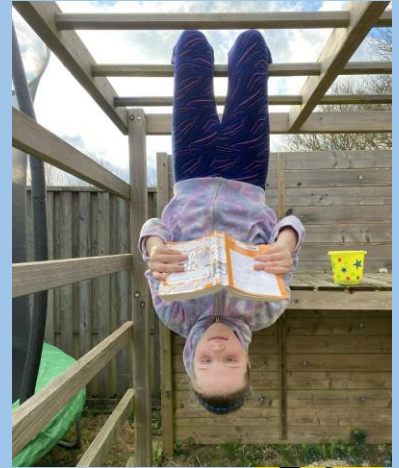
Extreme Reading Challenge



WORLD
BOOK
DAY®

We want to see your most **EXTREME** reading!

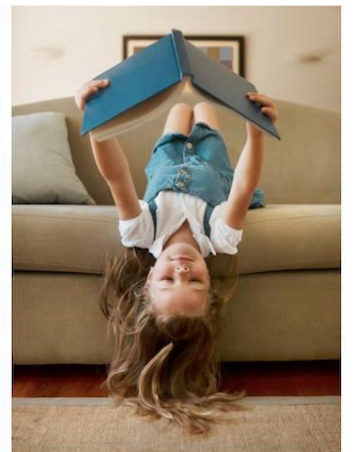
As part of our **World Book Day** celebrations we want to see you reading in peculiar places to prove you can read just about anywhere! How: take a photo of you reading in an interesting (or silly) place/way

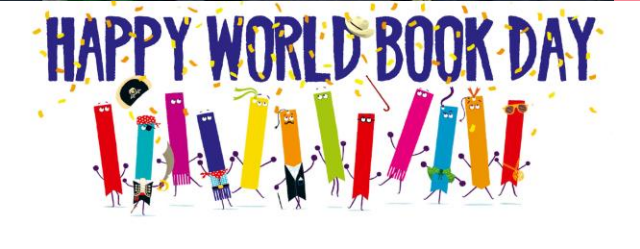


Email your photos to our school email address

Deadline: Friday 6th March

We will share the most extreme reading photos in our newsletter.







HAPPY WORLD BOOK DAY

A decorative banner for 'HAPPY WORLD BOOK DAY' featuring colorful books with faces and confetti.



HIGHEST NUMBER OF LEVELS PASSED- ALL TIME!

2nd 1st 3rd

MATHS LEADER BOARD!

Spring 1



QUICKEST STUDIO SPEED!

2nd 1st 3rd

Robin Class Page!



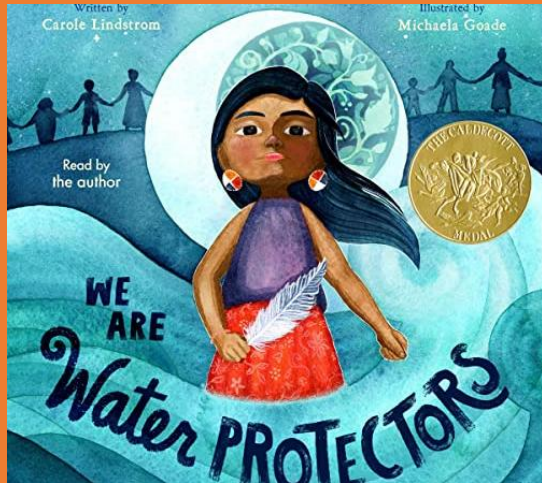
In Robin class, during Science, we sorted animals by their features, placing them into the correct animal groups.



On World Book Day, it was wonderful to have so many parents and carers join us to read!

Thanks for all your support!





Dove Class Page!

In Dove class, we have been looking at the season of Lent. As a class, we were discussing how Lent is a time to grow closer to God and we can do this by saying 'sorry'. We created a 'Forgiveness Tree' which has formed part of our RE display.



Our new class book, this half term, is 'We Are Water Protectors'. This week, we have been writing lists of adjectives to describe water.



The highlight of our week was having parents and carers in to read with us!



3C Class Page!



In 3C, we've been looking a lot at teamwork over the past two weeks! First, children had to plan and build abstract sculptures in Art by finding ways of incorporating everyone's ideas and coming together to construct their work. They also started looking at rocks in Science. During their first lesson they had to match the rocks to the correct description and come together by listening to everyone's ideas! Well done 3C.





4D Class Page!

We have had a brilliant couple of weeks!



We attended **Mass at St John Vianney's Church**, where the children showed great reverence and focus. Back at school, we've loved beginning our **glockenspiel lessons** and have already mastered our first rhythms! In writing, we've **started our new book *The Selfish Giant***, which is inspiring some brilliant ideas.

Our **visit to St Ann's Library** was a huge highlight — the Romans workshop was engaging and hands-on, and the class left excited to read more and eager to return.

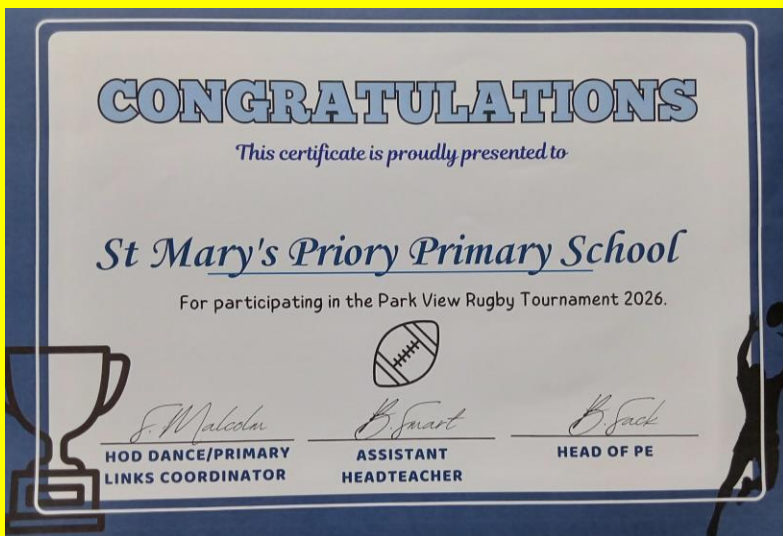
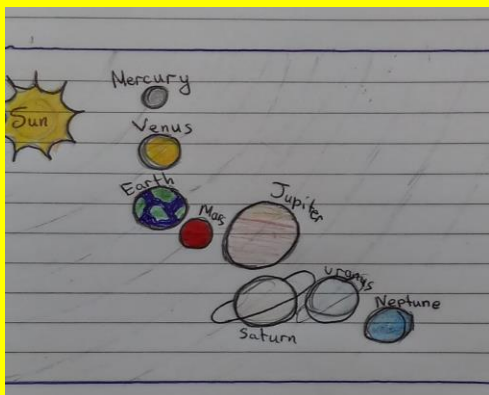
We also had a wonderful time celebrating **World Book Day!** The children looked fantastic in their costumes, enjoyed sharing their favourite stories, and took part in a range of fun reading-themed activities that brought books to life.





5B Class Page!

5B have had a great start to the half term. Before the break, we visited the Bernie Grant Centre where children had the opportunity to perform their own songs and poetry on stage. The girls in 5B and 5W had a very successful football training session. We have been learning about space in science and competed in a tag rugby competition at Park View. Well done!





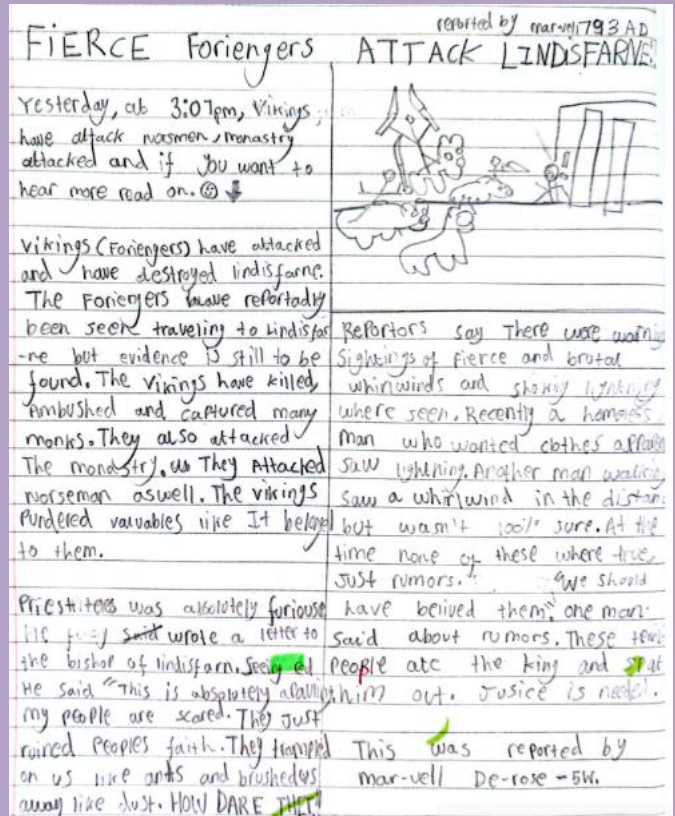
5W Class Page!

5W have been extremely busy since returning after half term.

All of the children should be immensely proud of how they conducted themselves at Park View for a Tag Rugby tournament. The team scored some great tries and fully deserved their treat and certificate!

The class have loved learning about the Solar System. They have created scale representations of the planets. To do this they worked amazingly as a team and learnt that the rocky planets are much closer together than the gas giants!

Finally, a huge well done to the class showcasing their journalistic talents. Using their knowledge about the Viking raids of Lindisfarne, excellent reports were written. Well done!



A Brilliant Start to the New Half Term

Year 6 have returned energised, focused and ready to learn. With lots to accomplish this half term, it's great to see everyone starting positively.

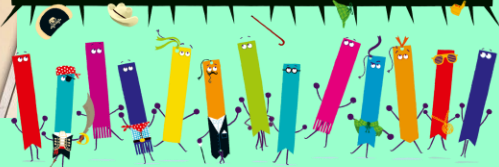
YEAR 6 CELEBRATE WORLD BOOK DAY!

6J

Class Page!



IT'S WORLD BOOK DAY!

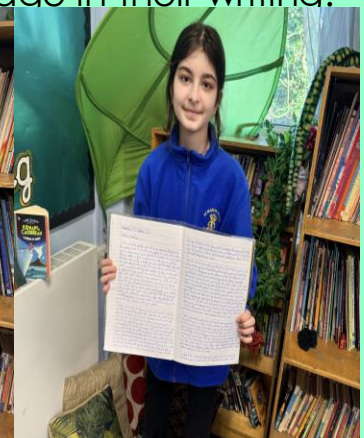
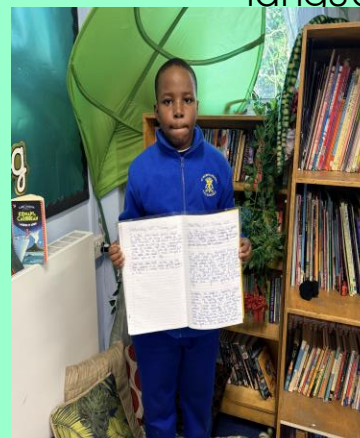


Star Writers

Year 6 wrote creative stories set in a forest, using rich vocabulary, figurative language and descriptive detail to bring their ideas to life. A special well done to our Star Writers, who impressed us with their imaginative ideas and thoughtful use of language in their writing.

Library Visit – Exploring Windrush

This week, Year 6 enjoyed a visit to St Ann's Library as part of our English learning on Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah. Year 6 explored the library as a learning resource and listened to a Windrush story, helping to deepen their understanding.



Online Safety - February

CBeebies apps are free to download with no in-app purchases. Their apps include:

- Playtime Island - Fun Games for Kids App. This app includes 40 free games.
- CBeebies Learn - Early Years Learning App. This app includes games and videos and is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.
- Get Creative - Open-ended Creative Activities App. This app is free and includes lots of drawing and painting activities.
- Storytime - Reading Stories App. This app includes interactive story books.

You can find out more here: [CBeebies](#)

Children's Commissioner launches new guide for parents and carers

The Children's Commissioner has released a new guide to help you in managing your child's digital life. The guide was written with direct involvement from children.

It includes advice on setting boundaries such as no devices in the bedroom and how to chat to your child. You can find the guide here: [Guide to managing your child's digital life](#)

Using AI to alter images

AI image generator and moderator tools are widely available and often used by children. Whilst these tools can be used for creative purposes, we need to ensure our children are aware of the appropriate way in which to use them and the circumstances when they should not be used, even if harm is not intended.

What are AI image generator and moderator tools?

It is when Artificial Intelligence is used to create or modify images, for example it could be used to swap faces, change expressions or for more sinister reasons, such as to remove clothes. These images are often very realistic and therefore difficult to see that they are fake.

Privacy concerns and consent

If your child is using these tools, they need to be aware of potential loss of privacy and the importance of consent. They should know that they should only use images of other people with consent.

What does my child need to know about using these tools?

- Children shouldn't use AI tools to manipulate images of school staff. Even if the child's intention is not malicious, children should not use AI tools to create or edit photos of teachers under any circumstances.
- Manipulation of images of friends or other children – if you are using images of other people, then consent **must** always be sought.
- The tools should not be used to create images that can embarrass or hurt others - this is a form of online bullying.
- Copyright issues – who owns the copyright? These images could be reused by others, which can affect their own digital footprint.

What should I do?

- Chat to your child if they are using these tools and ascertain the reason why. Ask them to show you the images that they have created.
- Check the age ratings of any apps/websites that your child is using and set up appropriate parental controls.
- Develop your child's digital literacy by teaching them to recognise online risks and to behave responsibly online

Further information

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-to-children-about-ai>
- <https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2025/02/18/understanding-image-consent-ai-schools/>

Wheely Tots Family Bike Club every Saturday!



Book here!

Overview

Age-friendly Saturday morning cycling sessions. Families welcome.

Get out and gain cycling skills in Lordship Recreation Ground with Wheely Tots. Our bike club is open to all ages. Families welcome; we encourage parents / carers to ride with their children!

Join us to:

- learn and improve cycling skills as a toddler, child, adult or whole family/friends group!
- be comfortable and safe
- plan and explore new routes
- benefit from the expertise of our instructors and mechanics

We have access to a small pool of child and adult bikes and will do our best to accommodate you if you do not have your own.



Dear God,

As we continue our journey through Lent,
help us to slow down and make space for
You.

Teach us to notice the small moments of
kindness,
to choose patience when things feel hard,
and to be generous with our words and
actions.

Thank You for walking with us each day.

Help us to grow in love,
to say sorry when we need to,
and to shine Your light in our school and our
homes.

As Easter draws closer,
fill our hearts with hope,
and remind us that new beginnings are
always possible.

Amen.