



Dear Parents and Carers,

Sports Week at St Mary's

Sports Week is nearly upon us, and it promises to be an exciting and inspiring time for our pupils. Ahead of sports week, we are delighted to welcome a range of talented visitors and motivational speakers who will enrich the children's experiences throughout this and next week.

Thanks to the excellent organisation of **Mr Bignell**, our PE Lead, pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of engaging activities, including fencing, golf, and speed stacking. In addition, they will enjoy demonstrations and workshops led by specialist practitioners in BMX and basketball, providing inspiration and insight into these dynamic sports.

Alongside these sporting opportunities, Year 5 will be participating in *Story Tent*, an interfaith project designed to promote unity, understanding, and community cohesion. Meanwhile, they will also take part in an immersive Victorian workshop, bringing history to life through hands-on learning.

Year 6 pupils are looking forward to their educational visit to the Science Museum later this week, further enhancing their curriculum experiences.

It's certainly shaping up to be an action-packed and memorable week, marking the start of a bumper Sports Week at St Mary's!

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

Collection of Children by Other Adults

Thank you to those who have successfully submitted emails this week to the **Collections** email providing permission for other adults to collect your child(ren) on your behalf.

collections@stmarys.slough.sch.uk

For clarity, we require an **email authorisation** on **each day** that someone other than a parent will be collecting your child/ren.

If this collection arrangement is to occur regularly, please clearly state this in your email, for example, “every day” or “every Monday”.

A template is provided below for your convenience.

Scenario 1:

- Date - xx/xx/2026
- My child's name: xxx
- My child's class: xxx
- I give permission for xxx to collect my child/ren on my behalf **today**.
- Password is: xxx

OR

Scenario 2:

- Date-xx/xx/2026
- My child's name: xxx
- My child's class: xxx
- I give permission for xxx to collect my child/ren **every day**.
- I give permission for xxx to collect my child on the following days: xxx and xxx.
- Password is: xxx

We are unable to allow a child to leave school with an adult who is not their parent unless we have email authorisation from the parent, and the adult confirms the password.

Thank you for helping the school to always keep your children safe.



Parent News, Section 2

Station Jim & St Mary's Choir

St Mary's Choir had an eventful Saturday, where we visited Slough Station to perform to members of the public, friends and family! We performed alongside a puppet of Station Jim (a dog who collected money for charity over 125 years ago!), then visited the real taxidermy Jim on Platform 5. Afterwards, we travelled to The Curve to perform one last time (after a pizza lunch!).

Choir, you were amazing!

Miss Holder (Music Lead, Choir Lead, Y3 Juniper Class teacher)



Parent News, Section 3

Station Jim & St Mary's Choir

Miss Holder (Music Lead, Choir Lead, Y3 Juniper Class teacher)



Parent News, Section 4

Station Jim & St Mary's Choir

Miss Holder (Music Lead, Choir Lead, Y3 Juniper Class teacher)



Parent News, Section 5

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
- Well done to **14** classes who achieved **96%** or more attendance last week! **The highest total this year!!**
- Well done to: **Bluebell, Daffodil, Damson, Cherry, Pear, Plum, Ash, Juniper, Larch, Oak, Hazel, Alder, Elm, and Maple classes!!**
- **Special well done to Year 5 department 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	93.8%
Nursery PM	90.1%
0Poppy	88.3%
0Bluebell	96.0%
0Daffodil	96.9%
1Damson	99.0%
1Cherry	97.9%
1Apple	95.0%
2Pear	96.0%
2Plum	96.7%
2Peach	95.7%
3Ash	98.3%
3Sycamore	95.0%
3Juniper	98.0%
4Larch	96.3%
4Beech	90.0%
4Oak	96.6%
5Hazel	98.6%
5Alder	96.0%
5Elm	98.0%
6Willow	94.0%
6Maple	97.4%
6Rowan	93.8%

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

Maths in Nursery

In Maths the Nursery have been learning about the shapes rectangle, triangle, circle and square. We have talked about the properties of the shapes, and they went on a shape hunt around the school to see where the shapes are in our environment. The children spotted lots of different shapes and talked about their properties.

Nursery Department



Nursery News, Section 2

Expressive Art and Design & Being Imaginative in Nursery

During play this week, the children have been using their imaginations to support their play very confidently! In the Mud Kitchen, we have seen lots of cooking, talking about our favourite meals and even pretending that it is a restaurant with orders being taken and adults being asked to 'pay' for their meals. We have also seen some wonderful play with the train track and a fabulous woodland being set up for the trains to go around. It's been great seeing the children gain confidence with their speech and imaginative play.

Nursery Department



Reception News, Section 1

Maths in Reception

In maths we have been continuing our learning about grouping and sharing which will help us improve our understanding of **division**. We have also been consolidating our learning about **measuring** by using a balance. We have been exploring which objects are **heavier or lighter** and adding or taking away items to make it **balance**.

Reception Department



Reception News, Section 2

Understanding the World in Reception

Our focus this week is still RECYCLING and looking after our world. We have been reading **Michael Recycle by Ellie Bethel and Alexandra Colombo!** REMEMBER -to think before you throw anything into the general rubbish bin – can anything be reused or recycled – or brought in to school so we can make lots more creations with our Junk Modelling. The children have been leaning to work as a team too as they make things together.

Let's all work together to help improve our environment. It is our RESPONSIBILITY to show RESPECT to the world around us.

Reception Department



Year 3 News, Section 1

Science in Year 3

As part of our science topic on light, Year 3 have been investigating materials that reflect light the best. We found out that smooth, shiny surfaces reflect light the best, while dull, rough surfaces do not reflect as much but tend to absorb instead.

Year 3 Department



Year 3 News, Section 2

Science in Year 3

We enjoyed testing different materials and looking closely at how light bounces back.

Year 3 Department



Year 5 News, Section 1

RE Trips in Year 5

Year 5 enjoyed a fascinating visit to Guru Maneyo Granth Gurdwara, where they learned about Sikh beliefs, traditions and history. During their visit, the children explored the importance of the Five Ks of Sikhism and discovered how these articles of faith help Sikhs demonstrate their commitment to their religion and values. One of the highlights of the trip was taking part in Langar, the free community meal served to everyone regardless of background.

Year 5 Department



Year 5 News, Section 2

Music and Local Heritage in Year 5

Year 5 had a fantastic musical experience on Friday when Mr Harris visited with his special guest, Station Jim! It was exciting for Year 5 pupils to touch and feel the stuffed dog. The pupils enthusiastically sang their original song for Jim, showcasing their creativity in combining literacy with music.

Year 5 Department



Year 6 News, Section 1

It's Your Move! in Year 6

This week, Year 6 had a visitor who spoke to the children about their transition to secondary school. He shared insights into what they might feel during this time and discussed the challenges they may face. He also gave examples of older students who experienced similar feelings when they were in Year 6, helping to reassure and inspire the children.

At the end of the session, the children presented him with a card to celebrate his 40 years of service, showing their appreciation for his valuable work.

Year 6 Department



Dive into A Great Story at St Mary's!

Reading Recommendations

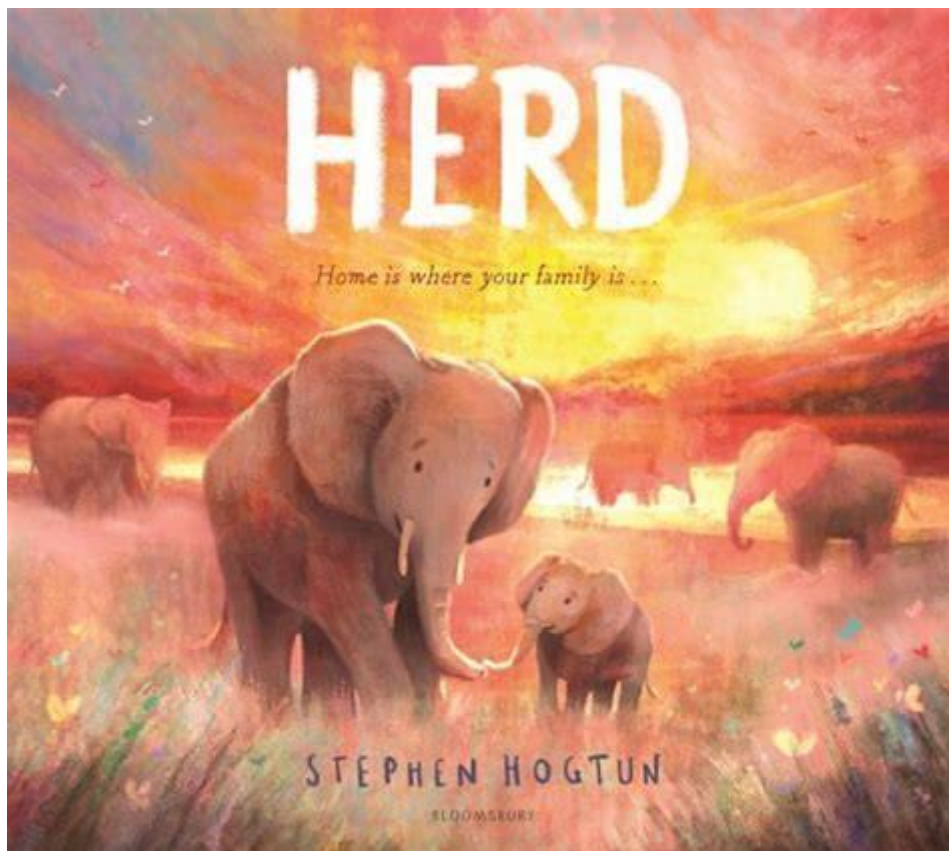
Herd

Herd by Stephen Houghton is a beautiful and heartwarming picture book about family and finding where you truly belong. The story follows an elephant on a journey of discovery, learning that home is not simply a place, but where the people you love are. The illustrations are absolutely stunning. Rich in colour, detail, and emotion, they bring the story to life and make every page a pleasure to explore. The artwork perfectly captures both the adventure and the heartfelt emotions at the centre of the story. This is a story that can be appreciated by all ages!

If you would like to read Herd or any other books that have been recommended, please feel free to stop by Sycamore classroom and ask 😊

Happy reading!

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



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 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

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



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

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
14.07.2026	Morning Nursery Graduation Ceremony at 10am
15.07.2026	Afternoon Nursery Graduation Ceremony at 2pm
17.07.2026	Y6 Leavers' Assembly for Parents at 9am
17.07.2026	Last Day of Summer Term 2. School ends at 1.30pm for Children
02.09.2026	First Day of Autumn Term 1, 2026 for Children