

1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

# Newsletter

Summer Term (Edition 30)



## St Mary's Church of England Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Welcome back to the final term of 2025/26.**

We hope you all enjoyed a restful half term break and are ready for a busy and exciting summer term ahead. This is always a special part of the school year, filled with opportunities for our children to learn, grow, achieve and flourish.

We are looking forward to two major highlights of the term: Art Week and Sports Week, both of which promise to be full of creativity, teamwork and celebration.

There are also several trips planned, along with some seasonal treats — children and families will have the chance to purchase ice lollies and ice creams on selected warm days.

As the weather gets brighter, please remember the essentials:

- apply sun cream before school
- send your child in with a sun hat
- ensure they bring a water bottle every day

We're excited for a term filled with sunshine, smiles and memorable experiences for all our pupils.

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



## Could you help shape the future of our school?



St Mary's is looking for a governor to join our Governing Board.



Governors help shape the strategic direction of the school, support and challenge school leaders, monitor school improvement and help ensure every child receives the **best possible education**. You do not need previous governance experience — training and support will be provided.



We are keen for our Governing Board to better reflect the **rich diversity** of our pupils and families. We would warmly welcome interest from parents and carers from communities currently under-represented on the board, including families with Eastern European heritage or links to our wider local faith communities.



We are also interested in hearing about **relatives, friends or community members** who may be able to support the school in other roles, such as:



### Parent governor

A parent or carer of a child at the school who is elected by other parents.



### Co-opted governors

Appointed by the Governing Board because they bring useful skills, experience or community insight.



### Foundation governors

Help preserve and develop the school's Christian character and links with the Church and wider faith community. This may include people from Church of England, Catholic, Romanian Orthodox, Russian Orthodox or other Eastern Orthodox Christian backgrounds.



### Interested?

If you are interested, or would like an informal conversation before deciding, please contact Rez Nuru, Chair of Governors by email, [RNuru@stmarys.slough.sch.uk](mailto:RNuru@stmarys.slough.sch.uk)



All appointments and elections will be carried out in line with the school's governance procedures and equality duties.

## Parent News, Section 2

### Science Week 2026

A huge thank you to all the parents who were able to get involved throughout the week — your support always makes such a difference.

We would like to give a **special thank-you to Mrs Williams**, who organised a hugely successful **Science Week** for our children.

This year's theme focused on **growth**, and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed the wide range of exciting, hands-on experiences she planned for them. It was a fantastic week of curiosity, exploration and learning, and we are very grateful for all of **Mrs Williams** hard work and creativity.



## Parent News, Section 3

### Science Week Winners

This year's response to the Science Competition was amazing, with the highest number of entries we've ever had! It was a tough job for our Science Ambassadors to choose the winners from so many fantastic ideas. A huge well done to all who took part, and a special congratulations to our wonderful winners: Ethan (Nursery), Daniel (Daffodil), Antonio (Bluebell), Shreydan (Cherry), Rayyan (Damson), Aayan (Plum), Benas (Peach), Melissa (Ash), Erika (Juniper), Alessio (Larch), Ellora (Oak), Muhammad Hadi (Elm), AJ (Hazel) and Maria (Rowan).



# Parent News, Section 4

## Science Week Winners



# Parent News, Section 5

## Science Week Winners



## Parent News, Section 6

### Science Week 2026

We have all had a ball this week, and what a lovely way to end the term than by celebrating Science Week! As always, the children (and staff!) giggled their way through Dr Ken's science show while learning lots along the way. 'Dangerous Dan' shared fascinating insights into his career in forensic science. Jabez and Emma from Vodafone Three worked with Years 1, 3 and 5 on a range of digital activities, including news reels and stop motion animations. Natasha and Manj from Yew Tree Dental Practice gave us an insight into becoming a dentist and dental nurse, and Mr Ahmed captivated us all by explaining the role of a biochemist.

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



## Parent News, Section 7

### Science Week 2026

It has been a busy, but fun week for everyone, and we can't wait to do it all again next year! Thank you to all the parents who supported their children with competition entries and for those who visited classrooms.

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



## Parent News, Section 7

### Attendance at St Mary's

- 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 **9** classes who achieved **96%** or more attendance last week! **The highest total this year!!**
- Well done to: **Nursery am, Damson, Pear, Plum, Juniper, Larch, Beech, Oak and Elm classes!!**
- **Special well done to Year 4 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	89.2%
<b>Nursery PM</b>	<b>96.1%</b>
0Poppy	93.1%
0Bluebell	92.1%
0Daffodil	93.7%
<b>1Damson</b>	<b>98.8%</b>
1Cherry	93.3%
1Apple	88.6%
<b>2Pear</b>	<b>99.3%</b>
<b>2Plum</b>	<b>96.0%</b>
2Peach	95.3%
3Ash	92.0%
3Sycamore	95.7%
<b>3Juniper</b>	<b>98.5%</b>
<b>4Larch</b>	<b>99.3%</b>
<b>4Beech</b>	<b>96.0%</b>
<b>4Oak</b>	<b>97.6%</b>
5Hazel	90.0%
5Alder	91.6%
<b>5Elm</b>	<b>97.8%</b>
6Willow	90.0%
6Maple	91.6%
6Rowan	85.5%

**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

## Science Show in Nursery

During Science Week, the morning nursery got to enjoy a fantastic science show by Dr Ken along with Reception. The children saw all sorts of different 'magic' and science with explanations about what was happening. The show was incredibly fun and the children enjoyed all of the different experiments. One child even got to help Dr Ken with an experiment. As it was the morning nursery's first assembly, all of the Nursery staff were very impressed with how well they sat with Reception, always showing the St Mary's way. We all wanted to say a big 'thank you!' to Mrs Williams for organising it.

## Nursery Department



## Nursery News, Section 2

### Science Week in Nursery

For the Science Week competition, we had 11 children submit entries. There was a lot of hard work put into all of the entries and all of their flowers were absolutely wonderful and creative. Thank you to everyone who took part. The entries were looked at and judged by Mrs Williams and the science ambassadors. We have had one winner from Nursery, but we are very impressed with everybody's efforts!

### Nursery Department



## Nursery News, Section 3

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

On the 19<sup>th</sup> May, the nursery had a lovely visit from a dentist and dental nurse from Yew Tree Dental Care. They talked to all of the children about how to look after their teeth and looked at things that are good for your teeth and bad for your teeth. The children discussed that they need to brush their teeth every morning and evening for 2 minutes at a time to stop germs hurting their teeth and making them poorly.

If your child is not registered to a dentist yet, you can do this by following this link: [Find a dentist - NHS](#)

### Nursery Department



# Reception News, Section 1

## Professionals Who Help Us-Dentist Visit in Reception

As part of Science Week in Reception, we were lucky enough to have a visit from a local dentist and dental nurse. Our visitors were impressed how well the children listened and what they already knew about things that help keep our teeth healthy.

Dental Hygiene is extremely important for all of us. We learnt that eating fruit is ok but drinks like Fruit Shoots and natural fruit juices are not good for our teeth. We can drink them in moderation but try to have water afterwards to rinse off the juices that can damage our teeth. Remember to brush your teeth twice a day and don't rinse off the toothpaste.

## Reception Department



## Reception News, Section 2

### Science Week in Reception

We were very impressed with all the entries for the science competition and had a lot of fun with Dr Ken at his Science Workshop in the hall.

### Reception Department



## Reception News, Section 3

### Professional Who Help Us-Firefighters in Reception

The last week of term we focused on Firefighters and the book **Topsy and Tim Meet a Firefighter** as part of our learning about people who help us. Mr Bains very kindly made parts of a fire truck for us to paint and construct a big THANK YOU to Mr Bains!

Our NELI groups completed our Growing topic and enjoyed retelling the story of **The Enormous Turnip** using masks.

You can access the NELI News, activities and the vocabulary we have learnt here:

<https://www.stmarys.slough.sch.uk/neli-nuffield-early-language-intervention>

Reception Department

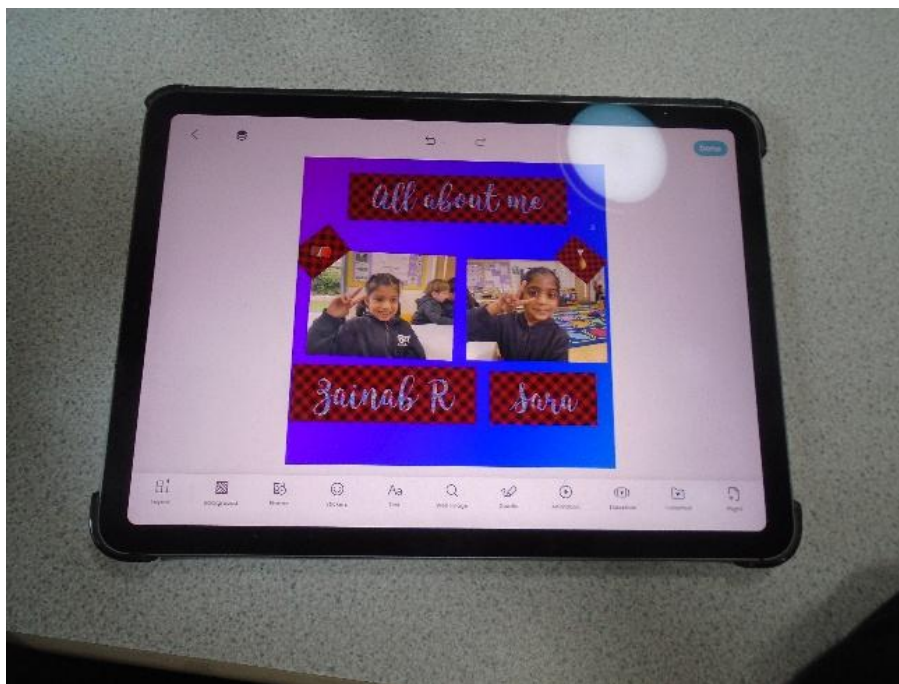


# Year 1 News, Section 1

## Science Week in Year 1

Year 1 had a fantastic Science Week filled with curiosity, creativity and hands-on fun. We welcomed special visitors who helped bring our learning to life- children especially loved Dangerous Dan! Thank you to all parents who joined us in class to make egg cress heads, colourful straw flowers and observational drawings! We also had some fun with a special visitor from Vodafone who helped us to create using tablets.

## Year 1 Department

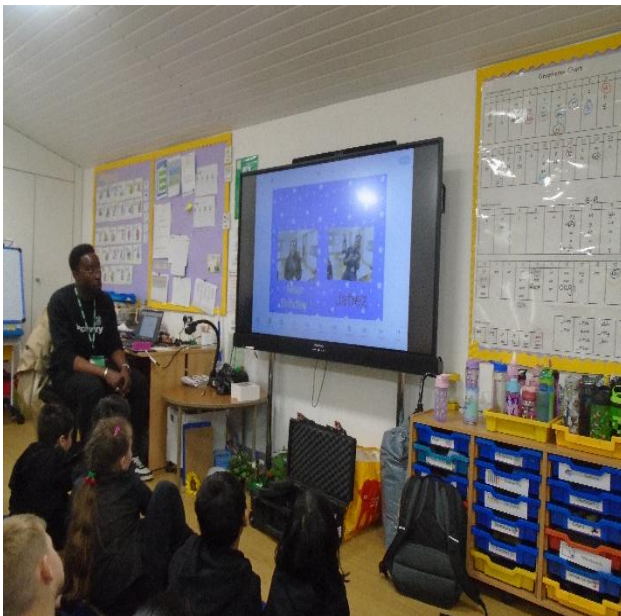


## Year 1 News, Section 2

### Science Week in Year 1

Cherry Class also shone in their assembly all about plants, confidently sharing what they've learned about how plants grow and why they're important. It's been an exciting week of exploring the world around us and celebrating our young scientists! Mrs Williams did a fantastic job of organising so many fun activities for Y1!

### Year 1 Department



# Year 3 News, Section 1

## Bingo Projects in Year 3

Well done to Year 3, who yet again produced some wonderful projects, fitting in very nicely with our Science Week theme, 'Growth'.

## Year 3 Department



# Year 5 News, Section 1

## Ascension Service in Year 5

On Tuesday 12th May 2026, Year 5 proudly led the Ascension Service at St Mary's Church. The children did a wonderful job reading Bible verses with confidence, singing joyful gospel songs, and performing a lively dance to the final song, *Sing Hosanna to the King*.

In the last week of the summer term 1, the Year 5 parents joined a science lesson on phototropism, they enjoyed presentations by Alder Class pupils followed by fun, hands-on plant activities.

## Year 5 Department



# Year 5 News, Section 2

## Science Week in Year 5

Science Week 2026 was an exciting and inspiring experience for Year 5 students, filled with hands-on learning, creativity, and curiosity. Throughout the week, children participated in a variety of engaging activities that brought science to life in fun and meaningful ways.

### Dr Ken Visit

The week began with an exciting visit from **Dr Ken**, who amazed the children with a range of fascinating science demonstrations. His interactive show included exciting experiments and interesting scientific concepts that captured the students' imagination and encouraged them to think like young scientists. The children thoroughly enjoyed watching the experiments and learning the science behind them.

### Year 5 Department



# Year 5 News, Section 3

## Science Week in Year 5

### Vodafone Three Mobile Workshop

Year 5 students also took part in a creative digital workshop led by Jabez and Emma from Vodafone Three Mobile. During the session, the children learned how to create news reels and worked collaboratively in groups to make their own science-themed news reports. The workshop helped students develop their communication, teamwork, and digital media skills while having great fun expressing their ideas creatively.

### Year 5 Department



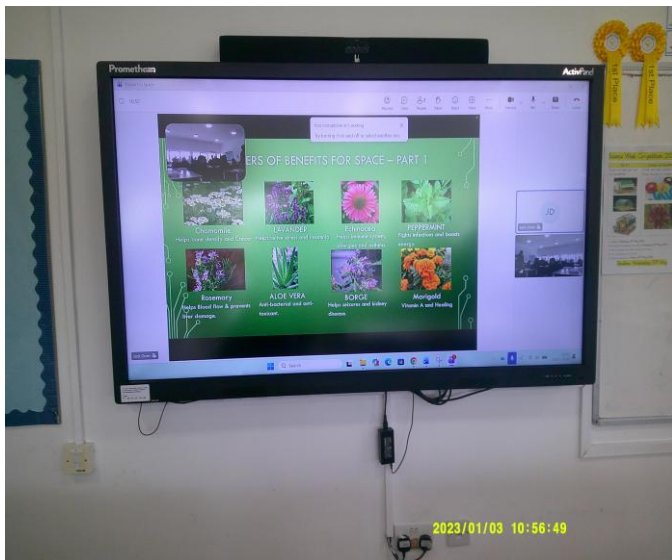
# Year 5 News, Section 4

## Science Week in Year 5

### Space Scientist Virtual Session

One of the highlights of the week was a special virtual session with a space scientist, Jack Dove on Teams. The scientist spoke to the children about plants that are grown in space and explained how astronauts conduct experiments beyond Earth. The students were fascinated by the topic and eagerly asked thoughtful questions, which were answered in detail during the session. It was an inspiring opportunity for the children to learn about science in the real world.

### Year 5 Department



# Year 5 News, Section 5

## Science Week in Year 5

### Parents Visiting Year 5 Classrooms

Science Week concluded with a wonderful parent participation event in the Year 5 classrooms. A few children confidently taught parents about photosynthesis and phototropism, demonstrating their excellent understanding of these scientific concepts. A range of carousel activities had been carefully planned, and parents enthusiastically joined in the learning activities alongside the children. It was lovely to see so many parents attending and supporting the students' learning journey.

### Year 5 Department



## Year 6 News, Section 1

### Science Week in Year 6

“Are we at Hogwarts or St. Mary’s with all this magic?” was a comment on children’s lips, when they witnessed all the amazing ‘tricks’ from Dr Ken. They were fascinated by the explanations behind them.



Our very own Mr Plumley became muse to Dr Ken – they were a balanced act and definitely rose to the occasion!

### Year 6 Department



## Year 6 News, Section 2

### Science Week in Year 6

As part of their Science Project, the children really elevated their skills in Design Technology and produced some fantastic greenhouses for their entries into the Science Competition. It was great to see the variety of designs and thought behind the structure of their piece.

### Year 6 Department



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

### Reading Recommendations

#### **The Journey**

This is a book that I constantly re-read, simply because it is so powerful and beautifully written. The emotive story of a family escaping their war-torn country fleeing for safety and refuge is so incredibly heartbreaking. Sanna's illustrations really highlight the fear and heartbreak the characters go through. The powerful image of the mother only shedding tears after her children are asleep is so touching and really brings to light to the strength and devotion that parents of refugees have. This is a great book to be enjoyed by all ages!

**Happy reading!**

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





## Online information sessions for parents of children with SEND, young people with SEND, and professionals

**Tuesday 9 June 2026  
11am-12noon or 6-7pm.**

This session will focus on School Transition including:

- Understanding what transitions are and when they happen.
- Recognising the impact of transitions on children and young people.
- Developing practical ideas and strategies to support with transitions.



To book, email:  
**[SENDIASS@slough.gov.uk](mailto:SENDIASS@slough.gov.uk)**  
(please specify AM or PM session)  
or via  
[www.sloughsendiass.org.uk](http://www.sloughsendiass.org.uk)

www.slough.gov.uk  
**Slough**  
Borough Council

# 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

<b>01.06.2026</b>	<b>First Day of Summer Term 2 for Children</b>
03.06.2026	Trip: Y3 Kew Gardens
09.06.2026	Trip: Y5 to Gurdwara
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
19.06.2026	Assembly: Y1 Damson Class at 8.50am
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
30.06.2026	Trip: Y6 to Mosque
06/07/2026	Art Week: World Environment
09.07.2026	Trip: Y2 to Littlehampton
<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 <a href="#">9am</a>
<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>