ST MARY'S CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Mary's Friday Flyer

Friday 13th November 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,



BBC Children in Need

Today, our school proudly took part in BBC Children in Need 2026, joining schools and communities across the country in raising money to support children and young people facing disadvantage and challenges in their lives. BBC Children in Need 2026 took place on Friday 13th November 2026, bringing people together to make a positive difference to the lives of others.

We were delighted to see so many pupils and staff getting involved in our fundraising by dressing up in something spotty and embracing the spirit of generosity and kindness that this special event promotes.

Throughout the day, our children showed great enthusiasm and demonstrated our school values by thinking of others and recognising the importance of helping those who may need extra support.

Taking part in Children in Need provided a valuable opportunity for our pupils to learn about empathy, compassion and the positive impact that charitable giving can have on the lives of children across the UK. We are incredibly proud of the way our school community came together to support this worthy cause.



In total we have raise £221 which also includes the cake raffle





Anti-Bullying Week



Next week, we will be marking Anti-Bullying Week 2026 (16th-20th November), with this year's theme, "Break the Silence." Throughout the week, children will take part in activities that promote kindness, respect and inclusion, while encouraging everyone to speak up if they need help.

We will begin with Odd Socks Day on Monday 16th November, when children and staff are invited to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes each of us unique. Together, we can help ensure every child feels safe, valued and heard. 💙

You can find out more about it here: https://youtu.be/eFrFfAUtqcU?si=RHgc0ECOO2APNFij

Parent Survey Results

We recently invited parents and carers to complete a survey to share their views about the school and the Trust. Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond. A letter outlining the survey results and key findings was sent home earlier this week. We appreciate your feedback and ongoing support as we continue to work together to provide the best possible experience for our children.

Remembrance and Armistice Day

It was heart-warming to see so many of our pupils proudly marching through town on Sunday as part of the Remembrance Day parade. Seeing our children represent their uniformed groups and our local community with such pride, respect and maturity was a wonderful reminder of the values we hold dear at St Mary's.



We were also delighted to see so many children wearing their Scouts, Beavers, Cubs, Rainbows, Brownies and Guide uniforms in school on Armistice Day. As a school family, we gathered together in the hall with staff and visitors to observe a two-minute silence and take a moment to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who have served and continue to serve our country.

We are incredibly proud of all our children for the respect, thoughtfulness and understanding they showed throughout these commemorations. They were a real credit to themselves, their families and our school.

Attendance

At St Mary's, we know that every day in school counts. Good attendance is essential for children's learning, confidence and wellbeing, helping them make the most of every opportunity. We work closely with our Trust Attendance Lead, Mrs Karen Harvey, to monitor attendance and support families where needed. Thank you for helping us ensure that every child is in school, on time and ready to learn each day.



Rise Pupil Charter Santa Fun Run

This year all schools across the Trust will be taking part in a Santa Fun Run. This year it is taking place on Friday 4th December. Last year as a Trust we raised a staggering amount for Rainbows. We are hoping to do the same again. Full details were sent home at the beginning of the week.

We are asking for the children to wear Santa hats or festive Christmas headwear for this event. They will need to be dressed warmly for this event and have wellies and a coat.

FoSMS Christmas Coffee and Mince Pie Morning



FoSMS will be holding a Christmas Coffee and Mince Pie morning **Thursday 17th December** to raise funds. The event will start at 9.30am and will aim to finish around 11.00am. Each class will be performing a Christmas Song/Carol during the morning.

The timetable for this is as follows:

Year 3 - 9.20am

Choir - 9.40am

Year 5 - 10.00am

Year 4 - 10.20am

Year 6 - 9.30am

Year 1 - 9.50am

Year 2 - 10.10am

EYFS - 10.30am

Special Visitor

Next week we will be joined by Revd Mary Barr who will be leading Collective Worship on Thursday 19th November.

Young Governors and Collective Worship Leaders - Election Results

Congratulations to our newly elected Young Governors and Collective Worship Leads. We are incredibly proud of all the children who put themselves forward and are delighted to see them taking on these important leadership roles within our school community.

Each child has received a special badge to wear proudly with their school uniform, helping them to be recognised in their role and serve as positive role models for their peers. We look forward to seeing the wonderful ideas and contributions they will bring to St Mary's throughout the year.

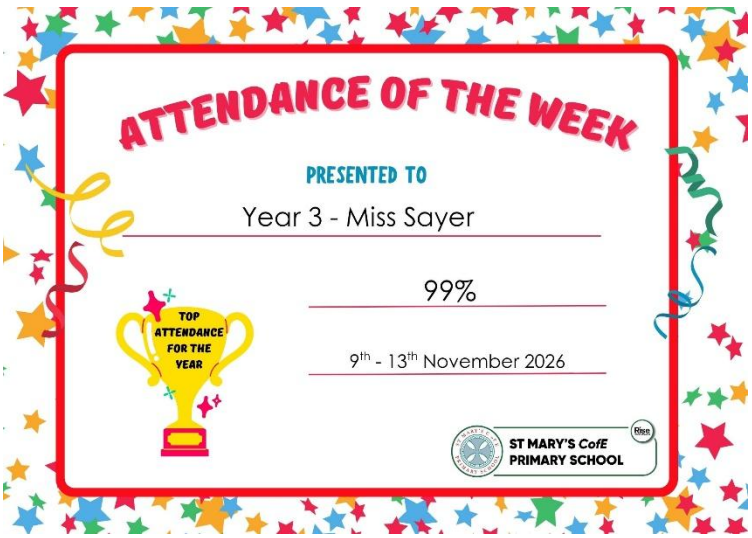


Attendance of the Week

A huge congratulations to Year 3, who achieved an excellent 99% attendance this week! Thank you to all of our Year 3 children and families for your commitment to being in school every day and ready to learn.

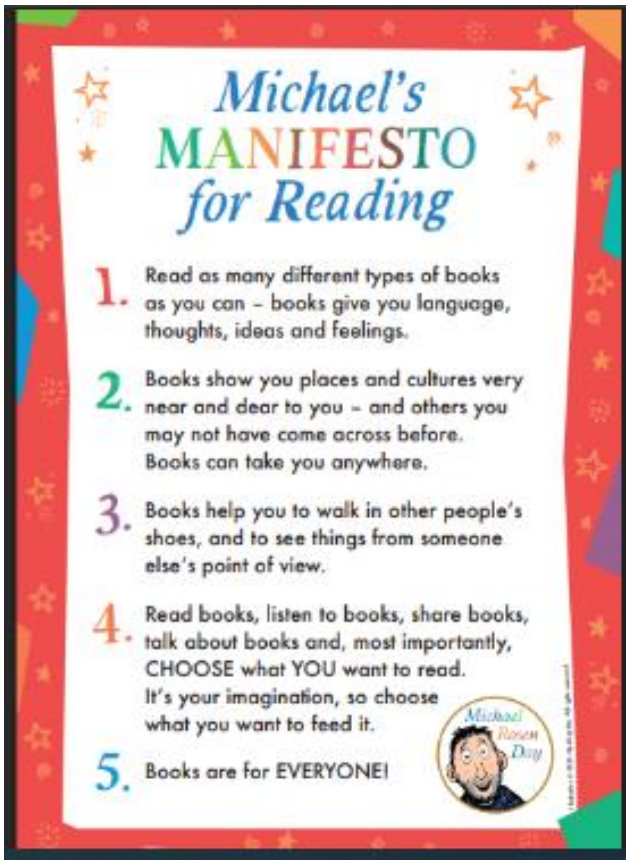
"Every day in school is a chance to learn something new, build friendships and achieve your best."

Keep up the fantastic work, Year 3!



Michael Rosen Day – Thursday 12th November

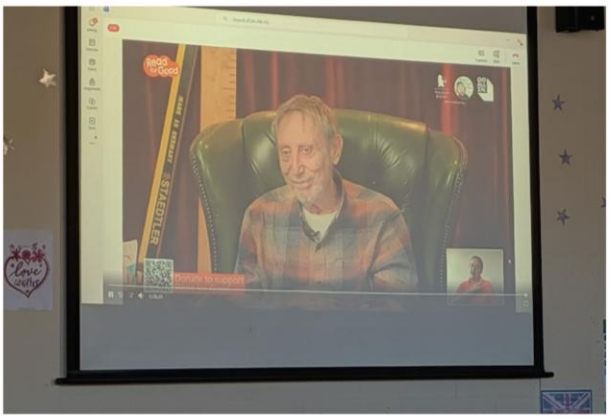
There was huge excitement Thursday for years R,1,2,3 and 4 who were involved, alongside half a million children from around the country, in the Michael Rosen Day.



Michael read us some of his wonderful poems and had the whole hall full of children, roaring with laughter

The 2026 theme was "Silly School Stuff," and invited us all to look at the funny, surprising, annoying, and completely ridiculous moments of everyday school life. We had classic poems like *"No Breathing in Class"* and *"Dinner Disaster"* to inventing the world's silliest school rules, the theme reminds children that poems don't have to be serious or complicated—they can come from anything.

The children all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and discovered many poems they hadn't heard before.



Michael Rosen is a huge advocate for reading and has his own manifesto for reading.

Happy reading and happy poetry writing!



classroom NEWS

The **EYFS** children have enjoyed joining in with the Diwali celebrations and learning why Diwali is known as the Festival of Light. They explored the significance of light in the celebration and took part in a range of related activities. The children have also been busy developing their mathematical skills, exploring numbers and learning how they are composed by recognising the different parts that make up a whole number. They have shown great enthusiasm and engagement throughout their learning.

To go with our history unit on Remembrance Day, the **Year 1** children have been making clay models of poppies – apologies for any messy clothes! The class also loved listening to Michael Rosen perform some of his poetry in our live event, and to go with this our book of the week was a Michael Rosen book called Goldilocks and the Three Crocodiles.

The most exciting thing we have done this week in **Year 2** is the Michael Rosen Day. The children loved listening to all the poems and enjoyed watching Michael Rosen himself perform them. We have moved onto Money in maths and the class have been learning all about Notes and Pennies and we have said goodbye to our explorer's topic and we will be moving onto a new exciting topic next week!

In **Year 3** this week, we have moved on to looking at multiplication in our new unit in maths. In English, we have been learning about subordinating conjunctions and how to include these in a sentence. Some children are even varying up the position of their clauses which is great to see. In French, we have been learning about the names of animals. The children's French language is coming on really well! Overall, we have had a fun and busy week and are looking forward to returning to swimming next week!

This week, **Year 4** have been getting creative! We have started putting together our own presentations to showcase everything we have learnt in our History unit and had lots of fun creating our own poems to celebrate Michael Rosen Day. We have also kicked off our new Science topic, **'Teeth'** – so watch out, we might be qualified dentists before you know it! A fantastic week of creativity, learning and hard work. Well done, Year 4!

In **Year 5 t**his week, we have been exploring how to use ambitious and interesting vocabulary in our writing, and the children have confidently shared their ideas during class discussions. In Maths, we have continued our work on fractions, using our multiplication skills to solve calculations and find equivalent fractions. We have also started creating Christmas decorations for the tree our school will display at St Mary's Church, and they are looking lovely. In PE, the children have done exceptionally well choreographing short routines to different styles of music, which have been a pleasure to watch.



Year 6 have had a super week again. We have completed our unit on the Industrial Revolution in History, looking at how different groups were treated. In our Writing, we have been working on techniques for composing a piece of narrative. In maths, we have completed our unit on converting units of measurement – so it'd be good practice to convert measurements at home (litres to/from millilitres, mm to cm etc.) In PE we have we have had a lot of fun learning about Bhangra dancing; they have had a fantastic time.

Dates to Remember 2026-2027

Print me and keep me handy!

Below are dates for this academic year. We will continue to add new dates, and these will be added in green.

Monday 16th November	Anti Bullying Week - Odd Sock Day
Wednesday 18th November	Extra date added! Prospective New Starters 2027 Tour
Thursday 19th November	Rev'd Mary Barr Collective Worship
Monday 23rd November	Extra date added! Prospective New Starters 2027 Tour
Friday 27th November	FoSMS Disco – All year groups
	Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church opens
Tuesday 1st December	Christmas Tree Festival closes at 12noon
Friday 4th December	Rise Santa Fun Run
Monday 7th December	KS1 Nativity (details to follow)
Tuesday 8th December	KS1 Nativity (details to follow)
Wednesday 9th December	EYFS Nativity (details to follow)
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day (details to follow)
Friday 11th December	EYFS/KS1 Cinema Trip
Tuesday 15th December	KS2 Theatre Trip
Wednesday 16th December	Whole School Christmas Church Service at St Mary's Church
Thursday 17th December	FoSMS Carols, Coffee & Mince Pie Morning
	Relish Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 18th December	Last Day of Autumn term
21st December 2026 – 1st January 2027	**Christmas Holidays**
Monday 4th January 2027	School Open – Spring Term starts
Thursday 21st January	School Census Day
Thursday 28th January	Rev'd Mary Barr Collective Worship
Tuesday 9th February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 12th February	**School Closed – Inset Day**
Monday 15th – Friday 19th February	**Half Term**
Thursday 4th March	World Book Day
	Rev'd Mary Barr Collective Worship
Wednesday 10th – Monday 15th March	Book Fair at School
Monday 15th March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 17th March	Parents Evening
Friday 19th March	Red Nose Day