



Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Welcome Back to Spring Term 2**

We hope everyone enjoyed a **restful** and **refreshing** break, and that you were able to make the most of the time away from school to **re-energise** and spend quality moments with friends and family.

As we begin this new half term, we are looking forward to a productive and enjoyable few weeks leading up to our **Easter** celebrations at the end of term. There is plenty to be excited about, including **Reading Week**, the **Book Fair**, and **World Book Day**.

We are delighted to welcome all students back and look forward to a fantastic term ahead!

It is the **responsibility** of all the community to maintain a supportive environment for everyone. 😊

### **Values**

- St Mary's Christian Values for the **spring term** are **wisdom, responsibility and honesty**.
- Our school Bible quote which we aspire for all children and adults to achieve is **'I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths.'** (Proverbs 4:11)

## Parent News Section 1,

### The Importance of School Uniform

A consistent and well-presented **school uniform** plays an important role in setting a **positive tone** for learning. It reflects our shared commitment to **hard work, respect, responsibility, and good conduct**. Wearing the uniform with **pride** helps unite us as a whole school community and reinforces our **sense of belonging**. It also allows our pupils to represent the school with confidence, carrying our school logo as a symbol of the **values** we uphold together.

### Our New Website

We hope that families have enjoyed exploring the **new-look school website**. Your feedback is both valued and appreciated as we continue to refine and improve the experience for our community.

We would also like to recognise and thank **Mrs McMahon**, who has worked diligently behind the scenes to support the development of this project. Her efforts have been instrumental in bringing the updated site to life.



## Parent News Section 2,

### Attendance and Punctuality

Strong **attendance** and **punctuality** are essential foundations for every child's success in school. Being present and on time each day helps pupils establish **positive routines**, stay engaged in their learning, and make steady academic progress. It also supports the development of important life skills such as **responsibility, organisation, and respect** for others.

When pupils arrive punctually, they begin the day **calmly** and **confidently**, ready to participate fully in lessons.

Consistent attendance ensures they do not miss key learning moments, group activities, or opportunities to **build relationships** with peers and staff.

As a school community, we rely on these shared expectations to create a **productive and supportive environment** for all.

**We appreciate the continued partnership of parents and carers in helping children arrive at school prepared and on time each morning. Together, we can ensure that every pupil has the best possible start to each school day.**



## Parent News Section 3,

### Absence

- Attending school every day is important for children to learn well.
- On the rare occasion children are absent, please report this on our **Study Bugs** system.
- If reporting your child's absence, clearly state your child's **name, year group, class** and the **reason why** your child is absent. We ask that you are **specific about your child's illness** so we can recognise trends and local outbreaks.
- We do not authorise holidays during term time, and you may be fined through the authority.
- Please try to arrange appointments out of school hours. If this is not possible, please email the school office with conformation of the appointment: [officestaff@stmarys.slough.sch.uk](mailto:officestaff@stmarys.slough.sch.uk)
- Well done to **2** classes who achieved **96%** or more attendance last week!
- Well done to: **Damson and Elm classes!!**



**GATES OPEN: 08:20 am**

**GATES CLOSE: 08:30 am**

Children **must** be in class, registered and ready for learning at **08.30am**.

Please avoid lateness as this impacts on the front office and a calm start to your child's day.

## Attendance Competition



We are repeating our attendance competition again this year. It is open to everyone who attends St Mary's school.

All children who achieve **100%** and flourish in their school attendance will be receiving a **special certificate** to thank them for coming to school every day for a **whole term**.

Those who achieve **100% for the whole year** will receive a special celebration and receive some prizes.

They will automatically be entered into a draw where one lucky family will win a summer **family day** out for **four** to **Legoland**.

### Good luck everyone!



## Attendance for last week

Nursery AM	74.4%
Nursery PM	84.8%
0Poppy	79.7%
0Bluebell	94.0%
0Daffodil	92.3%
<b>1Damson</b>	<b>96.2%</b>
1Cherry	92.8%
1Apple	89.0%
2Pear	92.3%
2Plum	92.0%
2Peach	94.3%
3Ash	95.0%
3Sycamore	94.7%
3Juniper	88.7%
4Larch	88.6%
4Beech	95.0%
4Oak	94.7%
5Hazel	95.0%
5Alder	91.3%
<b>5Elm</b>	<b>98.3%</b>
6Willow	93.8%
6Maple	90.6%
6Rowan	90.0%

**96% or more is the target.**

**Classes with 100% attendance for the week earn a collective reward! 2 classes have earned the reward so far this year.**

**The senior leadership team have pledged that if 5 classes achieve 100% in the same week, they will come to school wearing superhero costumes!** Please bring your child to school every day 😊

## Reception News, Section 1

### Lunar New Year at St Mary's

We all enjoyed learning about the traditions of **Lunar New Year**, there were various exciting activities to do during the week. We had a go at using chopsticks to help strengthen our fingers; this will improve our handwriting. We wrote numbers in Mandarin, folded paper to make fans, drew dragons and developed our cutting skills by making lanterns. Our focus book '**Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao**' helped us understand the importance of **perseverance** – one of our school values.

**Thank you once again for your continued support.**

**Reception Team**



## Reception News, Section 2

### Lunar New Year at St Mary's

Staff and pupils had lots of fun parading our dragons round the school at the end of the week, accompanied by musicians. What a super colourful week to end Spring Term 1.

**Thank you once again for your continued support.**

**Reception Team**



# Year 1 News, Section 1

## Windsor Castle Trip

Year 1 really enjoyed our trip to Windsor Castle! We had a very busy day and saw so much of Windsor Castle such as the: State Apartments, Dolls House, St George's chapel and the change of the guard!

**Miss Brindley** (RE Co-Lead, Y1 Lead, Y1 Cherry Class teacher)



## Year 1 News, Section 2

### Windsor Castle Trip

We also had a brilliant workshop on castles where the children got to act out attacking and defending castles with a few teachers having to pretend to be King John! The children had a wonderful time and were extremely well behaved.

This was positively commented on by the Windsor Castle staff who said that we were one of the best-behaved schools. Well done Year 1! What a great way to end the half term!

**Miss Brindley** (RE Co-Lead, Y1 Lead, Y1 Cherry Class teacher)



## Year 2 News, Section 1

### Lunar New Year at St Mary's

Happy Lunar New Year, Kung Hei Fat Choy, to all those celebrating! It was wonderful to see the school radiating in red to commemorate the day. Year 2 were graced with the presence of Year 3 and Reception's 'Dragon Parade' which brought joy and energy into our classrooms. In the afternoon, Year 2 enjoyed colouring along with relaxing music to nurture mindfulness.

**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



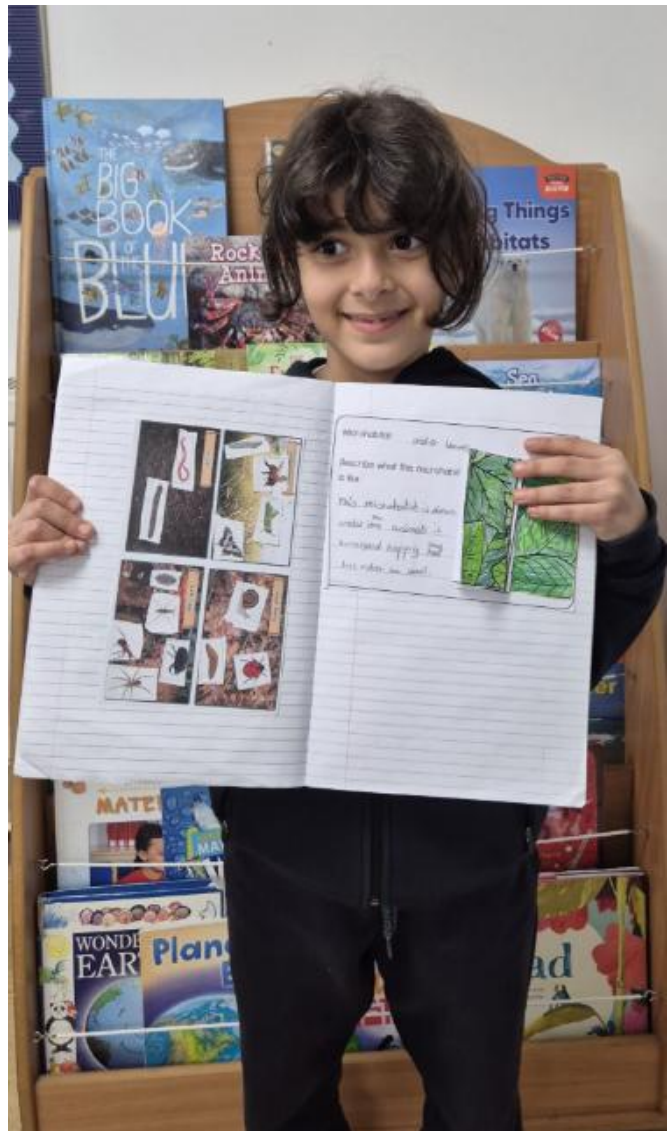
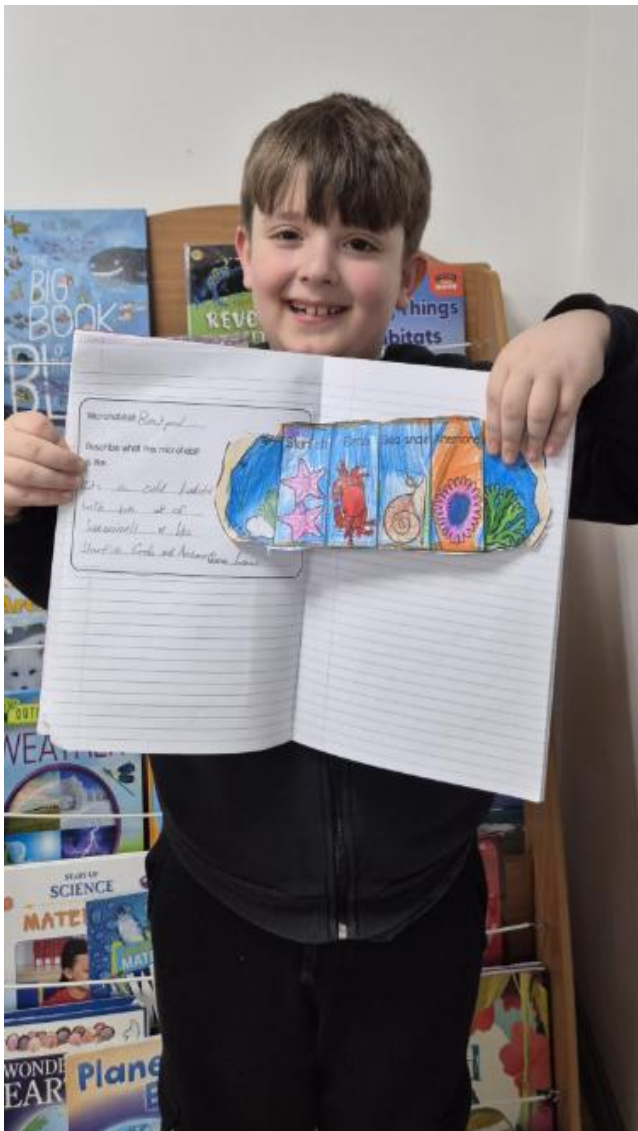
## Year 2 News, Section 2

### Science in Year 2

In Science, children have continued to explore microhabitats this week and further their understanding of why minibeasts live in microhabitats. To quote a pupil in Year 2, "Science is the best part of the week."

**Can you spot the science books in our book corner?**

**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



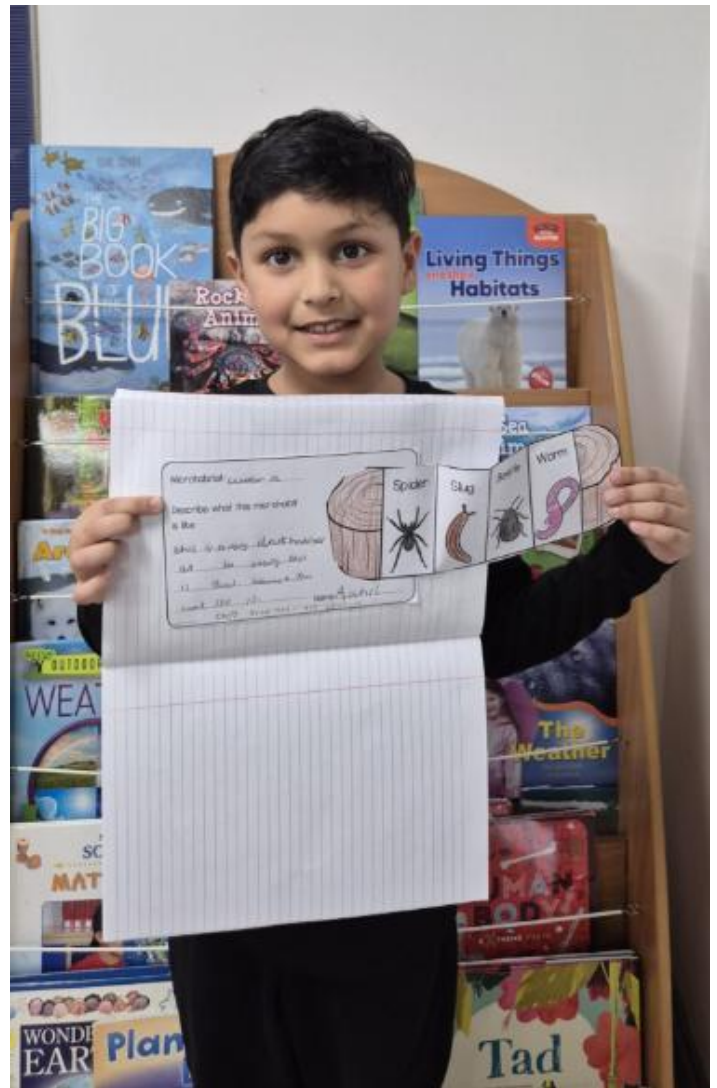
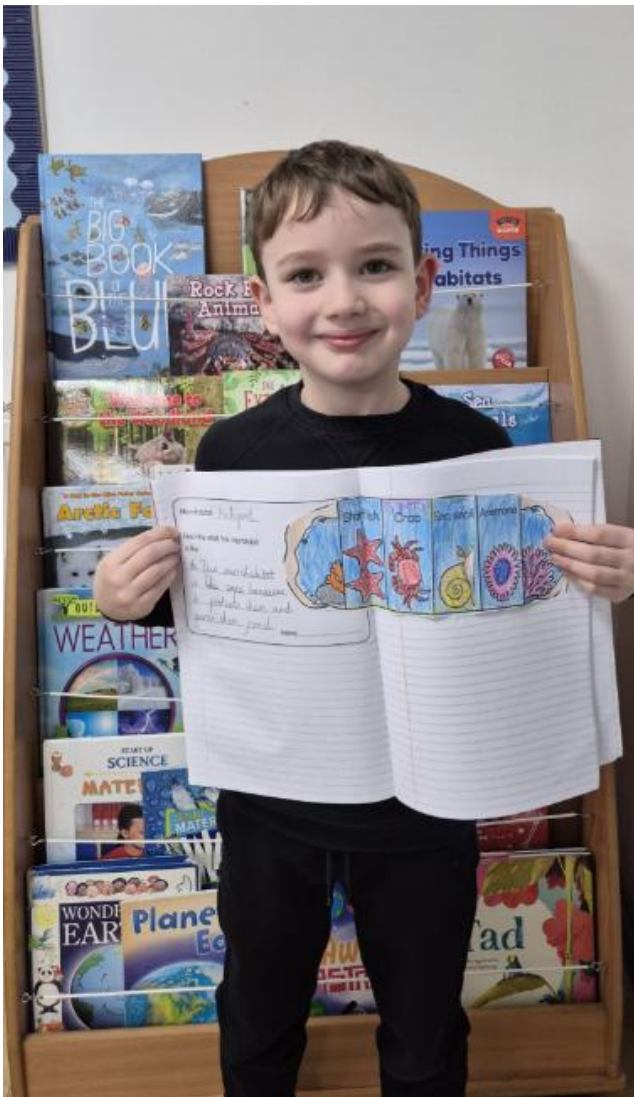
## Year 2 News, Section 3

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**Can you spot the science books in our book corner?**

**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



## Year 2 News, Section 4

### Design and Technology in Year 2

In Design Technology, Year 2 have been developing their skills in textiles. They have learned how to thread a needle, tie a knot and sew a running stitch to create their own pouch. This week, the children added their final decorations to complete their product.

**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



## Year 2 News, Section 5

### Design and Technology in Year 2

In Design Technology, Year 2 have been developing their skills in textiles. They have learned how to thread a needle, tie a knot and sew a running stitch to create their own pouch. This week, the children added their final decorations to complete their product.

**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



## Year 2 News, Section 6

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**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



## Year 2 News, Section 7

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**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



## Year 2 News, Section 8

### Design and Technology in Year 2

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**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



## Year 2 News, Section 8

### Design and Technology in Year 2

Mrs Peterson (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



## Year 2 News, Section 9

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**Mrs Peterson** (Y2 Lead and Y2 Peach Class teacher)



## Year 3 News, Section 1

### Lunar New Year at St Mary's

Well done to Ash Class who showcased their incredible singing and acting talents during their class assembly, celebrating the Lunar New Year.

The children wowed the audience with a spectacular visit from a real Chinese dragon, bringing the festivities to life! Thank you, **Mrs Hussain**, for your creative talents!

The children also reenacted the story of the Chinese zodiac, highlighting that this year is the year of the horse.

**Mrs Williams** (Science Lead, Y3 Lead, Y3 Ash Class teacher)



## Year 3 News, Section 2

### Lunar New Year at St Mary's

We were delighted to welcome a special visitor, **Chiu**, who shared her Chinese traditions with us. Thank you, Mrs Canali, for helping us!

It was a wonderful celebration!

**Mrs Williams** (Science Lead, Y3 Lead, Y3 Ash Class teacher)

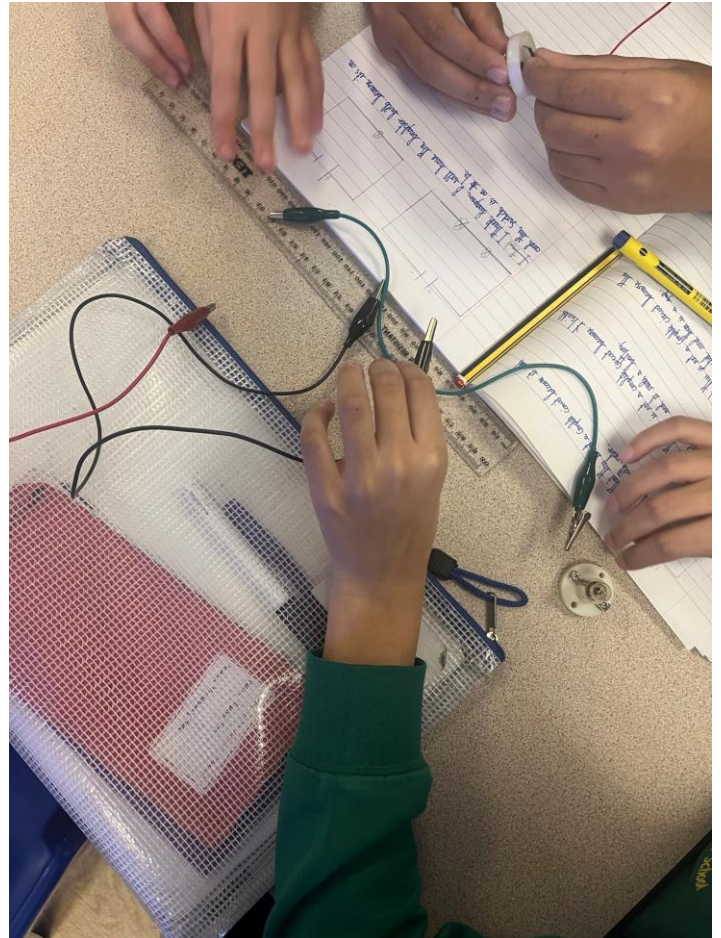
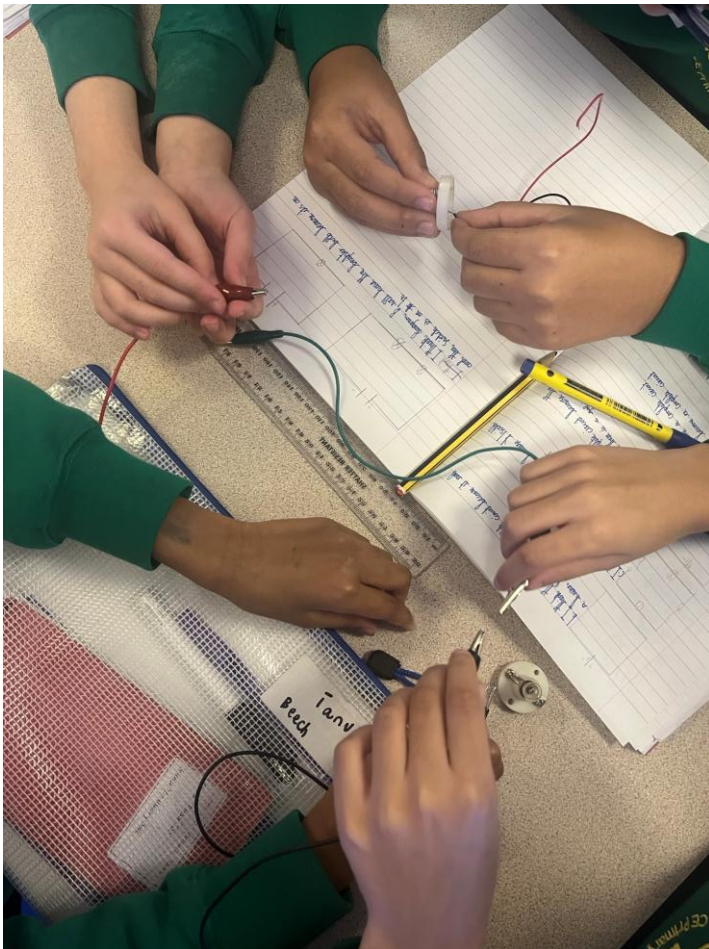


# Year 4 News, Section 1

## Science in Year 4

This week, Year 4 took part in a hands-on science investigation to explore electric circuits. They experimented with one- and two-bulb circuits to discover how the number of bulbs affects brightness. Next lesson they will be writing up their results!

**Miss Galloway** (Reading for Pleasure Co- Lead, Y4 Beech Class teacher)

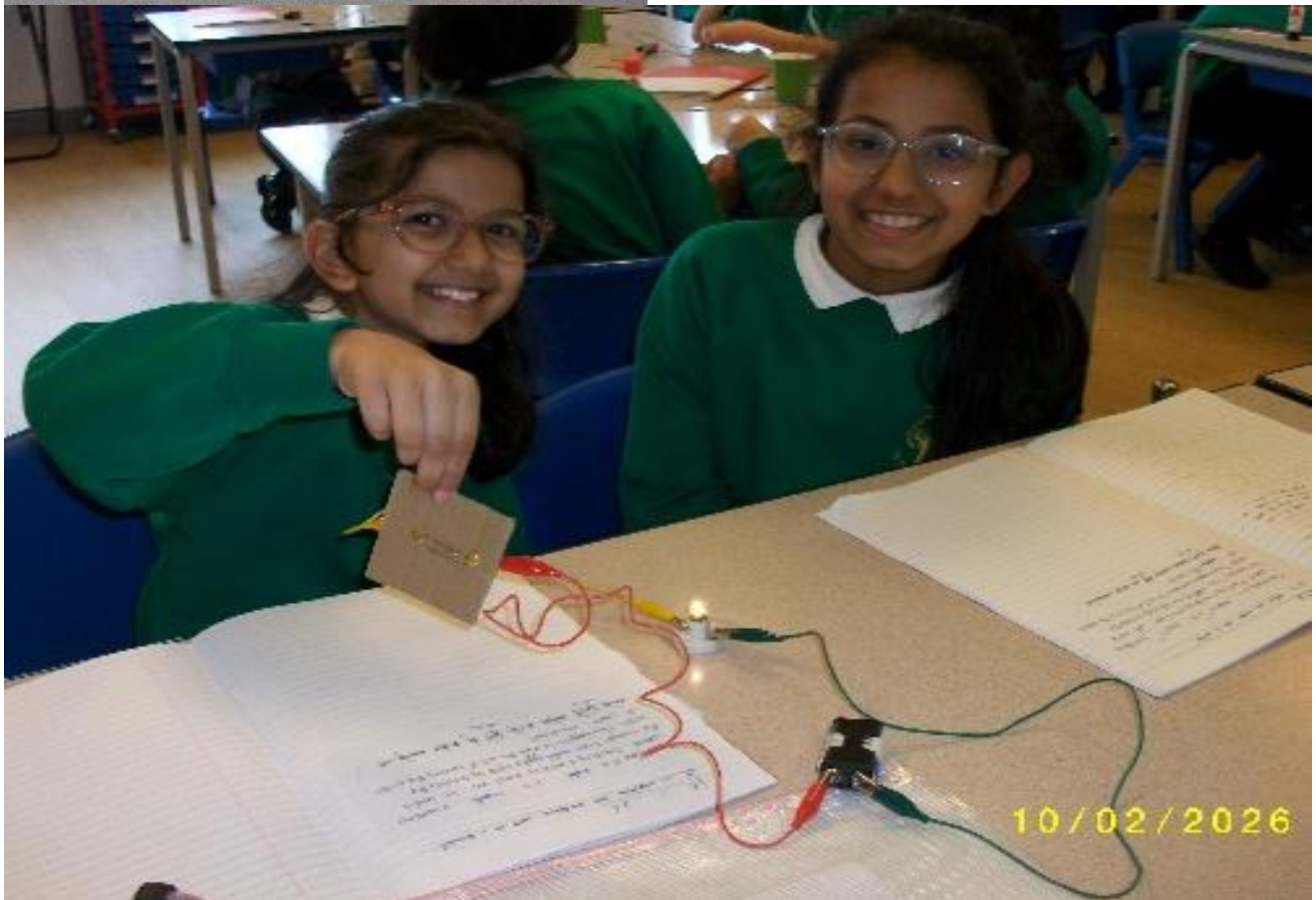
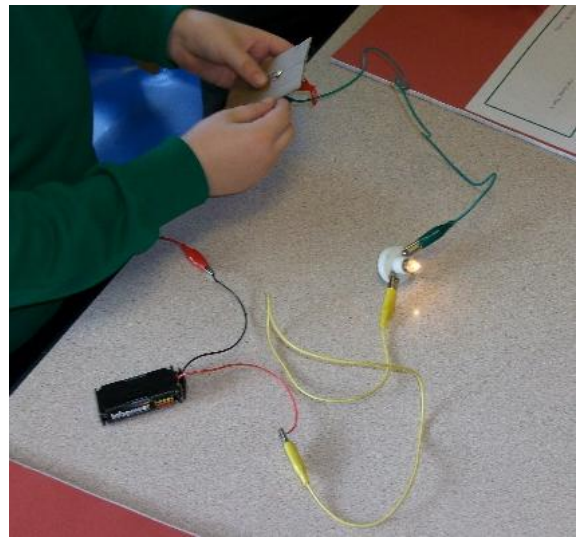
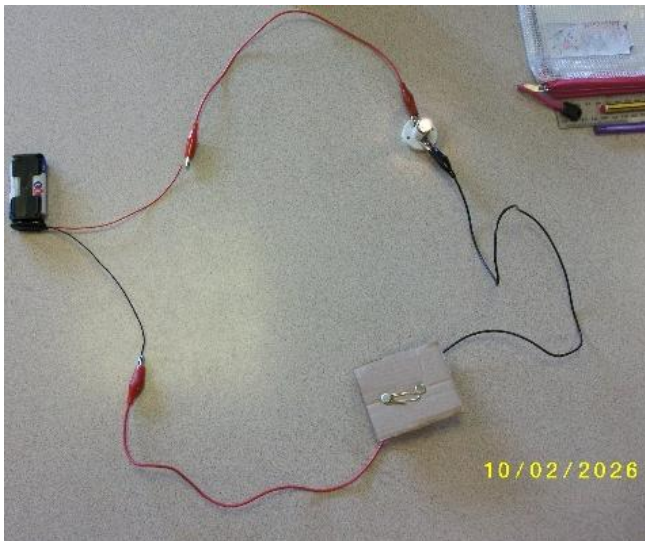


## Year 4 News, Section 2

### Science in Year 4

This week in science Larch class has been busy making their own switches and investigating what impact they have on electrical circuits.

**Mr Plumley** (Computing Lead, Y4 Lead, Y4 Larch Class teacher)



## Year 4 News, Section 3

### Science in Year 4

In computing this term, the children have been learning all about podcasting. Therefore, on Thursday Mr Plumley converted one of the leaning spaces in Year 4 into a recording studio for the afternoon. The children were natural presenters and really enjoyed the experience.

**Mr Plumley** (Computing Lead, Y4 Lead, Y4 Larch Class teacher)



## Year 4 News, Section 5

### Science in Year 4

In computing this term, the children have been learning all about podcasting. Therefore, on Thursday Mr Plumley converted one of the leaning spaces in Year 4 into a recording studio for the afternoon. The children were natural presenters and really enjoyed the experience.

**Mr Plumley** (Computing Lead, Y4 Lead, Y4 Larch Class teacher)

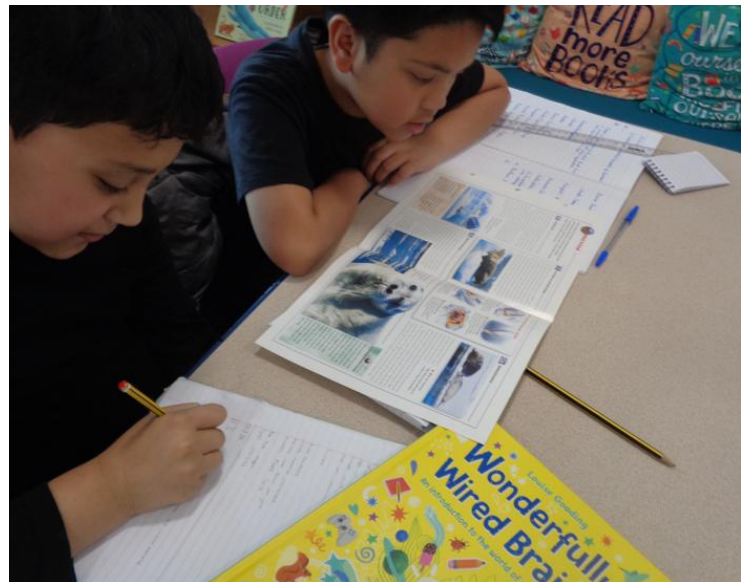
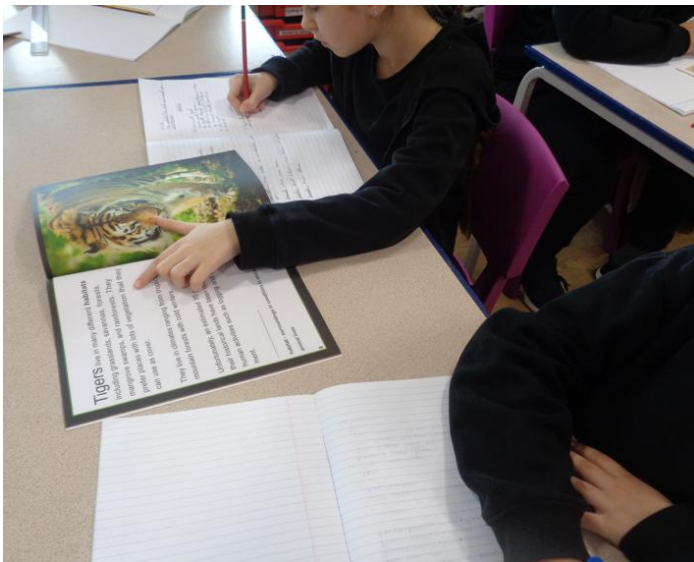
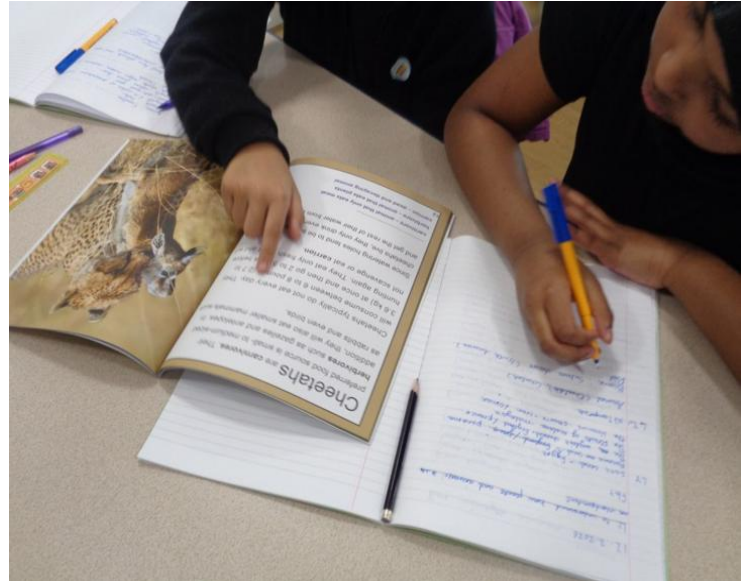
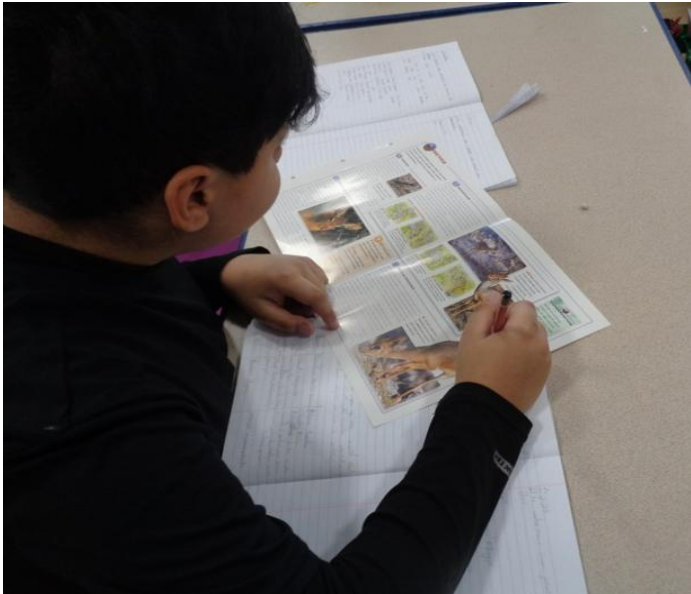


# Year 5 News, Section 1

## Geography and English in Year 5

As part of our English writing, children were researching and writing about animals and the biomes to which they come from. The budding writers enjoyed using the bespoke resources for researching their chosen biome or animal.

**Mr Ali** (Humanities Co Lead, Y5 Lead, Y5 Hazel Class teacher)



## Year 5 News, Section 2

### Music in Year 5

Another week and another fantastic music lesson being delivered at St Mary's. In this week's lesson, our budding musicians continued to build their knowledge of how to play instruments as part of an orchestra. The children also were given fun, hands on demonstrations on how syllables play a role in musical beats.

**Mr Ali** (Humanities Co Lead, Year 5 Lead, Y5 Hazel Class teacher)



## Year 5 News, Section 3

### Music in Year 5

The children are receiving teaching on how to **play** different **instruments** as well as learning to play instruments as part of a wider group.

**Mr Ali** (Humanities Co Lead, Y5 Lead and Y5 Hazel Class teacher)



## Year 5 News, Section 4

### Lunar New Year in Year 5

As a treat for the Chinese New Year, year 5 won the prize of having 20 minutes ball game time. The children enjoyed the opportunity to practise their kicking, throwing and catching skills outdoors.

**Mr Ali** (Humanities Co Lead, Y5 Lead, Y5 Hazel Class teacher)



## Year 5 News, Section 5

### Children's Mental Health Week in Year 5

As part of Children's Mental Health Week activities, our Year 5 students took part in a meaningful reflection on the theme of 'belonging.' Through their artwork, they expressed the places where they feel most at home and comfortable. It was both fun and inspiring to see their varied ideas of belonging- Some drew their beds, pets, bicycles, school and even Netflix on TV. Each child also identified their favourite spot among their drawings. They proudly titled their artwork, 'This is my place!'

**Mr Ali** (Humanities Co Lead, Y5 Lead, Y5 Hazel Class teacher)



# Year 6 News, Section 1

## PE in Year 6

In PE, Rowan class have been learning the HAKA dance. This is a ritual that takes place before a rugby match in order to intimidate their opponents. We firstly practised the moves of the HAKA, we then incorporated a sprint, roll and a freeze frame to replicate moves in the game of rugby. Our dance was now ready for performance.

**Ms Rockett** (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)



## Year 6 News, Section 2

### Children's Mental Health in Year 6

As part of **Children's Mental Health Week**, the Year 6 School Council put their filming skills to the test and delivered a very informative clip to raise awareness, which was shared across the school. Thank you, **RB** (Head Girl), for working behind the screen and being our *Tech Queen*!

**Mrs Fogarty** (PHSE Lead, Y6 Maple Class teacher)



## Year 6 News, Section 3

### Art in Year 6

What a fantastic piece of artwork on canvas from **MD** in Maple Class! Well done for completing not one...not two...but three Bingo homework projects this week.

**Mrs Fogarty** (PHSE Lead, Y6 Maple Class teacher)



# Maths Week Round Up, Section 1

## Board Game Competition for Maths Week

Thank you to all the children who took the time and effort to submit an entry for the maths board game competition. We have had an excellent response as you can see in the photos below. We received over 40 entries which made it very difficult to decide the winners as they were all so good. Judging has taken place today by year 6 ambassadors and the winners will be announced after the half term holiday during assemblies.

Thank you for all your support with your children.

**Ms Rockett** (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)

Year 1



# Maths Week Round Up, Section 2

## Board Game Competition for Maths Week

Ms Rockett (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)

Year 2



# Maths Week Round Up, Section 3

## Board Game Competition for Maths Week

**Ms Rockett** (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)

Year 3



# Maths Week Round Up, Section 4

## Board Game Competition for Maths Week

**Ms Rockett** (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)

Year 4



# Maths Week Round Up, Section 5

## Board Game Competition for Maths Week

**Ms Rockett** (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)

Year 4



# Maths Week Round Up, Section 6

## Board Game Competition for Maths Week

Ms Rockett (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)

Year 5



# Maths Week Round Up, Section 7

## Board Game Competition for Maths Week

**Ms Rockett** (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)

Year 6



# Maths Week Round Up, Section 8

## Board Game Competition for Maths Week

Ms Rockett (Maths Lead, Y6 Lead, Y6 Rowan Class teacher)

The judging panel at work...who will be the winner?



## Sports at St Mary's, Section 1

### Girls' Netball Team Begin Their Season with an Outstanding Win!

On 13th February, our Girls' Netball Team took part in their first league fixture of the season against Wexham Primary School. The match was hosted here at St Mary's.

The team have been training diligently every Wednesday morning in preparation for the season ahead, and their hard work was clearly reflected in their performance. At the final whistle, St Mary's secured an impressive **13-0 victory**.

We now look forward to our next fixture on **6th March**, when we will be hosting Godolphin.

Well done to all the girls involved and enjoy the half term break.

**Mr Bignell (PE Lead)**





# READING WEEK COMPETITION!

Prizes include a new book!  
KS2 winners look out for a bonus  
scrumdiddlyumptious prize!

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2  
Create a drawing/ painting of  
a character from a book



## YEAR 3 & 4

Create an object from a book.  
This could be a Harry Potter  
wand or Paddington Bear's  
suitcase!



## Year 5 & 6

Create a diorama (a scene in  
a box) of a book of your  
choice.



## HOW TO ENTER

1. Create the chosen competition entry for your year group. Remember don't tell us what book your entry is linked to- we want to guess!
2. Hand it to your teacher by Friday 6th MARCH .



Half Term Fun at The Curve, Slough

Coming to Curve Venue, Slough

# Comedy Club 4 Kids



SUNJAI ARIF



BILAL ZAFAR

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OFFER  
(4 people)  
£40

Ages 6+ years and their grown ups!

'The perfect way to entertain the whole family'  
Three Weeks



Thursday 19 February at 2pm

£12 Standard | £10 Under 16s

**CURVE VENUE**  
The Curve, William Street,  
Slough, SL1 1XY

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 01753 303 035

[www.slough.gov.uk](http://www.slough.gov.uk)  
**Slough**  
Borough Council  
 ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



# Half Term Fun at The Curve, Slough

CURVE VENUE PRESENTS

**£4**  
Per  
Session

or £12 for 4

# CURVE EXPLORERS

WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY

From 9.15am  
to 4pm

**Ages  
5+  
years**

**Drumming**



**Singing**



**Arts and Crafts**



**Digital Animation**



**60 min  
Fun Filled  
Workshops**

**Try Something  
New!**

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The Curve, William Street,  
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Borough Council  
 ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND



## Rocksteady Music at St Mary's C.E. Primary



Hi Parent or Guardian,

Do you want your child to experience the magic of playing music in their very own band? Rocksteady Music School is the leading provider of in-school rock and pop band lessons for primary age children – and we're delighted to let you know we're teaching in your child's school!

How does it work?

With Rocksteady, children learn to play an instrument through weekly band lessons. It's the perfect way to learn new musical skills, make friends and have fun – all at school! Rocksteady lessons are also shown to boost confidence, wellbeing social skills and even academic achievement.

Your child will learn to play songs instantly through listening and playing. There's no music theory involved and lessons are designed to be fun, inclusive and accessible. They will be making progress in every lesson and can also achieve an Ofqual-regulated Trinity Music qualification, without having to take a single exam!

Here's what else you need to know:

- Most lessons take place during the school day. There's no experience necessary and all instruments for lessons are provided.
- You can choose if they shine on vocals, keyboard, drums, guitar or bass.
- Proudly watch as your child performs in their end of term concerts, showing just how far they have come!
- Rocksteady band leaders are professional musicians who inspire a passion for music and support your child every step of the way.

Places are offered on a first come, first served basis. There's a money-back guarantee for the first month and you can cancel at any time.

For more details on availability and cost, visit [rocksteadymusicschool.com](https://rocksteadymusicschool.com) and find your school on the sign up page or call 0330 113 0330.

Best wishes,

Rachel Hawker | Director of Education



0330 113 0330  
(Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)  
[rocksteadymusicschool.com](https://rocksteadymusicschool.com)



Find out what parents say about Rocksteady →

## Music at Slough Borough Council



# Slough Youth Orchestra



Film music, Theatre, Classical, Pop, and more -  
The World of Orchestra is limitless, and continually developing!

Required Grade 2+ standard on your instrument.

Meet like-minded musicians from schools in the community.  
Perform in exceptional concert venues.  
Develop your string, brass, wind, or percussion playing.

For more information, contact us: [music.service@slough.gov.uk](mailto:music.service@slough.gov.uk)



## Diary Dates

Please check 'diary dates' weekly. As new school events are confirmed, the 'diary dates' section of the newsletter is updated. Each week's new confirmed dates are shown in [blue](#).

### Spring Term

11.02.2026	Parent Information Meeting- Y1: Phonics Screening Check 8.30am
12.02.2026	Parent Information Meeting- Y4: Multiplication Test at 8.30am
12.02.2026	Assembly: Y3 Ash Class at 3pm
12.02.2026	Trip: Y1 to Windsor Castle
13.02.2026	Lunar New Year Celebration for Nursery, Reception, Y3 and Y4
<b>13.02.2026</b>	<b>Last day of Spring Term 1</b>

### Half Term Holiday

<b>23.02.2026</b>	<b>First Day of Spring Term 2</b>
24.02.2026	Trip: Y5 Eton College
24.02.2026	Workshop: Y6 History 'World War 2' experience at St Mary's school
02.03.2026	Reading Week
05.03.2026	World Book Day
05.03.2026	Assembly: Y5 Elm Class at 3pm
06.03.2026	Assembly: Y3 Juniper Class at 8.50am
09.03.2026	Parent Information Meeting- Y1: Phonics at 8.30am and 2.45pm
<a href="#">11.03.2026</a>	<a href="#">Rocksteady Crew Performance for Parents at 2pm</a>
12.03.2026	Assembly: Y2 Peach Class at 3pm
13.03.2025	Assembly: Y4 Oak Class at 8.50am
16.03.2026	EYFS Natural World 'Living Eggs' experience at St Mary's school
17.03.2026	Workshop: Y3 History 'Stone Age' experience at St Mary's school
18.03.2026	Trip: Y2 to Whipsnade Zoo
23.03.2026	Easter Performance at St Laurence's Church for morning Nursery Parents at 9.30am
23.03.2026	Parent Consultation Day 1 for Nursery, Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y6
24.03.2026	Easter Performance at St Laurence's Church for afternoon Nursery Parents at 2.00pm
24.03.2026	Trip: Y6 to Imperial War Museum
24.03.2026	Parent Consultation Day 1 for Y3, Y4 and Y5
25.03.2026	Parent Consultation Day 2 for Nursery, Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y6
26.03.2026	Easter Performance at St Mary's Church for Y3 and Y4 Parents at 9.30am
26.03.2026	Parent Consultation Day 2 for Y3, Y4 and Y5
27.03.2026	Nursery and Reception Easter Egg Hunt
27.03.2026	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Easter Bonnet Parade
<b>27.03.2026</b>	<b>Last Day of Spring Term 2</b>

### Easter Holiday

<b>13.04.2026</b>	<b>First Day of Summer Term 1 for Children</b>
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