

St. Mary's Newsletter



**December
2025**

Tel:
01924 303625

Twitter:
@StMarysCofEPri1

Email:
office@stmaryswakefield.co.uk

We cannot believe it is the Christmas holidays already! Where has this term gone! Children across school have been exceptionally busy since our last newsletter and, of course, have also enjoyed some Christmas festivities. Following the parent questionnaire which you completed at the recent parents evening, some parents explained they would like to see more pictures on the newsletters; therefore, we have listened to your requests and you will see more pictures of the children doing different activities in their classes. Please make sure you look at the bottom of the newsletter to find all the pictures from our Reindeer Run!

Please also ensure you look at the 'Dates for your diary' section below!

On behalf of all the staff at St. Mary's, we'd like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 5th January 2026!



In the Spotlight...

Highlights from each class & Christmas activities

Nursery

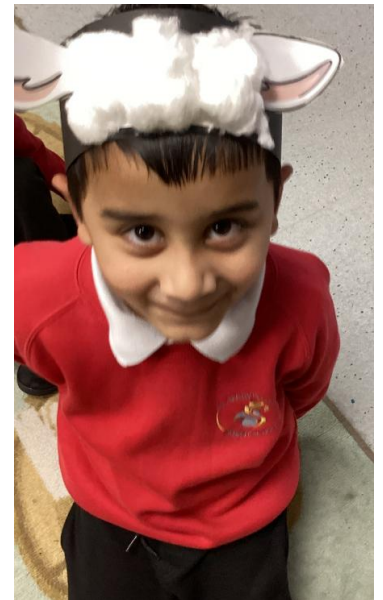
The children have been getting creative by decorating their own baubles and helping to dress our beautiful Christmas tree. We enjoyed a special trip to the cathedral, where we learned all about the Christmas story, acted it out together, and sang festive songs. To top it all off, we celebrated with a lovely Christmas party full of fun and laughter—playing pass the parcel and welcoming a very special visitor!



Reception

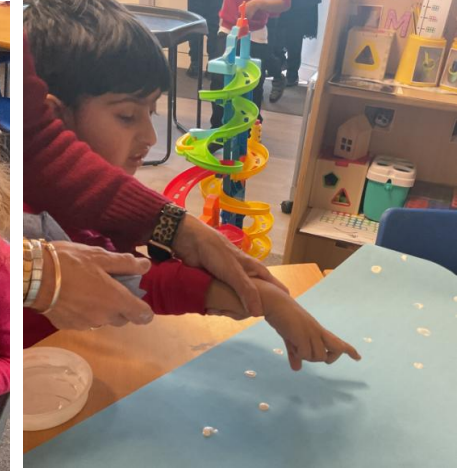
Reception have enjoyed the Christmas festivities with a visit to Wakefield Cathedral, a delicious Christmas dinner and taking part in the nativity.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of the composition of numbers.



Squirrel Lodge:

The children in Squirrel lodge have been very busy this half term, we have been making some winter scenes using our fingers, as well as making and hanging Christmas decorations on the hall Christmas tree. The children also enjoyed our festive Christmas day in school, joining the other children in the hall and taking part in their own class parties.



Year 1:

Our Year 1 children had an amazing time on their recent trip to *Eureka!* They explored, discovered, and learned through lots of hands-on activities—it was a day full of excitement and curiosity. Back in school, we've been getting creative in art lessons by learning about the work of Bridget Riley and experimenting with patterns inspired by her style. We've also been practicing our portrait drawing skills, which has been great fun! To add to the festive spirit, the children loved decorating the Christmas tree together and were thrilled by a special visit from Santa. What a wonderful way to end the term!





Year 2:

History: We used our hall timeline to explore the chronology of the Ancient Greek period. We enjoyed taking part in an Ancient Greek workshop. We handled artefacts and thought like archaeologists to explore what they told us about life in Ancient Greece by considering what they were made from and what they might have been used for.

Science: We planned and carried out a range of fair tests enquiries to investigate the properties of materials and how materials change. We explored if solids are soluble or insoluble in water, how mixtures can be separated and if changes are reversible or irreversible.

Our class assembly: We enjoyed presenting our learning in front of the school and our families in our Autumn Showcase. We also enjoyed performing our Living on a Prayer song with glockenspiel accompaniment. Afterwards, lots of teachers told us how impressed they were with the quality of a speaking voices which was great as we had worked really hard on protecting our voices clearly for an audience.

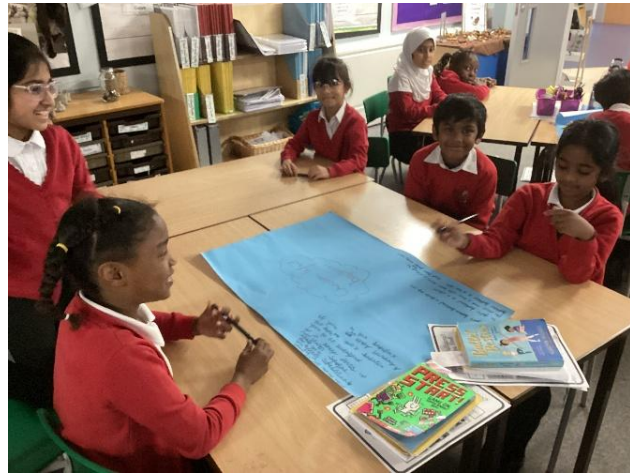
Religion and worldviews: We have thought deeply this half term about Creation and if religious and scientific accounts are conflicting or complimentary. We have used impressive vocabulary to reason and give our opinions.

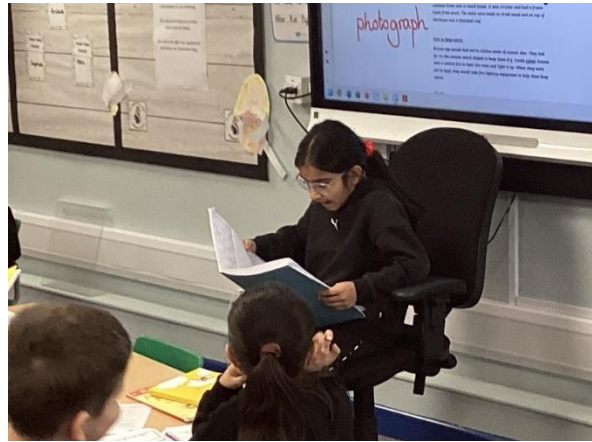
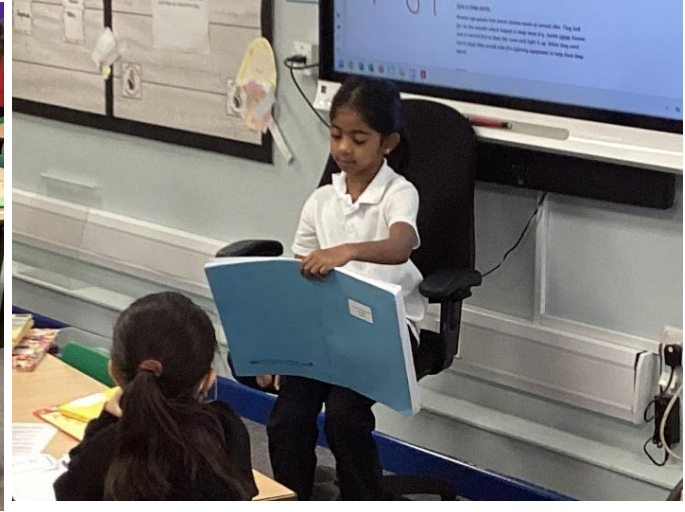
Art: We worked with thought and care to create silk painting with Paisley patterns having been inspired of the work of designers including Gucci, Dolce and Gabbana and Burberry.



Year 3:

Year 3 have been working hard on their DT project this half term. They designed, created and evaluated their own Christmas stocking. They used running stitch and cross stitch and designed their own applique. In Religion and Worldviews, this half term we have been learning about commitment ceremonies in different faith including Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In French we have continue to learn about colours, numbers and size. We learn your French Rhyme Deux Petit Chatons. In Writing, we have been writing our own report on The Stone Age. We talk to the class "Like an Expert" to share our knowledge. In Science, we've been looking at forces and understanding different materials can repel and attract against magnets. We experimented with different materials in the classroom to see what happened.





Year 4:

History

In History, we have been learning about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in Britain. We became archaeologists, looking through sand for clues about life in Britain during the time of the Vikings.

Music

After our first term of ukulele lessons, we performed a concert for parents during which we played several ukulele tunes.

Religion and Worldviews

We visited Wakefield Cathedral during Advent, to learn more about this Christian season and the importance of light during the Christian festival of Christmas. We saw a real Advent wreath, and learned about the traditions of the Christingle, and the Christmas tree.



Year 5

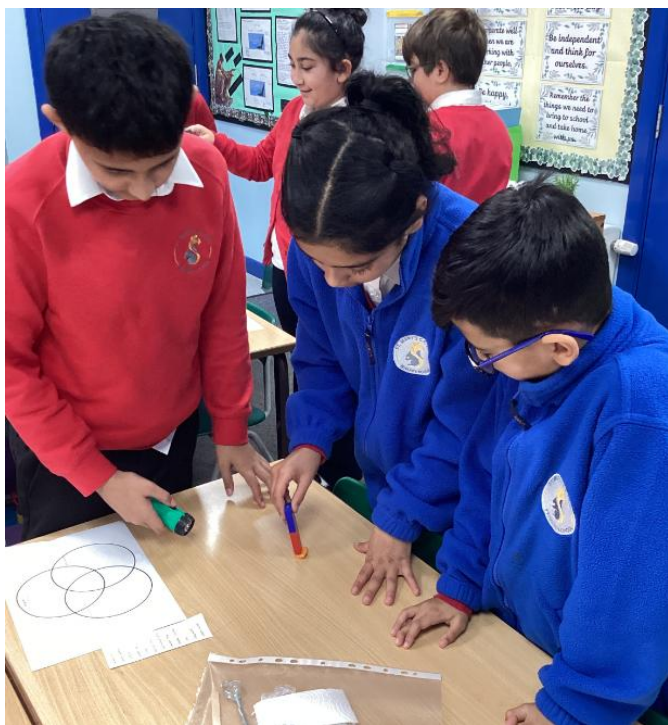
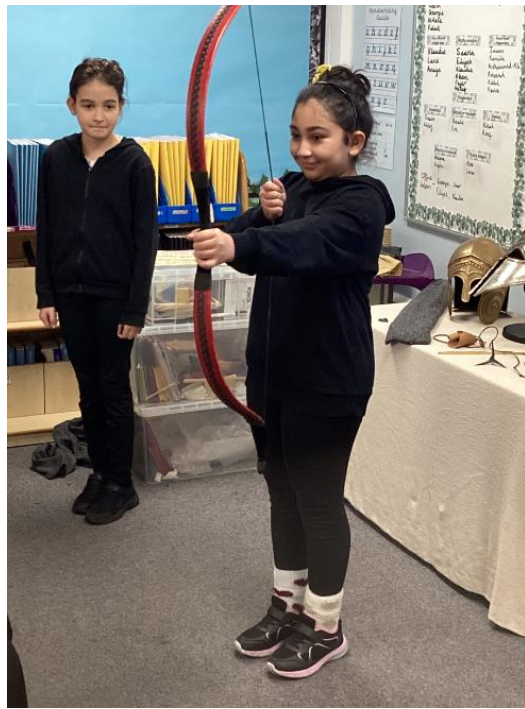
History

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Science

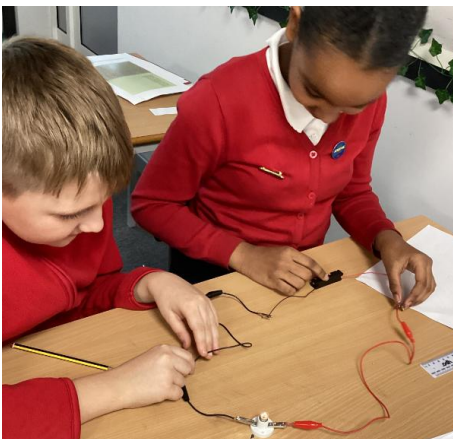
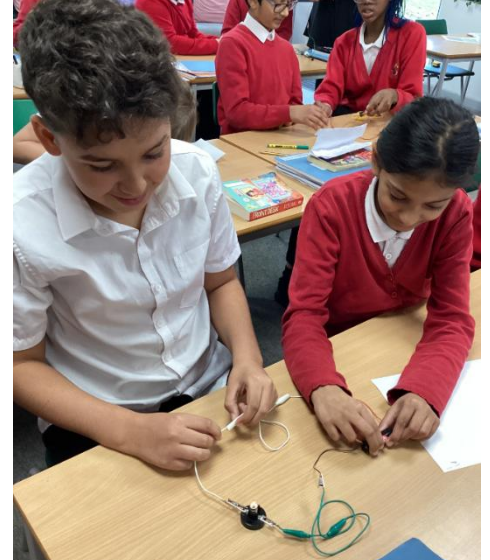
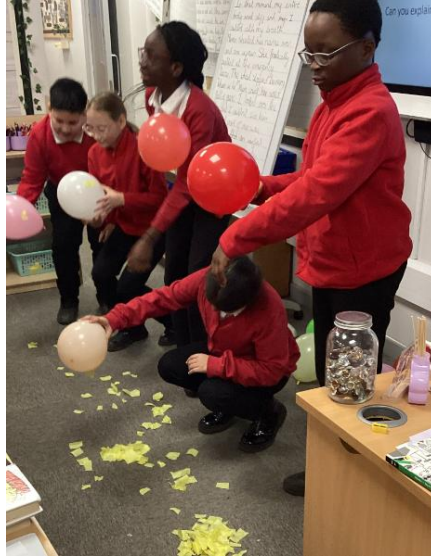
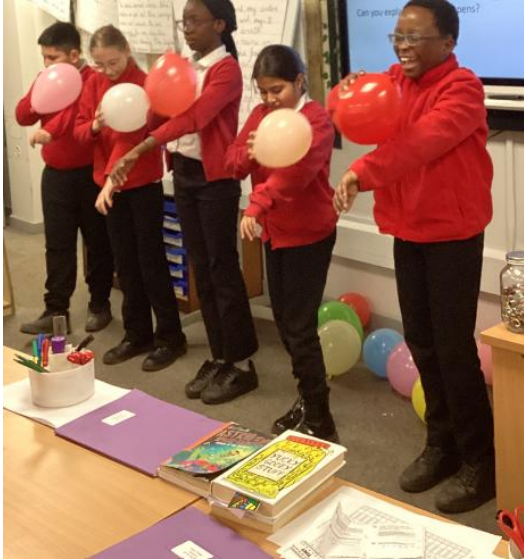
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Year 6

Year 6 have been working really hard in science this term. They've learnt all about electricity. They have taken part in lots of exciting experiments and really enjoyed learning about static electricity. In Design & Technology, the children have used their electricity knowledge to create a steady hand game. We are really proud of the products they have created; they look really professional.



Reindeer Run:

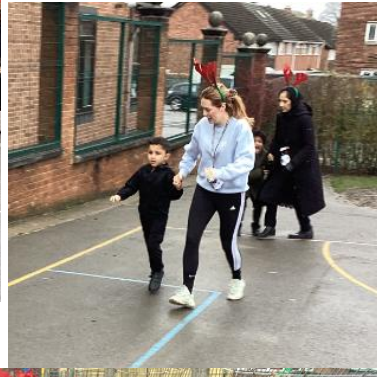
In true St Mary's style, the weather wasn't on our side for our reindeer run but we did not let that stop us! Everyone had great fun doing laps around the school grounds in our reindeer antlers to raise money for Wakefield Hospice. Thanks to staff and families' incredibly generous donations, I am delighted to share we managed to **raise £1258!!** Thank you for every single donation; this will go a long way to help Wakefield Hospice.







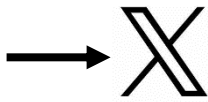








Monday 5th January- Back to school
Thursday 9th January- Y5/6 Fire Safety talk
Wednesday 4th February- Y5 Ancient Greek Workshop
Friday 13th February- Y4 Class Assembly
Monday 23rd February- INSET Day
Tuesday 24th February- Back to school
Thursday 5th March- World Book Day
Thursday 12th March- Y1 Cathedral visit
Wednesday 18th March- Y6 Cathedral visit
Friday 20th March- Y6 Class Assembly
Tuesday 24th March and Wednesday 25th March- Parents Evening
Friday 27th March- Break up for Easter (2 weeks)
Monday 13th April- Back to school



Twitter has changed its name to X. Make sure your browser/device is up to date to view all the wonderful things your children are doing at home.
Please **follow us** on: <https://twitter.com/StMarysCofEPri1> to see a snapshot of what happens in school.
Remember you can tweet any interesting photographs of children learning at home.

Please remember to visit our **School Website**, which has information about the School Day, the correct uniform, and Holiday Dates and Events <https://stmaryscephprimarywakefield.co.uk/>

There is a **translate button** on the homescreen which changes the coded text into the language chosen. Let us know if your language is missing.
The website shows the latest photos from Twitter if you do not have an account.

Additional Notes

Attendance

Since returning to school, attendance is good. Most children are attending school when they can and are ensuring they are in classes to begin their day promptly.

Information

There have been a number of occasions recently when we have attempted to contact Parents/Carers and phone numbers have been incorrect. It is vital that all information is kept up to date. This include names, phone numbers and addresses. **Please check your information at the school office** as soon as possible.

Parent/Carer Support/Drop In

Miss Simpson would like to invite Parents/Carers to a Support Drop In session. Miss Simpson is happy to help fill out forms/applications and offer support and advice where necessary. These sessions are appointment only and will run on Tuesday and Thursday Mornings 9:30am-10:30am. Appointments can be booked on 01924 303625, email office@stmaryswakefield.co.uk or book in person.

Outstanding Payments/Parent Pay

Please can you ensure that you check your ParentPay Accounts for any information and outstanding payments including trips, visits, clubs and school dinner fees on <https://www.parentpay.com/>. If you are having issues with your account please contact the school office on 01924 303625, email office@stmaryswakefield.co.uk or in person.

