



Weekly News

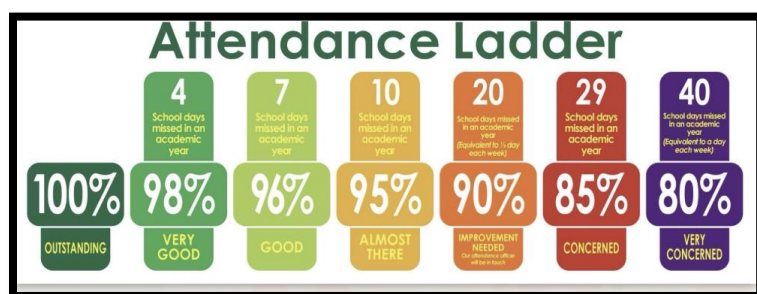
Friday 30th January 2026

It has been a very special week in school. Swimming gala trials also took place this week, well done to everyone who took part. Our gymnastics team has been working hard and is busy preparing for their upcoming spring competition and our chaplains were delighted to visit the relic of St Carlo Acutis, which was a meaningful and reflective experience.

Next week will be another special time for our school as we say goodbye to our fabulous Music Teacher, Angela Usher MBA, who will be beginning her retirement and setting off on exciting adventures in her camper van! Angela's last day at St Mary's will be Friday 6th February. Our school will be full of music on that day, you may even hear us in the city centre as we celebrate her incredible contribution to St Mary's!

Headteacher Award Winners

Nursery	Rosa & Muhammad
Reception	Salaar and Inez
Year 1	Ryan & Roman
Year 2	Jessica & Joseph
Year 3	Amaeah and James
Year 4	Finn
Year 5	Maria & Jasmine
Year 6	Tess and Amelia-Grace



ATTENDANCE

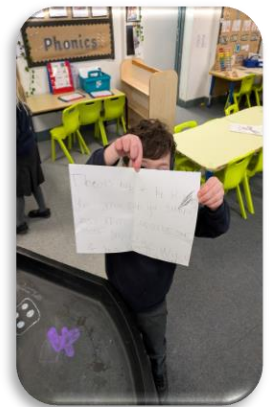
N	YRG	YRFK	Y1B	Y1AB	Y2A	Y2B	Y3M	Y3S	Y4P	Y5H	Y5NT	Y6B	Y6H
91	96	96	98	95	99	99	99	98	93	94	95	98	98





EYFS

We've had such an exciting week in Nursery! On Monday, the children arrived into school to a basket full of French goodies and a postcard from the Gingerbread man telling us all about Paris! The children showed great curiosity and creativity as they located France on the map, decorated French flags, learned some French words and made crepes! We also enjoyed croissants, brioche, baguettes, French cheese and pain au chocolate! In maths, we have been learning about number 4 – reading the story 'Pete the cat and his 4 groovy buttons'. The children have explored different ways to represent 4 and showed great subitising skills. We have also loved lots of 'd' themed activities linked to our phonics including making dens and digging for worms!



This week in Reception we have had a wonderful week. We have now completed all our Phase 3 sounds and the children will continue to apply these throughout the rest of phase 3 and 4. In Maths this week the children have really enjoyed bringing their learning into provision. The children have been hard at work making '4' number books. The children have been using their knowledge of 4 to write number facts and spotting 4 around our classroom.

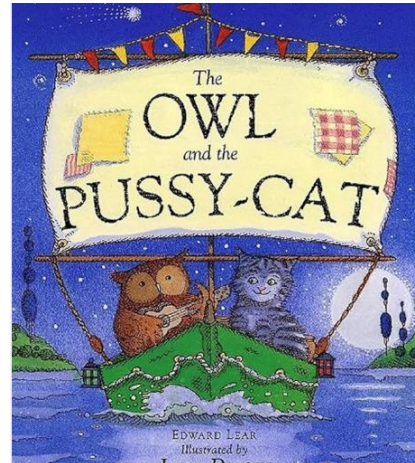
Well done Reception for another wonderful week !





Key Stage 1

This week in Year 1 math's, we have been busy learning how to find a missing part in addition and subtraction problems. We have been recording our partitions in both part whole models and bar models and writing our own equations. For writing, we have enjoyed finishing our book 'The Comet' and are preparing to write our own narrative with our character facing a big change like Nyla. In Art we have been experimenting with paint and mixing primary colours to create secondary colours.



This week Year 2 have been learning about multiplication in maths. We have been creating equal groups and seeing how they repeatedly add together.

In Topic we have been continuing with our Africa topic. We have been finding Africa on a globe and exploring the different environments that can be found o that continent.

We have also started a new book in English: The Owl and the Pussycat. We have been using conjunctions and some contractions in our writing.





Lower Key Stage 2



Year 3 have had another fabulous week! This week we explored the pharaohs and the role they played in Ancient Egypt. In Art, we finished our relief prints – they look amazing! Swimming has been great fun and we are all making brilliant progress too. In Science, we are now looking at how light travels and reflects. We are excited to use the data loggers next week when we carry out a fair test to see which surfaces are the most reflective! 3S have thoroughly enjoyed forest school this half-term and this week they have made dens for animals and dreamcatchers using willow.



Year 4 have had a wonderful week. We started our new text, "Frindleswylde", which we have written a poem about. We have explored Primary and Secondary artefacts found at Sutton Hoo, which tells us a lot about life in Anglo Saxon Britain. We began our unit on Fractions in Maths and have been counting beyond one using different denominators.

We have started learning about Courtney Mattison, a famous sculptor, who promotes being kind to the environment. We are looking at coral reefs and the vibrant colours that can be found in the Great Barrier Reef.





Upper Key Stage 2

Year Five

It has been a lovely and very busy week in Year 5! In **English**, we finished writing our reports about *The Great Flood*. The children worked extremely hard to maintain a neutral and formal tone throughout their writing and we were really proud of their efforts. We also returned to our exciting text, *The Odyssey*, which we are thoroughly enjoying and can't wait to continue.

In **Maths**, we completed our unit on negative numbers. The children confidently demonstrated their understanding by counting across zero and applying negative numbers to real-world contexts.

In **P.E.**, we worked on our Capoeira unit, learning and practising the *Ginga* and *Esquiva*. The children loved exploring this Afro-Brazilian martial art and showed great enthusiasm throughout. Well done for another fantastic week, Year 5!



Year 6

What a busy week we've had! The children have been creative, curious and resilient across the curriculum. In maths, they explored scale factors, exploring how this linked to ratio and why it is used in the world. In English, they wrote up their inquiry into the flood, asking great questions and shaping their findings into clear, engaging writing. Science was hands-on as we investigated shadows, testing how light and objects affect size and direction. In history, we stepped back in time to learn about Greek democracy and how citizens made decisions. It's been fantastic to see the class collaborating, persevering and enjoying their learning.





Catholic Life

Visit to the Relics of Saint Carlo Acutis

On Friday 30th January, our school Chaplains had the privilege of visiting **St Patrick's RC Church, Collyhurst**, to take part in a special diocesan celebration marking the visit of the **relics of Saint Carlo Acutis**.

The Chaplains joined schools from across the diocese for a **Celebration of the Word**, reflecting on the life of Saint Carlo, a young person whose deep love for the Eucharist and use of modern technology to share the faith continue to inspire Catholics around the world. Often referred to as *God's influencer*, Carlo reminds us that holiness is possible at any age.

Our Chaplains behaved reverently and respectfully throughout the visit. They had the opportunity to venerate the relic, spend time in prayer, and write prayer intentions which will be taken back to **Assisi**, where Saint Carlo is buried.

It was a deeply prayerful and memorable experience, strengthening our Chaplains in their role as faith leaders within our school community. We are very proud of the way they represented St Mary's.



Keep up to date with what is going on in school

