OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2026

OCTOBER WINS:

- Our Football House Festival was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed, despite a few weather-related adaptations. Keep an eye on Dojo to find out which house came out on top!
- Our Harvest Festival was a wonderful opportunity to come together as a school community. The children sang beautifully, and we collected a fantastic number of donations for the local food bank.
- Presentation in books continues to go from strength to strength, with children taking real pride in their work. Many of our older pupils are enthusiastically working towards earning their pen licence.
- Doodle usage has soared this month, which is fantastic to see! If you haven't logged on yet, I challenge you to give it a go over the half-term break.

NOVEMBER GOALS:

🌺 As we mark Remembrance, we will take time to remember those who gave their lives in service to our country. We hope as many children as possible will join us for the Remembrance Parade and wreath laying on Sunday 8th November, more details to follow.

➗ We are aiming for every child to make progress in their weekly times tables and mental arithmetic scores. A little practice each day can make a big difference, so let's see how much we can improve together!

ATTENDANCE

Just a reminder that if you are struggling please do give us a call.

Everyone has bad days where they are running late, or the baby has only just gone to sleep after being up all night and you don't want to get them out the car or parents are ill themselves. In these cases we are always happy to help and make any reasonable adjustments we can to help get children into school.



It's been that kind of day.

WORSHIP

In our worship sessions, we have continued exploring the *Big Story of the Bible*. Recently, we have been thinking about the themes of trust and friendship, learning how Abraham was God's trusted friend and showed great faith in Him. We also reflected on our own friendships and discussed how we can build trust by being kind, honest and dependable to others.





DIARY DATES

2.11.26- INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED
3.11.26- Children return to school
SUNDAY 8.11.26- Remembrance parade (more info to follow)
6.11.26- Diwali Dance workshops (PE Kit)
13.11.26- Children in Need Mufti
16.11.26- Anti-Bullying Week

***ADVANCED NOTICE- THURSDAY 27TH MAY- SPORTS DAY. ***

CONTACTING SCHOOL

If you would like to request an appointment with the SENDCO (Miss Grant) or another member of SLT or for general enquiries, please contact the school office:

Phone Number: 01384818295

Email: info@stmarys.edlt.org.uk

You can also use Class Dojo Messaging to contact SLT and your child's teacher.

SAFEGUARDING

At St Mary's we appreciate that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. If you have any concerns about a child, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details shared opposite. Our Safeguarding and child protection policy can be found on our school website.

Instilling a life-long love for learning in an inclusive, supportive Christian community.



HOUSE CAPTAINS SCHOOL UPDATE: Which lessons have pupils enjoyed most this half term?

FIRE by Rebecca, Eve and Frankie



Maple pupil voice told us that the children have been really interested in learning about different religions in RE. They are also passionate about PE and have enjoyed learning to play tag rugby. Blossoms agree that PE is a highlight- learning about different sports has been fun.

Our littlest fire children told us that they like playing with stickers and learning to write the letter 'p'. They have all been working really hard to improve their handwriting. They also love to read books. In Year 2 Science is popular and enjoyed by many.

Maths is a favourite in upper KS2 and children commented that they like learning new things every lesson. Writing is also popular with the children in Oak producing amazing speeches about child labour.

WATER by Ava, Matthew and Sienna



Many children like English in Blossoms because it is fun and creative. Also, Science and Maths are popular for writing questions and answering them. Year 1 children love Maths especially addition and subtraction. KS1 pupils have expressed that they have enjoyed having the opportunity to edit their work.

Maths is also popular with KS2, with children commenting that 'I like Maths- learning about hundreds and thousands.' Reception children are keen mathematicians too and have said they liked learning about shapes.

When talking about RE one pupil from Maple commented that she has enjoyed learning about Genesis. Oak found their history unit on World War 2 very interesting.

EARTH by Husaina, Enya and April



Earth Oak children have also really enjoyed writing their speech about child labour. Maths is popular as children are very committed to improving their scores, especially in arithmetic. Reception love Phonics and are excited that they are learning to write their own words!

In Maple children have talked about how much they have enjoyed Maths, PE and DT. Baking cookies was a great activity, children enjoyed the opportunity to think about how their product could be improved.

Heading into KS1, children told us they enjoy Science and History. One of their favourite History lessons was when Mr Hickman came to talk to them about toys in the past. He brought lots of interesting things to show them.

AIR Leo, Chloe and Connor

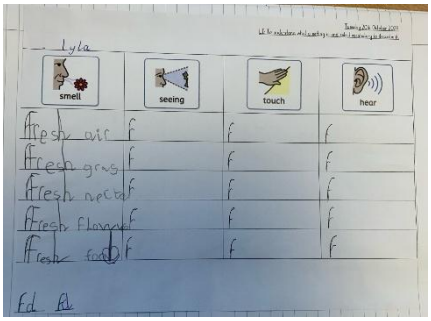


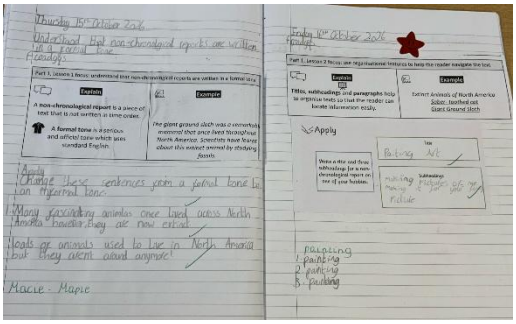
In Elder children in Air have enjoyed English where they have had the opportunity to write a story with two characters. They particularly enjoyed choosing the setting for their characters. For the children in Maple French has been an enjoyable subject this half term, the child I spoke to liked learning about languages spoken across the world. They also enjoyed learning about God and how different people's religious beliefs and worldviews can be.

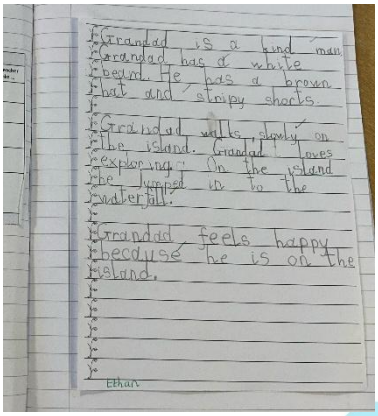
In Blossoms the pupils I spoke with both liked DT because they liked to express themselves through craft activities. This half term they have been building a chair and testing it to see if it is stable enough to sit on.

In Acorns the children told me they like writing because they are enjoying practising forming their letters, writing stories and being creative. Colouring in is also popular!





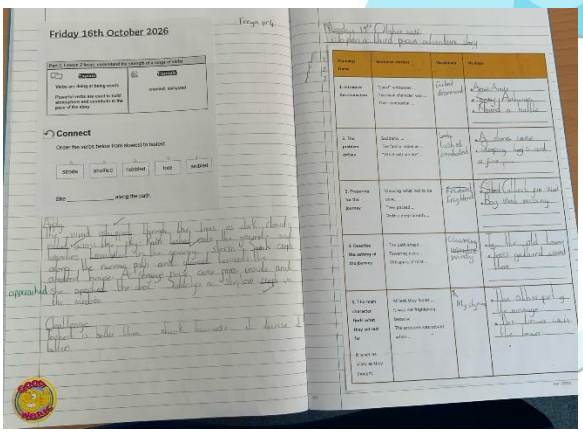








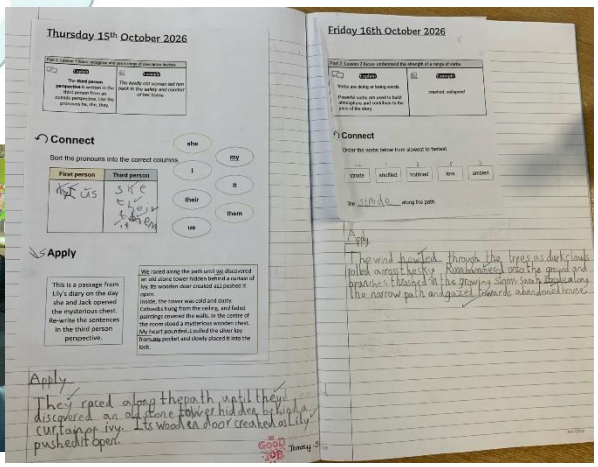
PROUD CLOUD



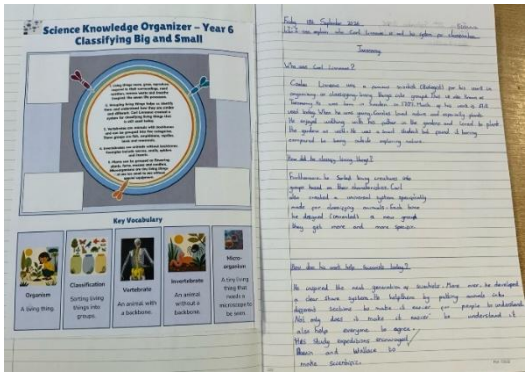














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