

Class Updates - 05.12.2025



Reception Butterflies update

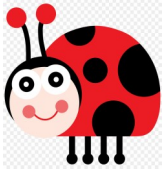


It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas in Butterfly class. The Advent Calendar is up, we are practising our Nativity and we are ready to perform on Monday. We have been learning about the significance of Advent to Christians but also talking about how Jewish people celebrate Hannukah and learning some of the traditions.

We have been learning some complicated digraphs—sh, th, ng and nk and writing about winter, using the sounds we know to write simple words and phrases.

In Maths we have been looking at 2D shapes, focusing on shapes with 4 sides and being shape detectives looking for shapes all around us.

Miss Nicholson, Miss Hunter and Miss Murnane



Year 1 Ladybirds Update

This week we have been working hard on learning the songs for the Nativity without looking at the lyrics. We hope to see you all at **St Marys Church at 6pm on Monday 8th December.**

English

This week we have planned and written our diary entry, from Meesha's point of view. The children have been brilliant at retelling the story and sequencing it in diary form. They have worked incredibly hard on this and have got them proudly displayed on our English display board in class.

DT

We have been working hard on creating our moving Christmas cards. Children chose which type of slider or lever they wanted to use and planned their Christmas design around this. All of the children thought hard about their design at each step and have created a wonderful end piece.

History

This week we had a visitor—who was a previous St Marys student! Nicki came to St Mary's over 50 years ago and came in to speak to the children about her childhood and growing up in Saffron Walden. The children asked her lots of fantastic questions.

Mrs Holmes and the Year One team





Year 2 Caterpillars Update

This week has been our final Nativity rehearsals. I have been so impressed with how the children have taken everything in their stride and worked so hard to learn their lines and their songs.

In Maths, we have continued to progress with our four operations work, applying our skills to solving word problems. In English, we have focused on writing descriptively, drawing on different aspects from our class book.

In Science, we have been learning about habitats and the conditions required for each one. The children particularly enjoyed exploring the Amazon rainforest and other habitats, and discovering which animals live there.

Finally, in RE, the children have been learning about what Christmas means for Christians. We looked at Christmas cards and discussed the messages behind them.

Well done to all the children for another fantastic week of learning!

There will be a reminder going out about the Nativity and the logistics today. Thanks for all of your support with costumes and preparations.

Mr Brown & the Year 2 team





Year 3 Grasshoppers Update

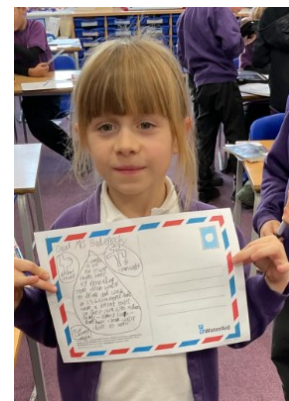
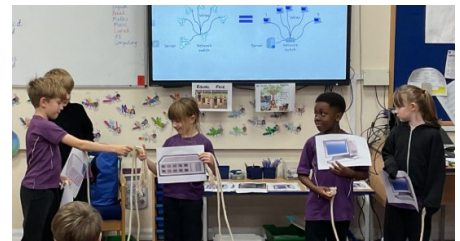
It's been another busy and exciting week of learning! In maths this week, the children have been multiplying 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, as well as practising how to multiply multiples of 10. They have been developing their fluency and using different strategies to check their answers. We have started a new unit on non-chronological reports in English, with a focus on animals. The class explored the key features of this type of writing and began practising some of them in their own work. This included using expanded noun phrases to add detail and rhetorical questions to engage the reader.

Our science topic continued with a study of different types of skeletons. We looked closely at endoskeletons, exoskeletons, and hydrostatic skeletons, discussing how each type helps support an animal's body. This also linked beautifully with our English work, helping us gather extra facts for our reports! The children have continued practising notes for the tune of Jingle Bells in Music. They can now play the notes **B, C, D, and G**, and are becoming more confident each week. In Computing, we created our own small computer network to help us understand how networks work. We had computers, a switch, a server and a wireless access point!

Using Google Chrome, the class explored the features of New Delhi as part of their geography unit. Next week, they will compare what they found with features of our own local area. In PSHCE, this week's focus was on valuing and respecting differences. The children reflected on ways we can behave towards one another to show appreciation, kindness and respect. The class have also been exploring French Christmas traditions as part of their French curriculum.

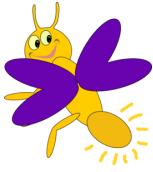
The children also continued researching the work of Water Aid. We wrote postcards to our local MP to help raise awareness and, hopefully, raise some vital funds for this worthwhile cause—fantastic citizenship Year 3!

Have a lovely weekend and see everyone on Monday!



Mrs Potter and the Year 3 team

Year 4 Fireflies Update



It has been a busy week in Year 4!

Continuing our topic of **Courageous Advocacy**, the class spent time speaking to the adults in school about the importance of Fair Trade, showing them their posters/leaflets and offering samples of Fair Trade food and drinks. Lots of the adults commented on how impressed they were by how informative their talks with the children were and how lovely it was to see such enthusiasm across the class. Well done, Fireflies.

In **Science** this week, we have investigated the digestive system and the stages of digestion by getting 'hands-on'. The class mashed bananas to mimic chewing, added water for saliva and moved this through their 'oesophagus,' before it was digested with stomach acid. They were very proud of their fully digested meals at the end and enjoyed seeing the process in action.

In **Maths**, we are continuing to practice our multiplication to 12 and brushing up on our knowledge of multiplication and division facts. Please do continue to practice times tables at home where possible, this can be accessed through TT Rockstars, Timestables.com or just written out from memory for practice.

This week, the children have finished their end of term assessments. I am proud of how they have faced these with high levels of resilience and a really positive attitude. They should all be very proud of themselves and their efforts.

Enjoy a restful weekend,

Mrs Tagg and the Year 4 team





Year 5 Busybees Update

This week, in Maths, we have been practising division using the formal written method (bus stop) we then moved onto answers with remainders and decimals.

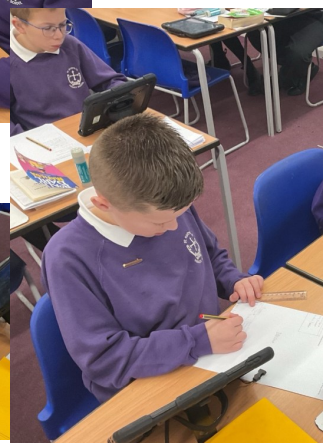
In English, we wrote character descriptions using the Beowulf text. We then looked at how vocabulary is used to create suspense through character and setting description and atmosphere.

In R.E, the class looked at the parable of The Lost Sheep. They acted out what they had read and then shared their thoughts on the moral/message of this parable.

In Geography, we researched the city of Innsbruck in Austria to gain understanding of what life 'in the Alps' is like. They had to find out: population, climate, leisure, environment and landscape and transport.

In PSICHE, we focused on team work and how to effectively solve problems when working in a 'team'. The groups had to plan a party, working together to make decisions and finalise ideas.

Mr Pike, Mrs Smith, Miss Driscoll





Year 6 Dragonflies update

It's been another busy week in Year 6!

In English, we began our new *Through the Portal* story, using our class text *The Market* as inspiration. The children broke down the structure of the story, discussed what makes a compelling main character, and explored ways to be more descriptive in their writing. There's already been some brilliant imagery and imagination on display!

In Maths, we've been working on line graphs. The children drew their own graphs using data sets, then interpreted the information to answer a range of questions. They've shown great attention to detail and are becoming much more confident working with data.

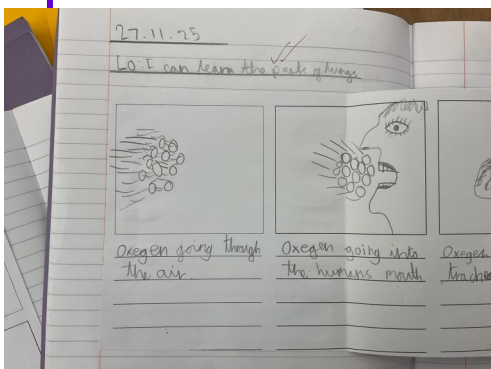
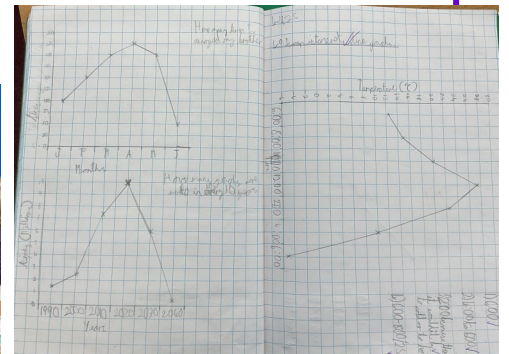
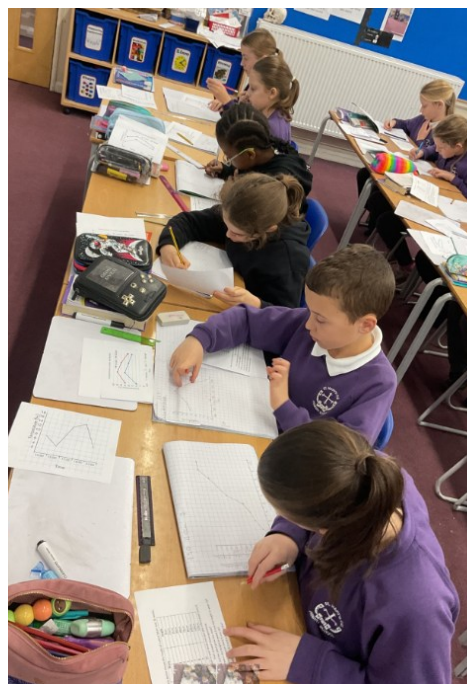
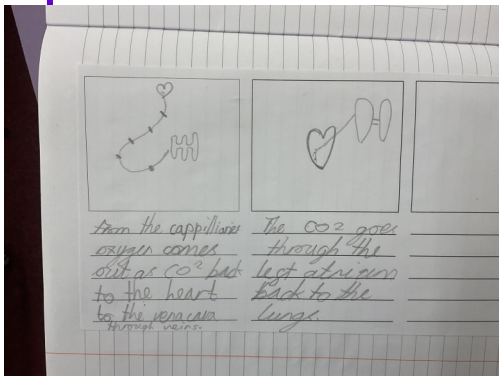
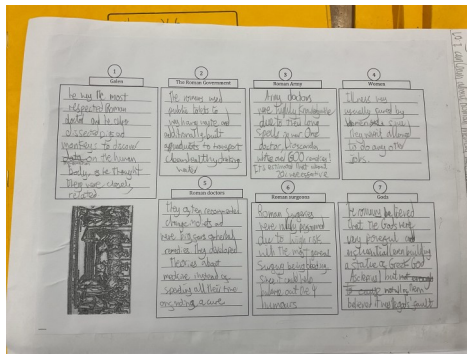
In Science, we recapped everything we've learned about the circulatory system, combining the roles of the heart, lungs, and muscles. The children created storyboards that followed the journey of an oxygen or carbon dioxide particle around the body, explaining each stage clearly and creatively.

In History, we looked into ancient Roman medicine. The children worked hard to sort through information and organise their findings into categories. Can your child remember who Galen was, and what some of his medical beliefs and misconceptions were?

In PE, we've been focusing on how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The children learned about calories, researched the calorie content of different foods, and then planned how to balance exercise and sensible eating to stay healthy. It sparked lots of thoughtful discussions, and they showed a great understanding of the importance of looking after their health!

Have a great weekend,

Mr Clarke and the Year 6 team



	Breakfast	lunch	Dinner	Exercise
Monday	2 eggs, cornflakes, milk, toast	chicken, veg, rice	chicken, veg, rice	30 min
Tuesday	bacon sandwich, yoghurt	chicken, veg, rice	chicken, veg, rice	30 min
Wednesday	porridge	burger	chicken, veg, rice	run 30 min
Thursday	milk, eggs, toast, veg, fruit	burger, veg, rice	chicken, veg, rice	30 min
Friday	porridge	burger	chicken, veg, rice	30 min
Saturday				
Sunday				