



St Mary's Priory Catholic Infant and Junior Schools'

School Newsletter

Where great lives begin

Dear St Mary's Community,

13th March 2026

We have had another busy and exciting week in school, and there is plenty for our community to look forward to.

Next week we will be hosting a Book Fair, which is always a lovely opportunity for children to explore new stories and build their love of reading. We hope many of you will be able to visit after school (Mon-Thurs from 3.30pm next to the Junior Hall).

Parent Teacher Consultations are also coming up next Tuesday and Wednesday. These meetings provide a valuable chance to discuss your child's progress and celebrate their achievements. Thank you to everyone who has already booked their appointment via Arbor.

Please join us on Thursday after school next week for a bake sale, run by our fabulous Mini Vinnies!

This week, 5W have been taking part in their Bikeability lessons. The pupils have shown great enthusiasm as they develop their cycling confidence and road-safety skills. Well done to the whole class for their positive attitude.

On Monday, Year 4 visited the British Museum. The children explored the collections and deepened their understanding of their current topic.

Year 6 have also been out and about, setting up their memberships at St Ann's Library. We are delighted to continue fostering a love of reading and supporting pupils in accessing a wider range of books in our local community.

Thank you, as always, for your support. We look forward to another enjoyable week ahead.

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) | | Vario US | 9am |
| March | 25th & 26th March Year 4 Bikeability | Year 4/5 | | |
| 16th- 19th 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.



St Mary's Priory Catholic Infant & Junior School

WEEKLY MENU

WEEK 1 WEEK 2 WEEK 3

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | THEME DAYS |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| MAIN | Jack Chicken Curry | Beef Burger (SE*, SO, SU, G/W) | Roast Chicken & Gravy | BBQ Chicken Pizza (MK, G/W) | Fish Fingers & Chips (F, G/W) | Kid Inventors DAY |
| VEGGIE | Sweet Potato, Chickpeas & Coconut Curry (CE, G/B, O, R, W) | Vegetable Burger (SE*, G/W) | Roasted Root Vegetable Pie & Gravy (CE, G/W) | Cheese & Tomato Pizza (MK, G/W) | Vegan Nuggies & Chips (G/W) | CHINESE NEW YEAR |
| SIDES | Rice & Peas with Green Beans (CE) | Homemade Potato Wedges & Green Salad | Rustic Roast Potatoes with Roasted Carrots & Parsnips | Homemade Potato Wedges & Green Salad | Baked Beans & Peas | WORLD |
| PASTA & JACKET | Vegan Roasted Vegetable Pasta (G/W) | Jacket Potato & Salad | Tonsetto & Basil Pasta (CE, G/W) | Jacket Potato & Salad | Mac & Cheese (MK, G/W) | HAPPY Easter |
| PUD | Banana Cake & Custard (E, MK, SP*, G/W) | Chocolate & Orange Brownie (E, MK, SO, G/B, W) | Apple Crumble & Custard (MK, G/W) | Carrot Cake (E, MK, SP*, G/B, O, W) | Ice Cream (MK) | |

DAILY SALAD BAR | HOMEMADE BREAD | FRESH FRUIT

DATES

05 JAN / 26 JAN
23 FEB / 16 MAR

ALLERGENS

CE = CELERY F = FISH G/O = DATE L = LUPIN NI = MUSTARD SO = SOYA
 CR = CRUSTACEAN G = GLUTEN O/E = RYE MK = MILK N = NUTS SU = SULPHUR
 E = EGGS G/B = BARLEY G/W = WHEAT NO = NOLLURGE P = PEANUTS SE = SESAME SEEDS
 * = MAY CONTAIN ** = VEGETARIAN *** = SEASONAL VEG



Stars of the Week



Wb 9th March 2026

| Class: | Stars: | |
|-------------|-------------|----------|
| Owl Class | Leroy | Janine |
| Robin Class | Emma C | Valkyrie |
| Dove Class | Autumn Rose | Micah |
| 3C | Charlotte | Aaron |
| 4D | Khiearna | Gideon |
| 5W | Lena | Heavenly |
| 5B | Mariana | Mia |
| 6J | Heaven | D'Nique |

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





HIGHEST NUMBER OF LEVELS PASSED- Last 7 days!

2nd 1st 3rd

MATHS LEADER BOARD!



QUICKEST STUDIO SPEED!

2nd 1st 3rd

Extreme Reading Challenge



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

Our 'extreme readers'!



Robin Class Page!

In Robin class, we have been performing and investigating experiments that children brought in. We placed sweets in a circle and watched a rainbow appear when we added water. In Geography, we had a mini field trip in our playground to record the weather. Children also enjoyed making melody patterns on glockenspiels during our Music lesson.



Dove Class Page!



In Dove Class this week, the children have been busy exploring 3D shapes as part of their Maths learning.

They have enjoyed handling and investigating a variety of shapes, discussing their properties.

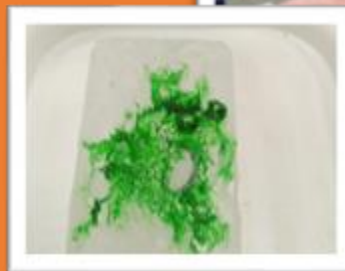


The children also had the chance to use the Chromebooks to research fascinating facts about water. One of the class favourites was discovering that *jellyfish are made up of 95% water!*

Some of our children have been practicing their cutting skills- making fruits salads.



A huge *thank you* to all families who have sent in science experiments from home. The children have loved exploring the effects of salt on ice and growing their own colourful rainbows using felt tips and water.





3C Class Page!

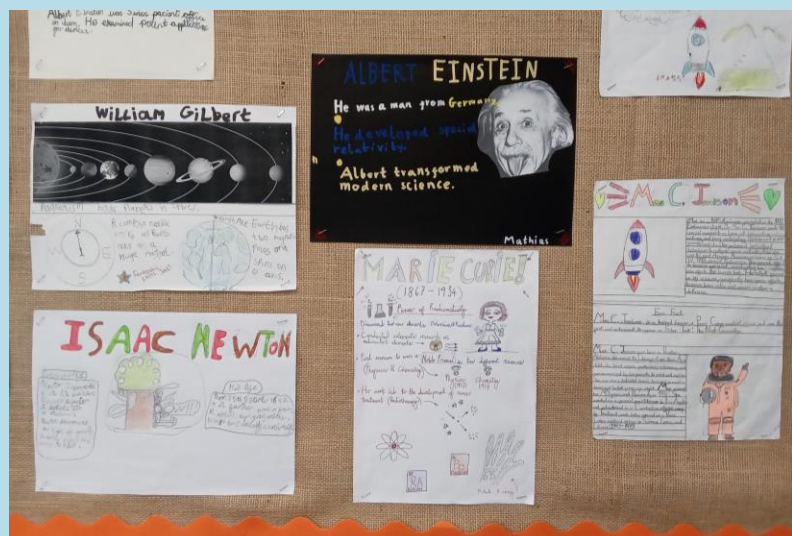
In 3C, we have really enjoyed celebrating World Book Day and Science Week!



Last Friday, we had the opportunity to read to Year 1 which was a lovely experience enjoyed by all the children.



Then for British Science Week, we learnt all about how fossils form and made some of our own! Some children also researched their favourite scientists and made some fantastic posters!





4D Class Page!

In 4D

A Fantastic Week of Learning!

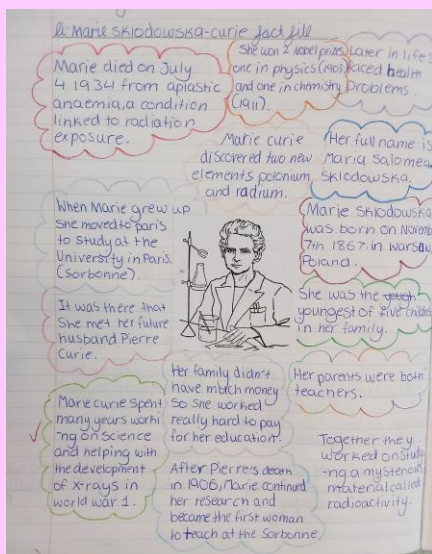
We kicked off the week with a brilliant trip to the **British Museum**, taking part in an engaging workshop all about **the Romans**.



Back at school, we celebrated **Science Week** by joining an online lesson and learning about the inspiring **Maria Skłodowska-Curie**. The children also enjoyed hands-on experiments, exploring **how a periscope works**, testing **paper planes**, and investigating the **surface tension of water**.



A busy, exciting week full of curiosity and great discoveries!



5B Class Page!



5B have had another productive week! We began by sharing stories with Nursery for World Book Day, the children loved reading together and celebrating their favourite books. We explored how to design the most effective paper plane - testing, evaluating, and improving our ideas. We have also shown fantastic concentration and effort in our fractions lessons.

Well done, 5B



Breaking news! Daddy Bear was not happy that Goldilocks had been in his chair! World Book Day was fun as always, the highlight being reading our stories to the wonderful Nursery children.

5W continue to enjoy a wide range of experiences. For Science week, we have studied the Solar System and aerodynamics. When making successful paper aeroplane designs, we considered how we could increase the amount of lift and thrust so that it could travel as far as possible. Congratulations to this child, whose design flew the furthest, flying across the whole classroom!

In addition to this, the children have improved their cycling skills during their bikeability lessons. Well done to all that took part!



5W Class Page!



Links between Ash Wednesday and Lent

*The line/phrase that have chosen is:
"Return to me with all your heart."

This line helps Catholics and Christians believe and be kind to Jesus and make sure Jesus is their most important thing/person in their lives.

"Return to me" What does it mean?
Well, that bit of the phrase means returning to Jesus like instead of doing/focusing on other things in life you need to still make me dear Jesus.

"With all your heart," What does that mean?
This bit section of the line means to always love Jesus, no matter what else is things don't go your way you still need to love and make Jesus feel loved.

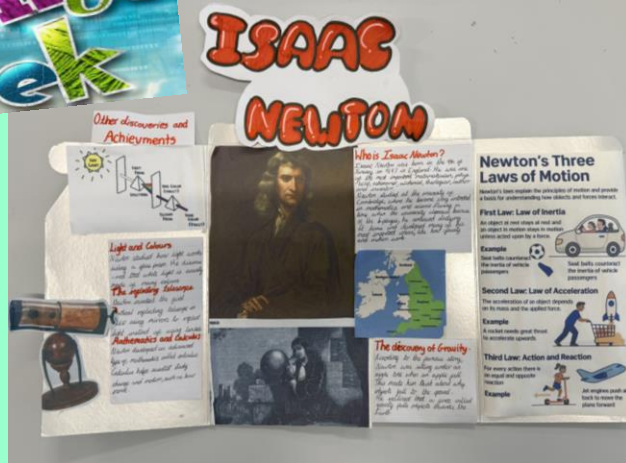
This line means a lot to me because it shows me that God wants me back with all of the love I have for him.

Finally, 5W have been reflecting on the period of Lent and how this important period helps us to remind ourselves how much God loves us and to reflect on our choices.

6J Class Page!



We give thanks for another week of learning in Year 6, with the children continuing to grow in knowledge and confidence.



Year 6 enjoyed Science Week activities. A special shout-out to Drew for her brilliant project on Isaac Newton.

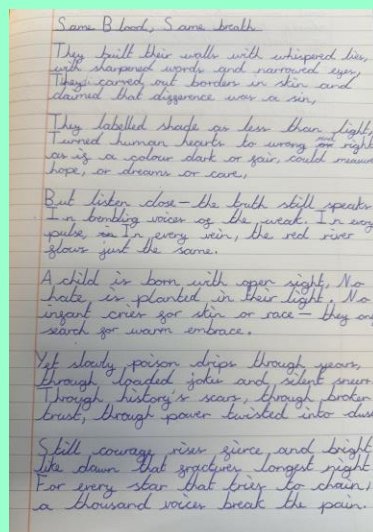


Star Writer

Inspired by Benjamin Zephaniah, Year 6 created their own expressive poems using powerful language and rhythm. Well done to our Star Writer for her outstanding work!

Author Visit at the Library

Year 6 were invited to the library to meet author Reema Manchanda. The session focused on online safety and pupils shared their ideas to help shape Reema's upcoming graphic novel.





Thursday 19th March



The Mini Vinnies will be hosting a cake sale, after school, to raise much needed funds for Mary's Meals.

Cakes, biscuits or sweet treat donations will be greatly appreciated.

mary's
meals

a simple solution
to world hunger

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.

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/>



Dear God,
As we continue our journey through
Lent, help us to pause, reflect, and
make good choices each day.

Teach us to notice when others need
help, to be brave enough to say sorry,
and to try again when we make
mistakes.

Thank You for the people who care for
us and for all the small moments of
kindness we see around our school.

As we move closer to Easter,
fill our hearts with hope and joy,
and help us to grow in love,
just as Jesus showed us.

Amen.