

18<sup>th</sup> May 2026

# Newsletter

Summer Term (Edition 29)



## St Mary's Church of England Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

### End-of-Day Safety Reminder

At the end of the school day, children are the responsibility of their parents and carers. We kindly ask that children do not use the school playground equipment after dismissal, particularly any areas that have been taped off for health and safety reasons. Any injuries sustained during this time will fall under parental responsibility.

Thank you for working with us to help keep all children and our school community safe from avoidable injury.

### Final Week of Summer Term 1

As we head into the last week of term, we hope all our children enjoy the exciting activities planned for Science Week.

We would like to wish everyone a wonderful and restful half-term break. To all our families celebrating Eid ul Adha, we also extend our warmest wishes for a joyful celebration — **Eid Mubarak!**

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

### Values

- St Mary's Christian Values for the **summer term** are **forgiveness, resilience and perseverance.**
- 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

## 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 **14** classes who achieved **96%** or more attendance last week! **The highest total this year!!**
  - Well done to: **Bluebell, Cherry, Pear, Peach, Plum, Ash, Sycamore, Juniper, Larch, Beech, Hazel, Alder, Maple and Rowan classes!!**
- **Special well done to Year 2 and Year 3 departments with all classes achieving 96% or more attendance last week!!!**



**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	89.4%
Nursery PM	83.7%
0Poppy	91.7%
0Bluebell	96.3%
0Daffodil	95.4%
1Damson	94.8%
1Cherry	93.3%
1Apple	91.4%
2Pear	99.1%
2Plum	97.5%
2Peach	98.3%
3Ash	98.7%
3Sycamore	98.3%
3Juniper	97.5%
4Larch	99.6%
4Beech	98.8%
4Oak	88.3%
5Hazel	96.4%
5Alder	99.6%
5Elm	90.8%
6Willow	87.9%
6Maple	97.6%
6Rowan	98.5%

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 😊

# Nursery News, Section 1

## PE in Nursery

In PE the Nursery are practising so we are ready for Sports Day next half term. We are working in our house teams to complete the races. So far, we have practised the egg and spoon race and the hurdles which were quite tricky!

Parents, please remember to send your child into Nursery every Friday in their PE kit. The PE kit should have black jogging bottoms, black t-shirt, black jumper and trainers. This is so they are safe to complete our activities. Thank you.

## Nursery Department



## Nursery News, Section 2

### PE in Nursery

Parents, please remember to send your child into Nursery every Friday in their PE kit. The PE kit should have black jogging bottoms, black t-shirt, black jumper and trainers. This is so they are safe to complete our activities. Thank you.

### Nursery Department



## Nursery News, Section 3

### Professionals Who Help Us-Police Visit in Nursery

The afternoon Nursery were lucky to be invited to their first assembly with Reception to have some visitors in school. To link to the Reception topic of People Who Help Us, a police officer and two PCSO's came to visit. The children sat and listened really well to the information about police. They were also invited to try on the handcuffs and one lucky child got to have a try! The Nursery team were very impressed with the children and how well they adapted to this change in routine.

### Nursery Department



## Nursery News, Section 4

### Topic in Nursery

The children have taken part in lots of activities to link to the story *Dinosaurs Love Underpants*. They have been using their fine motor skills to cut out and colour in underpants and we have even been finding the missing number in underpants number lines! The children have really enjoyed this story.

### Nursery Department



## Nursery News, Section 5

### Topic in Nursery

The children have really enjoyed the story of Dinosaurs Love Underpants!

### Nursery Department



# Reception News, Section 1

## Professionals Who Help Us-Police Visit in in Reception

In Reception the **'Helpful Heroes'** we have been focusing on this week have been the **police**.

We were very lucky to have a **Police Officer** and **Police Community Support Officers** take time out of their busy days to visit us to tell us all about what they do to keep us all **safe**. They brought along a police van and enthralled Nursery and Reception pupils and staff with the **siren** and blue lights.

### Reception Department



## Reception News, Section 2

### Professionals Who Help Us-Police Visit in in Reception

We showed them our focus book - **Topsy and Tim meet the Police**. During the week we discussed the importance of the role of police and the different jobs they do. We had a wonderful time creating police cars using our cutting and sticking skills and creating police helicopters out of our wooden shapes.

### Reception Department



## Year 2 News, Section 1

### Science in Year 2

There is only one photo this week while the children are eagerly — and very patiently — waiting for them to harden before the next exciting stage begins.

Over the coming days, we are hoping to see beautiful butterflies start to emerge. The children have been asking thoughtful questions, making careful observations, and showing great excitement as they learn about growth and change in nature.

This has continued to be a fantastic opportunity to encourage curiosity, patience, and responsibility in a hands-on way. We will continue to share updates and photos as the butterflies begin to appear.

### Year 2 Department



## Year 6 News, Section 1

### Year 6 Shine Through SATs Week with Stunning Perspective Art

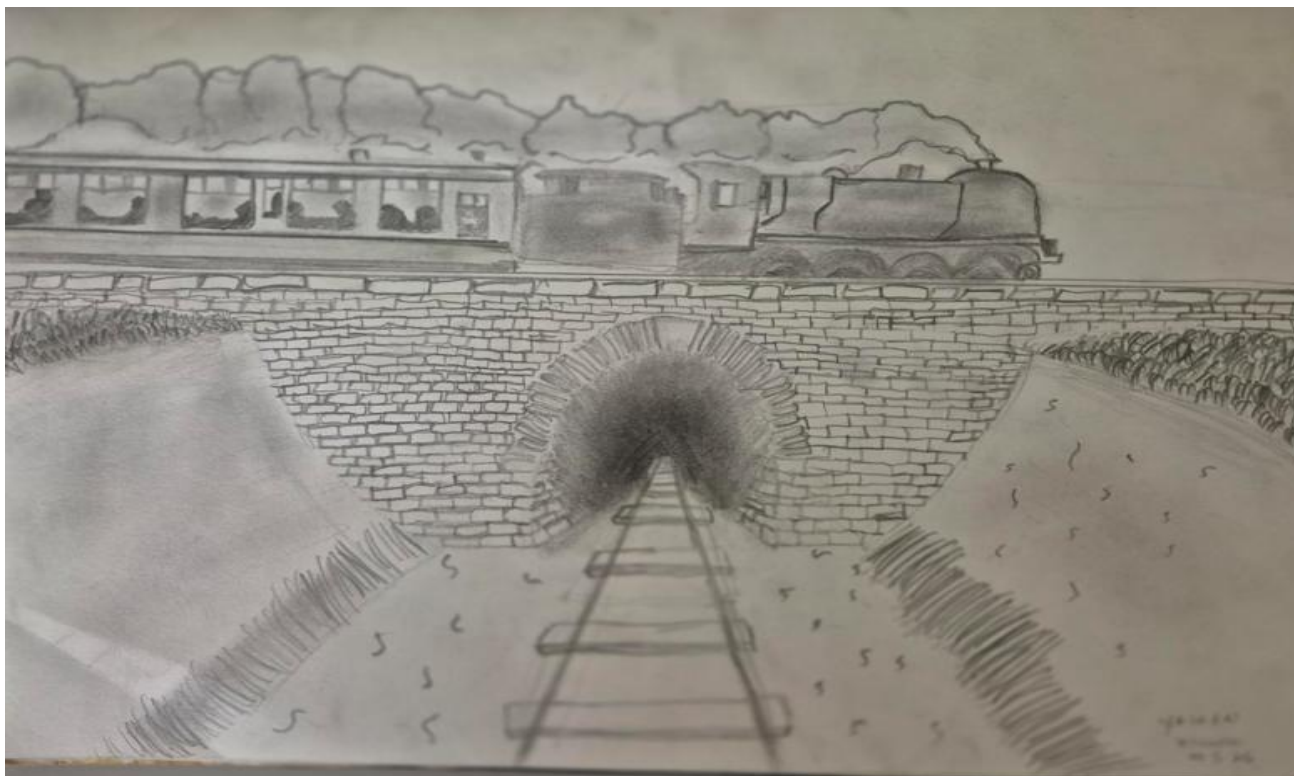
Year 6 have shown remarkable determination and maturity throughout their SATs week. From early-morning calm to focused test sessions, the children approached each paper with confidence, resilience and a real sense of pride in their learning.

To help them unwind after the intensity of the tests, the class explored perspective drawing — and the results were nothing short of brilliant. Using vanishing points, horizon lines and careful shading, pupils created artwork that looked as though it leapt right off the page. Many were amazed at how a few simple techniques could transform their drawings into realistic, three-dimensional scenes.

This creative time became more than just an art lesson. It offered a moment of calm, a chance to breathe and an opportunity for the children to express themselves after a demanding week. The classroom buzzed with quiet concentration, proud smiles and the joy of discovering a new artistic skill.

We are incredibly proud of every pupil in Year 6 — not only for their hard work during SATs but for the creativity, teamwork and positivity they showed throughout the week.

### Year 6 Department



## Year 6 News, Section 2

Year 6 Shine Through SATs Week with Stunning Perspective Art

Year 6 Department



## Dive into A Great Story at St Mary's!

### Reading Recommendations

#### **The Museum of Lost Umbrellas**

The **Museum of Lost Umbrellas** stands out as one of my favourite reads of the year.

From the very first page, it immerses you in a richly imagined world that feels both enchanting and vivid. The characters are beautifully crafted, each with a depth that makes them linger in your thoughts long after you've turned the page.

The plot is woven with remarkable skill, delivering twists that are as surprising as they are satisfying. Altogether, the narrative unfolds with such momentum and charm that it becomes almost impossible to set the book aside.

**Happy reading!**

**Miss Martins** (Reading for Pleasure Lead, Y3 Sycamore Class teacher)



**Discover and create  
this half-term  
at Slough Libraries**



Free family activities that help children  
explore the past and develop their artistic skills

You might be interested in...

**Station Jim Draw-A-Thon with Korcky Paul**

Slough Libraries The Curve

FREE but booking essential  
[sloughlibraries.eventbrite.com](https://sloughlibraries.eventbrite.com)

May half term Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2026



**Station Jim performance**



**Starring St Mary's School Choir**



**The Curve (+ Slough Train Station TBC)**

**All welcome as audience**

**Afternoon Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

# 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](http://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](http://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](#).

### Summer Term 1

18.05.2026	Science Week: Current Affairs-GROWTH
21.05.2026	Assembly: Y1 Cherry Class at 3pm
<b>22.05.2026</b>	<b>Last day of Summer Term 1</b>
<b>25.05.2026</b>	<b>Half Term Holiday</b>
<b>01.06.2026</b>	<b>First Day of Summer Term 2 for Children</b>
03.06.2026	Trip: Y3 Kew Gardens
<a href="#">09.06.2026</a>	<a href="#">Trip: Y5 to Gurdwara</a>
<del>11.06.2026</del>	<del>Assembly: Y1 Damson Class at 3pm: Re-scheduled</del>
12.06.2026	Assembly: Y2 Plum Class at 12.50pm
16.06.2026	Workshop: Y5 History 'Victorians' experience at St Mary's school
18.06.2026	Trip: Y6 to Science Museum
18.06.2026	Assembly: Reception Bluebell Class at 3pm
<a href="#">19.06.2026</a>	<a href="#">Assembly: Y1 Damson Class at 8.50am</a>
19.06.2026	Assembly: Reception Daffodil Class at 12.50pm
22.06.2026	Sports Day: Y5 and Y6 at 9.15am
22.06.2026	Sports Day: Y3 and Y4 at 1.30pm
23.06.2026	Sports Day: Y1 and Y2 at 9.15am
23.06.2026	Sports Day: YR at 2pm
24.06.2026	Sports Day: Morning Nursery at 9.15am
24.06.2026	Sports Day: Afternoon Nursery at 2pm
25.06.2026	Assembly: Reception Poppy Class at 3pm
<a href="#">30.06.2026</a>	<a href="#">Trip: Y6 to Mosque</a>
06/07/2026	Art Week: World Environment
09.07.2026	Trip: Y2 to Littlehampton
14.07.2026	Y6 End of Year Performance for Parents at 2pm
15.07.2026	Y6 End of Year Performance for Parents at 6pm
<a href="#">15.07.2026</a>	<a href="#">Morning Nursery Graduation Ceremony at 10am</a>
<a href="#">15.07.2026</a>	<a href="#">Afternoon Nursery Graduation Ceremony at 2pm</a>
17.07.2026	Y6 Leavers' Assembly for Parents at 11am
<b>17.07.2026</b>	<b>Last Day of Summer Term 2. School ends at 1.30pm for Children</b>
<b>02.09.2026</b>	<b>First Day of Autumn Term 1, 2026 for Children</b>