

February 2025 Newsletter

"Love one another as Jesus loved us" (John 13 v 34-35)

Jesus said, Love one another as I have loved you.

Through God's love and our Christian Values, we encourage each individual to love, respect and value themselves and others.

We encourage and nurture the growth of every individual and their uniqueness so that all flourish and become all that they can be and all that God made them to be

Dear Parents, Children & Friends,

CURRICULUM UPDATE:

It is pleasing to see children right across school fully immersed in their learning this half term. Here are just some of the highlights:

Reception

Reception class have been learning about Chinese New Year. We have discovered that some children were born in the year of the pig and some children were born in the year of the rat. We have danced with chopsticks and tasted prawn crackers.





St Mary's Church

England Primary School

Address: Rushcroft Road, High Crompton, Shaw, Oldham, OL2 7PP

Tel: 0161 770 8309

E-mail: info@stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

Website: www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs P A Hartley BEd (Hons), NPQH

DEPUTY HEAD: Mr S Day BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQSL

Year 1

As Theologists, Year 1 have been learning about Judaism, focusing on celebrating Shabbat. The children worked in groups to write down the facts they had learned and then shared their knowledge with one another. It was wonderful to see them engaged and excited to discover more about this special tradition!



Year 2

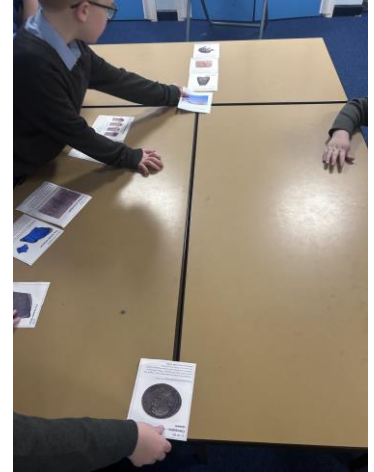


As Theologists, Year 2 have been retelling the story of Jesus and the Ten Lepers in RE and learning about the importance of gratitude. We explored the emotions the lepers might have felt at different parts of the story and acted out the events using a range of expressions to communicate these emotions.



Year 3

As Historians, Year Three have made a fantastic start to their Ancient Egypt topic! Building on their chronology skills from the Stone Age, the class have worked hard to place key events in Egyptian history in the correct order on a timeline



Year 4

As Scientists, Year 4 have started a new topic investigating animals and their habitats. The Year 4 pupils have enjoyed exploring the different habitats in the playground and observing what organisms could be found in each environment.





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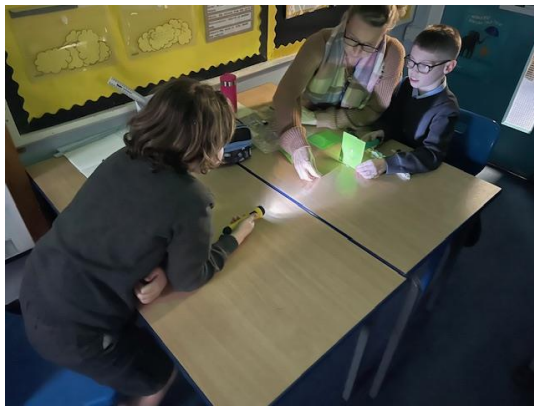
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Year 5



As Historians, Year 5 have been learning about The Vikings this half term and were lucky enough to have a visit from a Viking. They had a fabulous day learning; the history of the Vikings arriving in England, what they wore and ate, what vicious warriors they were and had a go at making a clay pinch pot and a Viking game. They even got to act out a battle using shields and swords!



Year 6

As Scientists, Year 6 have been investigating light. Please ask your children about some of the things they know, are trying to learn and what they remember from their topic so far, this half-term.

Year 6 have also been learning about Democracy as part of their RSHE. They had the amazing

opportunity to meet and ask our local MP Deborah Abrahams lots of questions about her role and how she can help St Mary's School combat the parking issues we face.



**Themed Weeks:****W/C 10th Feb - E Safety Week**

Although e-safety is integral to any of our learning when technology and the internet are used, we will be marking the importance of staying safe on line as part of Safer Internet Day this week. The theme is 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. This theme will help to start conversations about how to spot, respond to and report all types of scams online. The link below also provides useful resources for parents.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025/tips-for-parents-and-carers>.

We also have a section on our website dedicated to Digital Parenting and Online Safety to help keep you up to date keep of this ever changing and emerging technological world!

Safer
Internet
Day 2025 | Tuesday
11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

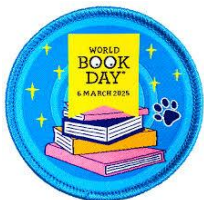
W/C 3rd Feb - Children's Mental Health Week:

This year's theme is 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'. The theme explores 'The more we can understand about ourselves, the more prepared we are to express our emotions and take on life's ups and downs.' Being self-aware means getting to know and understand what we are good at, what we find difficult, our likes and dislikes, what makes us feel JOY and what may cause us SADNESS. It is also about understanding what makes us unique and our fears, hopes and dreams.

Pupils will explore this through their RSHE lessons. We will finish the week on Friday 7th February with a non-uniform day to make our very own 'Rainbow Friday' in school. Pupils are invited to send a voluntary donation of £1:00 donation. As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. Check out the free resources for families below. <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

**Thinking Day - Mon 24th February**

Thinking Day is celebrated on 22nd February as it is the joint birthday of our founders, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell. Pupils who attend Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are invited to wear their uniforms, in school on Monday 24th February to celebrate this day.

**World Book Day 6th March:**

World Book Day and reading is an important part of our curriculum. However, we appreciate that whilst some children relish the opportunity to dress up, for others, this is the worst thought in the world. For parents it can also be an additional financial pressure particularly whilst we are in a cost-of-living crisis. Therefore, we have decided that World Book Day will be a non-uniform day and children are welcome to dress up in whatever way

they like - many book characters are just ordinary people in ordinary clothes or even school uniform, although I am guessing this may be a less popular choice!

Mr Day is finalising our plans for World Book Day but the day will focus upon the benefits of reading for pleasure.

National Science Week w/c 10th March

This year's theme is "Change and adapt". Throughout the week pupils will engage in science investigations. **On Thursday 13th March we have invited a company called Mad Science into school.** On this day the whole school will enjoy a lively and interactive assembly all about science investigations, looking at Inventions & Discoveries. Throughout the day each class will have their own workshop, led by Mad Science, on a topic linked to their science curriculum. It promises to be an exciting and memorable day for our pupils. Our huge thanks and appreciation to St Mary's PSG who have agreed to fund this amazing event for all of our pupils.



ATTENDANCE:

Good attendance is of great importance for all our pupils and something we celebrate at the end of each term with certificates presented to individual pupils.

Each month on the school newsletters we will also celebrate great attendance by class.

The class with the highest attendance this month is **Year 3** with 97.5% attendance!

Well, done Year 3, keep up this magnificent achievement!



THEMED LUNCH DAYS:

The next themed Lunch Day is the Valentine Lunch on Thursday 13th February. If any Junior pupil would like to have a school lunch on this day, the cost is £2.70. See School Spider for payment. Infant pupils will automatically receive this menu choice.



LINKS WITH ST. MARY'S CHURCH and WORSHIP IN SCHOOL:

Mother Katy and Father Paul continue to lead Worship and Circle Time each week for which we are extremely grateful.

This term we have been thinking about Forgiveness in worship and the WOWs in circle time.

Reception Class have visited St Mary's Church to hold a mock Baptism as part of their RE learning.

Next half term our Christian Value and focus for Worship is Compassions. We will also focus on Lent and Holy Week in the lead upto Easter and prepare to say our thanks and Goodbye to Mother Katy.



The Citizenship Challenges:

The citizenship challenge continues. January's challenge had an amazing response as we asked pupils to donate a used toy or book to Wood Street Mission. We were overwhelmed with your donations. February's challenge follows on from our Mental Health and Wellbeing week. Pupils are challenged to: 'Spend time outside and do something that makes you happy'. You could go for a walk, visit the seaside, take a trip to the park or collect items from nature. What can you see? What can you hear? What do you notice? How does it make you feel?

CITIZENSHIP

A reminder those pupils completing 8 of the challenges (there are a possible 10) will receive a prestigious Citizenship Award Badge at the end of the academic year. Thank you for supporting St Mary's in making a small difference to our world.

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT GROUP NEWS:

The next meeting for the Parent Support Group is on Wednesday 26th February at 7:00pm in the North Star. Please come along any new ideas and new members are warmly welcome.

The next events for the Support Group are

- The Glow Disco 13th February 2025 - with brand new UV Lights to light up our hall!



- A sponsored pancake flip on 4th March
- Easter Raffle (details to follow) to be drawn on 4th April at the Easter Service.
- Musical Evening - Friday 25th April - please save the date details to follow but will include all musical groups in school and the school choir as well as a joint performance with Oldham Community Wind Band



Winning numbers at the last 150 club draw: 14, 68, 24, 55, 61, 116 Congratulations to all the winners. The next draw will be on Friday 28th February. **We still have vacant numbers if you wish to purchase a number please enquire at the school office.**

BREAK TIME SNACKS:

A polite reminder, we ask that all of our pupils **bring one healthy snack for breaktime** such as fresh fruit or vegetables. This is in line with the School Nutrition Guidelines and Healthy Eating.





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UP TO DATE DETAILS:

Please remember to keep the office informed of any changes in medical conditions, emergency contact numbers and email addresses via the school email address info@stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk or in writing.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT HALF TERM:

Monday:	Badminton	3:30 - 4:30pm Y4-6
Tuesday:	Infant Fun Club	12:00 - 12:30pm
	Junior Fun Club	12:30 -1:00pm Yr3 - 4
	Fitness Club	3:30 - 4:30pm Yr 5,6
Wednesday:	Choir	3:30 - 4:30 Y3 - Y6
Thursday:	School Band	8:30 - 9:00
	Anna's Dance	3:30 - 4:15 Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4
Friday:	Gymnastics	3:30 - 5:00

FORTHCOMING DATES:

Monday 24 th Feb:	Thinking Day for Uniformed Organisations
Wed 26 th Feb:	PSG Meeting 7pm North Star
Tues 4 th March:	Sponsored Pancake Flip (Details to follow)
Thurs 6 th March:	World Book Day (Details to follow)
Fri 7 th March:	Y3 Visit to Bolton Museum - Egyptians
W/C 10 th Science Week	
Thurs 13 th March	Whole School MAD Science Day
Thursday 20 th March:	Disney Themed Lunch (Details to follow)
Tuesday 1 st April	Year 3 visit to Castleshaw - River Study
Fri 4 th April:	Easter Church Service and Year 3 Link with Broadfield

17th - 21st Feb closed for Half Term Holiday.

Kind regards,

P.A Hartley

Headteacher