St. Mary's Newsletter

May 2026

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Yet another half term is complete and we cannot believe we are heading into the final half term of the year. There has been lots and lots going on in school since our last newsletter and the children have been very busy. This half term has seen the Y6 and Y2 children sit their SATs of which all the staff in school are incredibly proud of them for. They have shown perseverance, resilience, maturity and determination.

Please see each class's photographs to see what has been going on in school as well as checking the dates for your diary at the bottom.

Staff news:

Over the holidays, Miss Webster is getting married and will return to school as Mrs Marriot. I'm sure you will join us in wishing her love and happiness for her special day and beyond.

We wish you a lovely, restful break and look forward to seeing you back at school on Monday 1st June.

Year 1:

Year 1 have enjoyed learning about science and geography this half term by looking at the atlases and globes, planting seeds and learning about the world around them.

We are looking forward to our next half term with our trip to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park, sports day and summer fayre.

Year 2:

In Year 2 this half term, we have been very busy.
In DT we have been creating Coal carts. We have linked this to our previous knowledge from History, and applied this to our DT. We learnt some mechanical vocabulary (axle, chassis, body, wheels) linked to a coal cart then we followed the process, design, make and evaluate to create our carts.

In Science, we have been learning about plants. We conducted an experiment to test the best growing conditions for cress. As part of our experiment, we had various variables such as water, sun, warmth and cool/dark. Over 6 weeks we have learnt about the parts of a plant, drew and labelled a plant diagram and then completed the experiment, observing the growth of the cress over 3 weeks. We then created posters to show our findings.

We have also enjoyed doing Forest school with Tom on a Tuesday. During our Forest School sessions, we have learnt about micro-habitats, created stick families and found some minibeasts in our outdoor area.

Finally, we had our class assembly! We based it on our history topic of Coal Mining from Spring 2. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and we hope you enjoyed it.

Year 3:

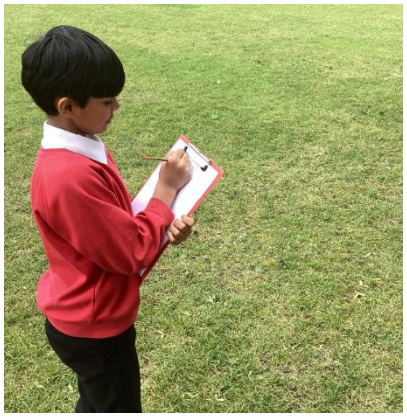
History: Year 3 have been acting as archaeologists this half term. We have had the loan box from Wakefield Museum and the children handled, investigated, measured and recorded Roman artefacts that were found in Roman Castleford.

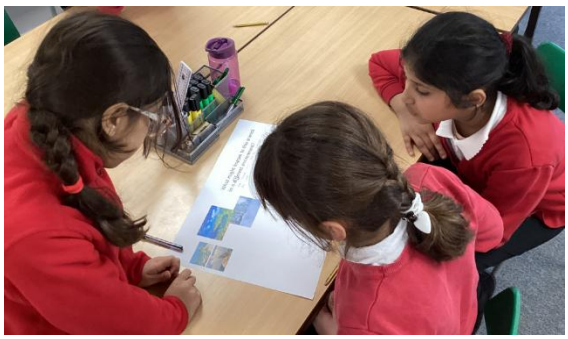
Science: The children have been learning about plants. They have dissected plants which they sketched and labelled. They also learnt about pollination and seed dispersal.

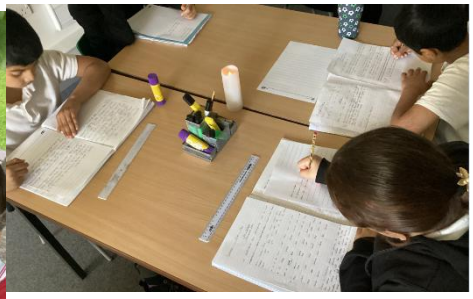
Countryside Day: The children visited the Yorkshire Showground in Harrogate. As a class, we enjoyed all the workshops including wizard wand making and pond dipping. The sheep show was fantastic. We got to see a sheep being sheared and dancing to music. What a great day for Year 3!

Year 4:

Year 4 have been very busy this half term. In Maths, we have been practicing for our multiplication check in June. We have published a persuasive piece of writing to the manager of Sainsbury's to persuade them to stop selling fizzy drinks after we found out in our previous Science lessons how much sugar was in the fizzy drinks. In Science, we've been looking at habitats and environmental changes; we also discussed whether humans make a positive or negative impact to habitats. We carried out a nature walk around the school grounds to examine what we're doing for animals in our local area. In Religion and Worldviews, we had the team from Hand to Mouth to take us on our 'amazing journey' and in Art, we have been creating our final pieces of abstract art.

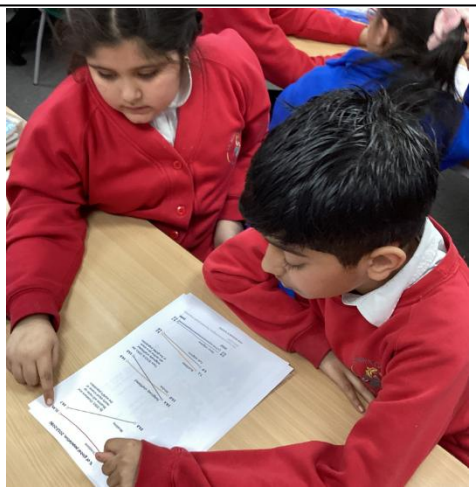


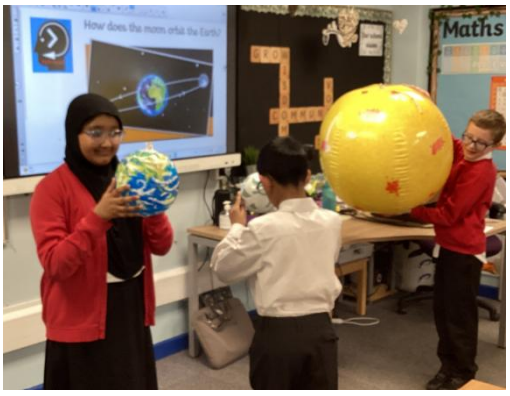


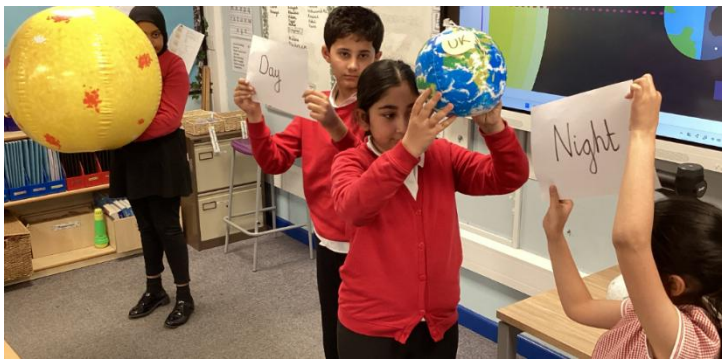


Year 5

It has been a busy half term of learning in Year 5. In Science, we learnt about Earth and Space by acting out the orbits of the Earth and Moon and by planning an observation over time enquiry to investigate how the length of shadows changes over a day. In Religion and Worldviews, we explored how we can make the city we live in a respectful place by considering what we can learn from religious and non-religious communities. In PE, we enjoyed developing our throwing and dodging skills to play dodgeball. In History, we used a range of sources to understand what made the Early Islamic Civilisation so great, comparing its Golden Age with life in London during the same period of time. In DT, we have been developing our textiles skills in designing spice bags by creating pattern pieces and using a range of stitches for different purposes. We also made great progress in our swimming lessons with 12 children progressing into the deep end and many of us now learning the butterfly stroke.



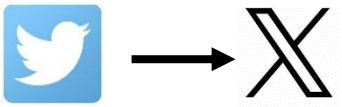




Year 6

This half term, Y6 have completed their SATs. Their hard work, continuous effort, determination and maturity shone throughout SATs week and we are all really proud of you. We have also enjoyed some free time on the field with our friends to celebrate all our hard work!

Monday 1st June- Return to school
Tuesday 2nd June- Y6 WW2 Day
Monday 8th June- Y5 visit to Tropical World
Friday 5th June- Non uniform day- Bring a tombola prize
Thursday 11th June- Y4 to sit the MTC
Tuesday 16th June- Y4 at Big Strum at Wakefield Cathedral
Friday 19th June- KS1 and KS2 Sports Day- More information to follow
Friday 19th June- Y1 Class Assembly
Tuesday 23rd June- Y4 trip to The Deep
Thursday 25th June- Y6 trip to Junior Warrior
Friday 26th June- Non uniform day- Bring a bottle
Monday 29th June- Reception trip to Lotherton Hall
Wednesday 1st July- Y1 trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Wednesday 1st July- Y6 Moving on Cathedral service
Thursday 2nd July- Y3 Cathedral visit
Thursday 2nd July- Summer Fayre
Friday 3rd July- Y5 trip to Yorkshire Sculpture Park
Monday 6th July- Nursery trip to Filey
Monday 6th- Friday 10th July- Y6 Bikeability
Wednesday 8th July- Parent RSHE Information session
Thursday 16th July- Y6 Leavers assembly- Time TBC
Friday 17th July- Final day of term



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://stmarysceprimarywakefield.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- PLEASE READ!

Remember to phone 01924 303625 and press option 1 or email office@stmaryswakefield.co.uk before school starts if your child is going to be absent. Give the full name of the child, their class and a clear detailed reason why they are absent from school. We cannot accept they are not well, sick or poorly we need to know the exact reasons. If a child is absent for more than 2 days please phone or email again to update us.

Information- PLEASE READ!

Thank you for patience and support whilst we have had the new electric gates fitted. Please see the previous letter regarding timings for the gates being open and closed and what to do if they are closed when you arrive at school.

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 appoitnment 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.