



St Mary's Church of England Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Birthdays are an occasion to be marked and recognised and one which we encourage children and their families and friends to feel joyous about. At the same time, we ask that families share this excitement whilst keeping the whole school community in mind.

It has come to our attention that some families are celebrating their child's birthday at school by kindly providing party bags containing chocolates and other sweet items for classmates.

As a healthy school, we do not encourage the distribution of sweets. In some instances, children with allergies have consumed these items, which has unfortunately made them unwell.

If your child is celebrating their birthday and you would like to mark this happy occasion, we kindly ask that they wear their own special clothes to school on that day. In addition, we encourage families to consider donating a book to the class book corner, allowing all children to enjoy and share in the celebration through reading.

We appreciate your understanding and support in helping us maintain a safe and healthy environment for all 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

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

Sun Protection During the Summer Term

As a general reminder, please can we advise the following:

- ALL pupils bring a water bottle into school to drink from throughout the day
- Pupils have a high factor sun cream which they can apply to any exposed skin (face, hands, legs) themselves
- Children have a sun hat to wear outside (please write your child's name in these)
- Children are not required to bring coats to school when it is very warm
- Sweatshirts should be removed in school
- Please check the school uniform policy for guidance for summer uniform clothing
- School shoes and covered sandals are acceptable but NOT flip flops or slides.
- Please speak to your children about being sun aware. Not running around at break and lunchtimes but taking the opportunity to seek shade in the school gazebos or under the parasols, ensuring that they drink water throughout the day, not wearing coats or sweatshirts.
- The school is doing everything it can to keep the staff and pupils as cool as possible during this hot weather. Some classrooms have the benefit of air conditioning. Other classes have portable air conditioning units and fans. Access to water is constant and staff are planning and encouraging more sedate activities – including changes to outdoor PE lessons as dictated by the weather.

Miss Robinson (Health and Safety Lead, DDSL, Assistant Head teacher)



Parent News, Section 3

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 **6** classes who achieved **96%** or more attendance last week!
- Well done to: **Damson, Pear, Juniper, Larch, Beech 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	88.5%
Nursery PM	84.1%
0Poppy	94.5%
0Bluebell	81.7%
0Daffodil	91.3%
1Damson	97.3%
1Cherry	94.7%
1Apple	95.0%
2Pear	98.3%
2Plum	93.7%
2Peach	93.0%
3Ash	91.7%
3Sycamore	94.0%
3Juniper	97.7%
4Larch	97.3%
4Beech	99.0%
4Oak	88.7%
5Hazel	93.3%
5Alder	95.3%
5Elm	99.0%
6Willow	90.7%
6Maple	94.2%
6Rowan	89.0%

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 😊

Nursery News, Section 1

Mark-making in Nursery

To link to our topic of Superb Summer, the Nursery have looked at the story 'Kipper the dog at the seaside.' The children have talked about the story and what happens and they drew a picture of one of the characters in their books. Once their picture is complete, the children have been writing either the first sound of their word, or they have been challenging themselves to write a full word!

Nursery Department



Nursery News, Section 2

Maths as part of Continuous Provision in Nursery

During our learning play, the children have been engaging in the Maths area brilliantly. They have been using the blocks and bears to build, talk about shapes, colours and different amounts. Some of the children have created repeating patterns and others have been putting the objects onto ten frames to help them with their counting. The children have interacted with all of our resources sensibly and treated everything with respect.

Nursery Department



Reception News, Section 1

Maths and Understanding the World in Reception

In Reception we have been learning about **positional language** in maths. Such as **in, on, under, next to, behind, in front**. We had lots of fun putting a large toy spider in different positions. Some of us went inside a box as well!

We are continuing learning about **Looking After Our World**. Our focus book was **The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle**. We have been looking out for minibeasts all over the place we found various mini beasts including spiders in our outdoor learning areas.

Reception Department



Reception News, Section 2

Understanding the World in Reception

Junk modelling is still popular - children have been making instruments to accompany their singing! There are songs about minibeasts you can sing on our website. Do look in the Reception Class Page under Remote Learning - Heat Wave <https://www.stmarys.slough.sch.uk/reception-year>

Keep looking out for minibeasts and see if you can count their legs. We learnt that spiders have 8 legs - and can have up to 8 eyes!!! Please show them RESPECT - just look at them rather than touch or trap them.

Thank you to everyone who attended the assembly led by Poppy Class. We were very proud of how confident the children were delivering lines and their super singing. Did you spot **We're going on a Lion Hunt**, the story they performed, was about **Perseverance**? **Perseverance** is one of our values.

Reception Department



Reception News, Section 3

Understanding the World in Reception

It was lovely and cool under the trees in the Forest School. Do look out for minibeasts and see if you can name them. They may decide to crawl or land on you but please encourage your children to just look at them rather than touch or trap them.

Please note Poppy Class assembly has been postponed due to the Heat Wave. It will now be on **Friday 3rd July at 12.50pm.**

Reception Department

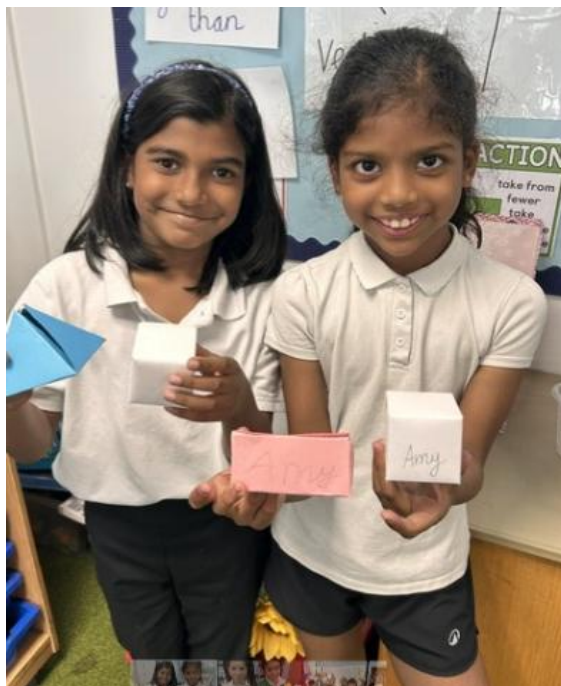


Year 3 News, Section 1

Maths in Year 3

In Year 3 maths this week, the children made their own 3D models and used them to identify the number of faces, edges and vertices. They worked brilliantly together, exploring shapes with curiosity and confidence.

Year 3 Department



Dive into A Great Story at St Mary's!

Reading Recommendations

The Butterfly Lion

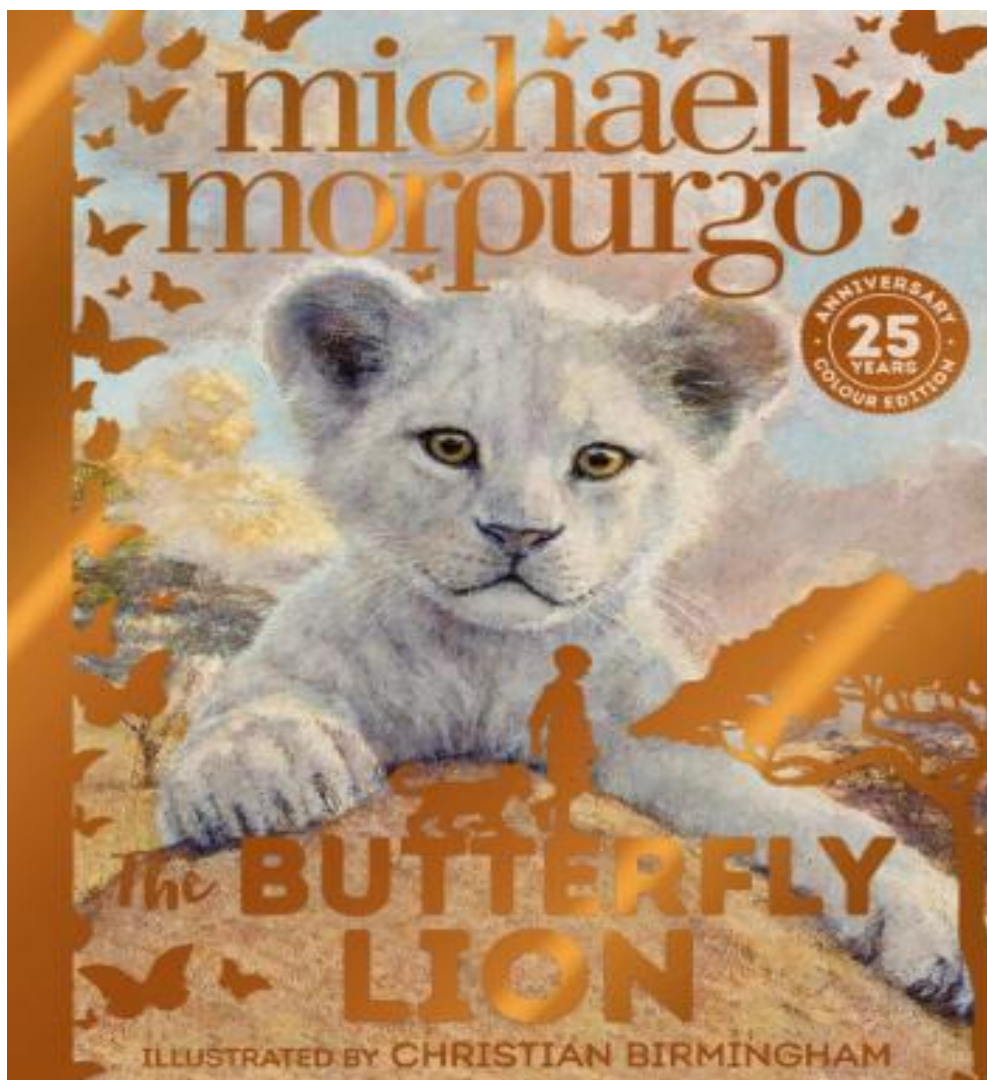
This week's book recommendation comes from Michael Morpurgo. The butterfly lion is such a captivating read filled with emotion. If you're interested in animals and war stories this will be the perfect book to dive into. The twist at the end was brilliant and left me wanting to know more about what happens next.

This book is great for upper KS2!

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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 9am-6pm, local rate)
rocksteadymusicschool.com



**Find out what parents
say about Rocksteady** ➔

Summer Reading and Music in Slough



READ to the BEAT



Summer reading challenge 2026 slough music service workshops

Read to the Beat, brings together the joy of reading
and the power of music to inspire the next generation.

Saturday 4th July: Djembe Drumming@ Cippenham Library
1.30-2.30pm

Thursday 6th August: Djembe Drumming
11am @ Britwell Library
2pm @ The Curve

Thursday 20th August: Samba Drumming
11am @Britwell Library
2pm @ The Curve

Saturday 19th September: Certificates and celebration event
@ The Curve
@ Cippenham Library
Time: **TBC**



Half Summer Programme-Positive Links



HAF SUMMER PROGRAMME

20TH JULY – 13TH AUGUST

OUR EXCITING SUMMER PROGRAMME
WILL FEATURE A FANTASTIC RANGE OF ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING:

-  VIRTUAL REALITY EXPERIENCES
-  DJ WORKSHOPS
-  INFLATABLE BOUNCE SESSIONS
-  FOOTBALL AND MULTI-SPORTS ACTIVITIES
-  STREET DANCE CLASSES
-  TAEKWONDO SESSIONS
-  CREATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS

 A healthy and nutritious lunch will be provided each day.

 **VENUE:**
Britwell Parish Hall – Community Centre
Long Furlong Drive, Slough SL2 2PH

 **OPENING TIMES:**
Monday – Thursday
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

 **TRANSPORT AVAILABLE**
We provide transport to and from the programme from selected pick-up points.

 **BOOKING IS QUICK AND EASY**
through the HAF booking system using your unique HAF code.

 **Questions? Contact us:**
positivelinkscommunity@hotmail.com
07857 312445

 Paid option for non-HAF bookings.

Positive Links Team 



Music at Slough Borough Council



SLOUGH
MUSIC
SERVICE



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



Holiday Camp News



SINGH SABHA SLOUGH
SPORTS CENTRE



HOLIDAY CAMP

School's out... the fun is ON!

- ✦ Science Experiments
- ✦ Fun Crafting
- ✦ Cookery lessons
- ✦ Over 20 different sports
- ✦ Football Coaching
- ✦ Dance Workshops
- ✦ Boxing drills and skills and so much more!



AGES
6-12YRS



ALL
MEALS
AND
SNACKS
INCLUDED

Themed weeks filled with fun packed session!



WEEK 1
Beach

10-14 August



WEEK 2
Space

17-21 August



WEEK 4
Celebration

24-28 August

Scan the QR code >>
Email: info@360v.online
Call: 07492710774
To secure your place!



Singh Sabha Sports
Stoke Poges Lane
Slough
SL1 3LW



HAF Spaces book here: www.holidayactivities.co.uk

Early Bird Booking Save 10% *Learn Grow Thrive* **Early Bird Booking Save 10%**

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

06/07/2026	Art Week: World Environment
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