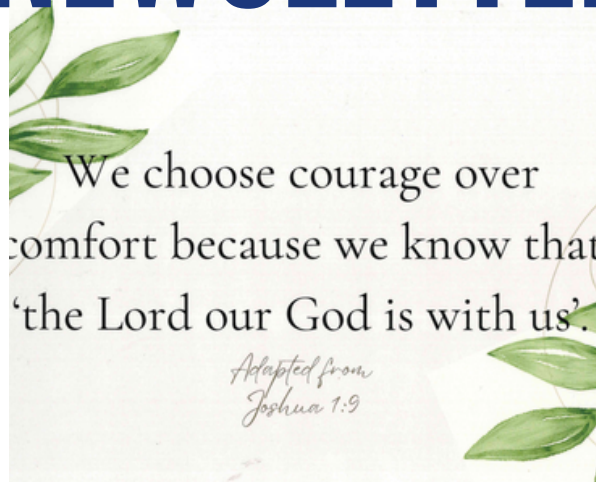


NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

As we come nearer to the end of this term, we have been thinking about the words **love, faith, belief, and connection**—and how much they mean to us as a school community. These aren't just words; they're values we see in action every day. **Love** is in the kindness our children show to one another. **Faith** gives us confidence to keep moving forward, even when things feel uncertain. **Belief** reminds us to trust in our own abilities and in the potential of every child. And **connection**—well, that's what makes our school feel like family.

One of the most special moments this term was our whole-school Carol Service at St Mary's Church led by our school choir. Standing together in that beautiful space, singing carols and reflecting on the Christmas story, was truly uplifting. It wasn't just about the music—it was about being together, sharing something meaningful, and feeling that sense of unity that makes this time of year so special. A huge congratulations is needed for the KS2 Boccia Competition where the children won all three games!

As we head further into the Christmas season, I hope you find time to pause and enjoy these values at home too. Whether it's through laughter around the table, quiet moments of reflection, or simply being with those you love, may this season bring you peace and joy.

Thank you for your continued support—it means so much to all of us. Wishing you a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Warmest wishes,

S Pearson
Mrs Pearson

Church Updates

'Energise Sunday' at the Magdalene Centre from 11.30am with games and crafts, with St Mary's school choir. We also have a memorial service this **Sunday at 6pm** at church for anyone who would like to remember loved ones who have died. During the service there is a chance to write a message on a star and place it on our 'Tree of Memories'. All are welcome with refreshments at the Magdalene Centre afterwards.

Rev. Julie

School Dates for the Diary

11.12.25 - Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Jumper Day
11.12.25 - Christmas Disco
12.12.25 - Ethic of Excellence Assembly
15.12.25 - KS1 Nativity @ 2:00 & 5:00
16.12.25 - Foundation Stage Nativity @ 2:00 and 5:00
18.12.25 - Y4 Christmas Service @ 1:45
19.12.25 - Last day of term
05.01.26 - School Closed INSET day
06.12.26 - Return to School
06.01.26 - Y3 Yorvik Trip
07.01.26 - Y4 Cromford Trip



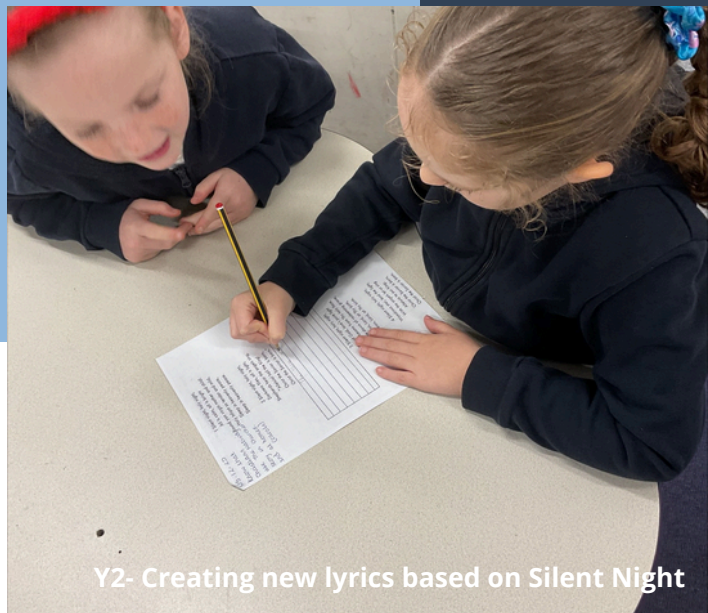
Jesus embodies the love and compassion of God for each person, and Christians are called to follow him in this. In our family, love impels us to:

- put others' needs above our own;
- act with humility and without entitlement;
- empower all our community to flourish and succeed;
- provide a haven of compassion and safety, where children and adults know that they are cherished; and
- support those experiencing suffering and sadness - in our community and beyond

"Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Corinthians 16:14)

YR - Mrs Price and Mrs Dubowski

This week in English, we continued to explore the story "Can't You Sleep, Little Bear." We started by recapping our understanding of speech and locating it within the text. Then, we reviewed the speech bubbles we wrote last week during guided writing. The children took on the role of the opposite character and wrote another speech bubble responding to them. We also examined the ending of the story and made predictions about what could happen next if the story continued. In Maths, we consolidated our learning about 2D shapes. Since the children needed further support, we also looked at creating the numbers four and five through a variety of games. In our Topic and outdoor learning sessions, we continued to explore art. We focused on the artist Andy Goldsworthy, learning about his life and what inspires his artwork. The children then examined a range of art pieces and discussed how they made them feel. Afterward, the children collected various natural materials to create a large-scale piece of art inspired by Andy Goldsworthy.



Y2- Creating new lyrics based on Silent Night

Year 1 - Miss Bower

This week has been a great week for year one, we have finished our narratives in English. We have done lots of phonics work this week, we have recapped all of our taught sounds and looked at diagraphs and split diagraphs to consolidate these. In science this week we have looked at the different clothing we would wear in different seasons and made a tally to show which we clothing we would use at this time of the year.

Y2 - Mrs Turvey and Mrs Marshall

Year 2 have been writing their recounts on their trip to The Deep this week. They have been focussing on using subordination and coordination to make our writing more interesting to our readers. We have also been practising using exclamative sentences and adjectives too. We have carried on working on adding and subtracting numbers and have started to use a number line to support us with this. We will be exploring subtraction more next week. In Geography, we have recapped OS Symbols and what we would be likely to find at a beach. In PE, we have been continuing our work on Indoor Athletics and we have been doing sessions based on hurdling. The class really enjoyed this and worked hard with their partner to give feedback to improve their skills. Next week, we will be continuing our Geography learning regarding features of a beach/unfamiliar environment and we will be looking at suitable materials in science too to test our predictions.



Y2 - Enjoying their indoor athletics

Y3 Miss Wain

This week Year 3 have been completing a range of assessments and have worked incredibly hard! They have all made a great effort to showcase their learning and I am very proud of them! In Art, the children tested their designs for their sculpture. We will build and paint these in the coming weeks. In Computing the children continued to create their interactive scene based on the plans they made last week. It incorporated all the technical coding they have learnt over the last term. In Geography the children looked at the countries in Europe and where volcanoes and formed along the Pacific Ring of Fire. They labelled all the countries in Europe on a map and created their own ring of fire, looking at the human and physical effects of volcanic eruptions.



Y3 - Exploring Art techniques

Y4 - Miss Buckley

It's been a very busy week in Year 4 as we've been completing our end-of-term assessments. The children have shown brilliant focus and resilience, and I'm so proud of how thoughtfully they approached each task.

In English, we have continued our work with *Orphans of the Tide*. This week, the children analysed a missing chapter from the story, exploring how the writer builds tension, introduces new ideas, and develops character emotions. We then discussed how we would shape the rest of the novel if we were the authors, thinking about plot twists, character journeys and the themes we'd like to explore. The class are thoroughly enjoying the book and are full of creative ideas about what could happen next.

In Science, we have been investigating how sound is measured, using decibel meters to record sound levels in different parts of the school. The children loved comparing quiet and noisy spaces and thinking about what affects how loud a sound is.

In Music, the children continued learning new notes on the recorder, developing their confidence and improving the clarity of their sound.

We've also been dedicating lots of time to practising for our Christmas service. The children have been working hard on their readings, songs, and performance pieces, and everything is coming together!

Stepping Stones - Miss Cave

Stepping Stones have had a great week. We started our week with 'Mellow Mondays' again where we baked some Christmas biscuits and iced them with icing sugar and sprinkles! The children loved this, especially shaping their biscuits with the different cutters! It's assessment week this week so we have been super busy completing maths assessments. Miss Cave and Mr Flanagan are so proud with the effort we have been putting into our assessments so far. In PE, we have continued work on our athletic skills and practised the hurdles!

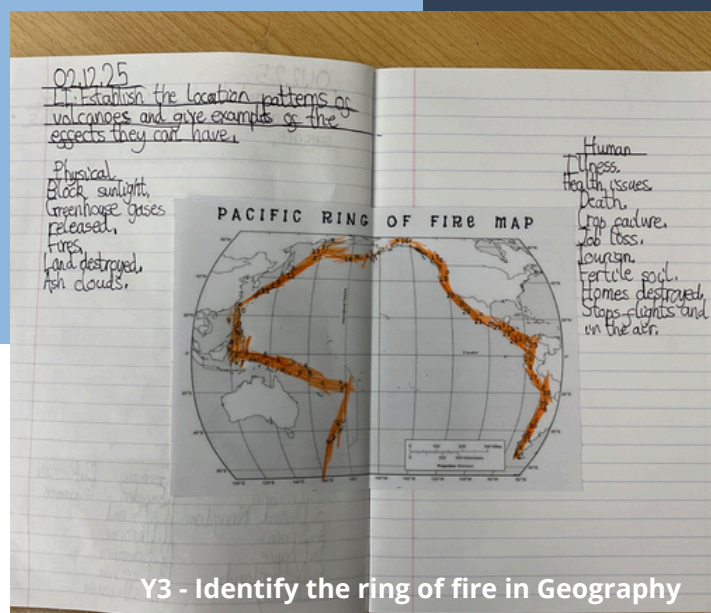
Y5 - Miss Evans

This week, Year 5 have been working incredibly hard during Assessment Week. We are so proud of their focus, determination, and positive attitude towards their learning. Each child has shown resilience and a fantastic effort in completing their tests—well done, Year 5!

Alongside assessments, the class has enjoyed a creative challenge in Design Technology. The children have been designing and making their very own bandanas! From choosing vibrant fabrics to experimenting with patterns and stitching techniques, they have demonstrated great imagination and practical skills. The finished bandanas look amazing and reflect the individuality of each designer. A big thank you to everyone for their hard work this week—both academically and creatively!

Y6 - Mrs Woodward

Year 6 have had a wonderful week completing their assessments. Their scores have shown me just how truly wonderful they are and they should be very very proud of themselves! In English, they have written an independent write based on a species of their choice. In Maths, they have learnt how to multiply fractions and divide fractions by a whole number. In Science, they have learnt about the types of fossils, fossil placement and why they are important. In Music, they have begun to compose their own pieces of music to improve morale for people during the war. In DT, they have designed their own places to help the soldiers in the war. Next week, they are going to be learning about how to find fractions of an amount and will begin to create their own imaginary community based on the city of London during WW2.



Y3 - Identify the ring of fire in Geography



Baking biscuits in Stepping Stones



Team work in Stepping Stones

OPAL



Highlights

The library has been a popular addition to our OPAL play this week. Many children have enjoyed being inside and having quiet time with friends or reading and escape the rain! The large-scale construction is proving to be very popular with children becoming more creative with their designs and taking risks with play.

The stage is beginning to take shape, and the children are looking forward to having further shelter and a place to perform shows to an audience!

Welly Award

Foundation

Golden Broom

Alicja

Reminders

Please ensure children have coats, hats and gloves as the weather turns colder.

Resources needed:

- Reels of all sizes
- Guttering
- Pine cones
- Paint
- Small world toys
- Material
- Prams
- Scooters