



May 2025
Mai 2025

St Francis R.C. Primary School



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A message from our Headteacher,

Miss Langsdale



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the May edition of the school newsletter. This half term has been very short but packed full of lovely learning opportunities and fun activities.

As the days grow longer and the sunshine gets warmer, we are able to enjoy lots of outdoor learning, planting and looking after our garden areas in school. Next half term will fly by and we are looking forward to Sports Day, the Summer Fayre and much more!

I would like to thank Mrs Price, Miss Kennett, the children, the staff and especially the Criw Cymraeg for all of their hard work in achieving the Siarter Iaith Silver Award. This is a huge achievement and we are very proud of the children who, in Welsh, spoke and answered so well! Da iawn pawb!

Thank you all for being such an important part of our school community.
Warm wishes

Miss M. Langsdale
Headteacher





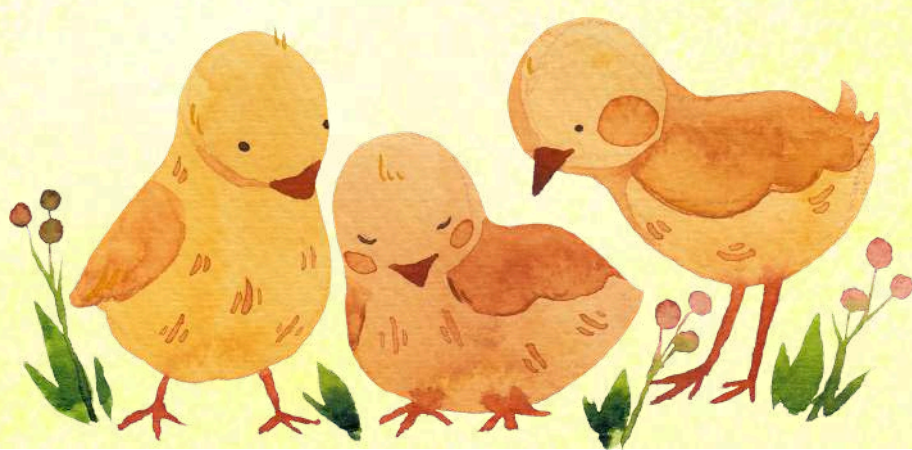
Religious Education Directory

Prayer of the Month



Gweddi'r Mis

Loving God,
 In the month of May
 we turn our hearts to Mary, our Blessed Mother.
 Thank you for her example of faith, kindness,
 and courage.
 Help us to follow her in saying "yes" to Your
 will each day.
 May this month continue to be filled with peace,
 joy, and new beginnings.
 Bless our school, our families, and our friends.
 Guide us to grow in love, to care for one
 another,
 and to walk closely with Jesus, just as Mary
 did.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.





Religious Education Directory



Virtues

Attentive and Discerning

Attentive: (Samuel 16:7)

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

Discerning: (Corinthians 9-14)

“What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”.

The things God has prepared for those who love him— these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.





Assemblies Pilgrims of Hope

We have been a part of something very special with all the Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Catholic Faith Schools! We received the specially created Pilgrim Staff from St Mary's RC Primary school in Canton on Wednesday 14th May. They travelled by foot from their school to ours and we received the Pilgrim Staff from them. We then joined together and enjoyed a worship assembly and thought about our hopes for the future. We really enjoyed this peaceful morning in our school.



On Friday 16th May we journeyed to Mary Immaculate High School to present them with the Pilgrim Staff. We were excited to walk there and it took us exactly 29 minutes! The weather was glorious and we were all in great spirits. We were welcomed by children and Lizzy the school Chaplain where we took part in a Worship Assembly, handed over the Staff, enjoyed a tour of the school, had a snack and drink and then walked back! The children behaved wonderfully and did themselves proud. They were so proud to be a part of something special during the Jubilee Year of Hope!



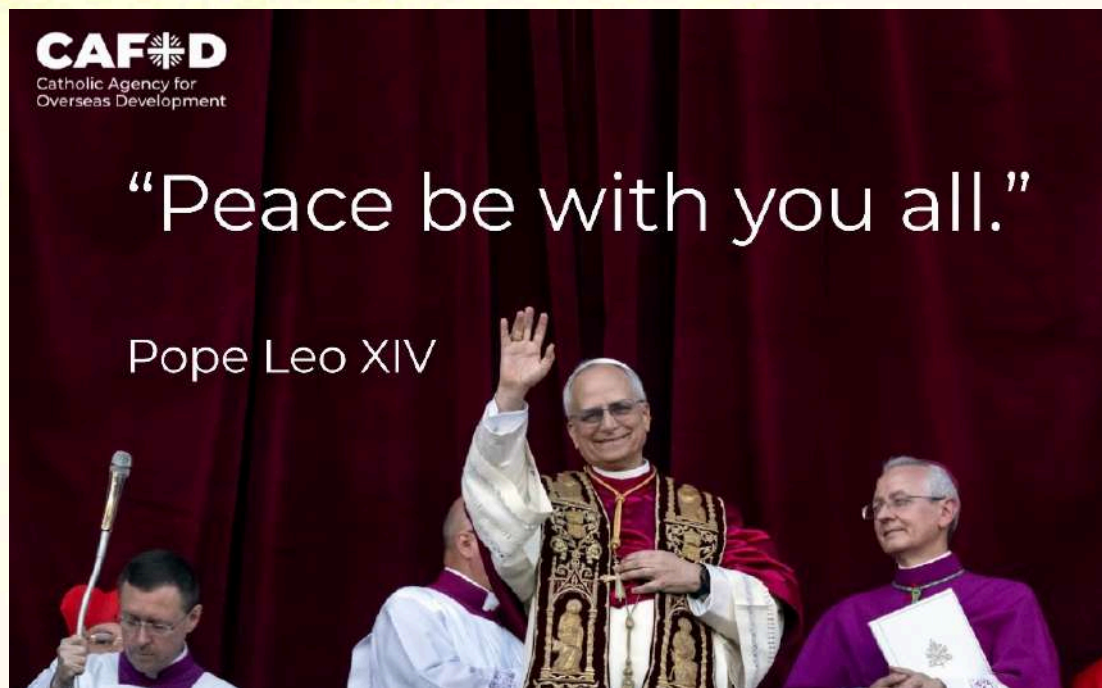
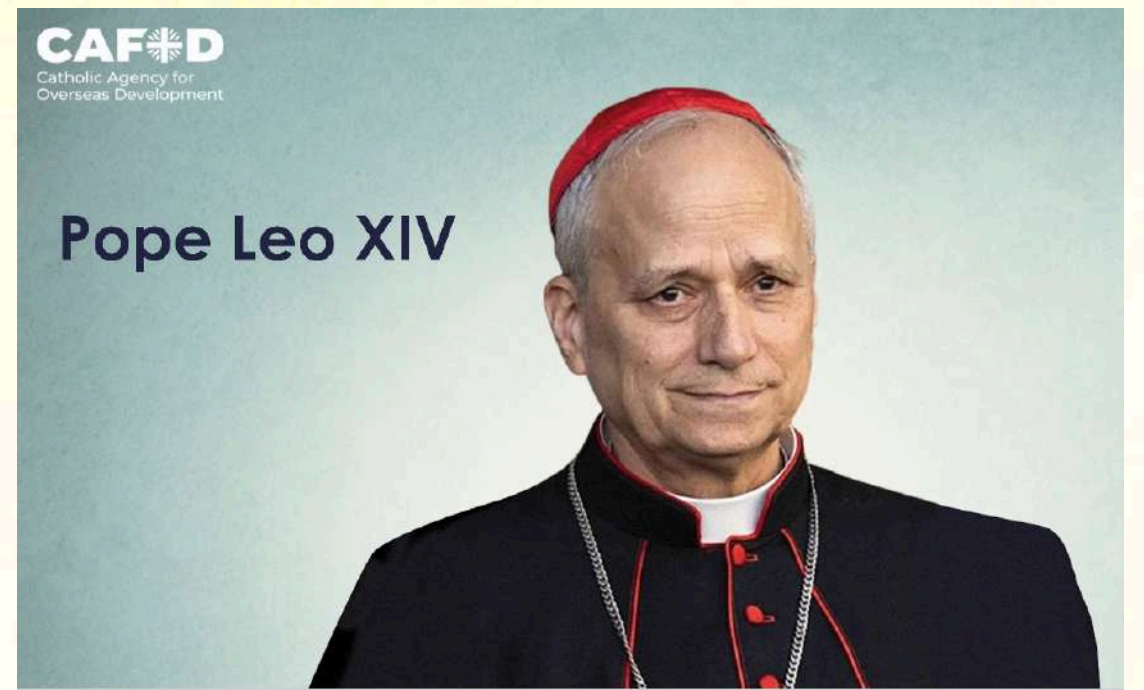


Assemblies

Religious Education Directory



Miss Mathias and Year 5 talked about our new Pope, Pope Leo XIV in assembly. We learnt about the Conclave and how Pope Leo became the new Pope. Year 5 told us all about his life as a priest and a cardinal and all of his fantastic work in Peru. We prayed for Pope Leo's future as the leader of the Catholic Church.



On Thursday Our Class Chaplains and Worship Warriors led the school beautifully in the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord Worship Assembly. The Feast day lands in the half term holidays (Thursday 29th May) It's an important moment in the liturgical year. After Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday, He spent 40 days with His friends, the disciples. He talked to them, helped them understand God's plan, and showed them that He was really alive!

Then, one day, Jesus took His friends up a hill. He told them something very important: He was going back to heaven to be with God, His Father. But He also promised that He would always be with them in a special way, and that one day, He would come back.





Assemblies

Nurturing Planet Earth



GREENPEACE

Foundation Learning and Key Stage 2 both enjoyed informative and interesting talks from Roshan who works for the charity Greenpeace. We learnt about why our Earth is changing, what we can do to help save our Earth and discussed how we feel about the future of our planet. We know that it can be hard hearing about Climate Change but making small changes will help empower us to make a difference!



GREENPEACE



YEAR 3&4 WALK TO SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Year 3 and 4 have been learning about different types of pollution: water, air and land. They have decided to take action by organising a "Walk to School Day." This will mean as a school we have used less petrol that day and reduced our carbon footprint!

WHEN?

THURSDAY 5TH JUNE 2025

DYDD IAU 5ED MEHEFIN 2025

JUNE 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

HOW CAN YOU TRAVEL TO SCHOOL?



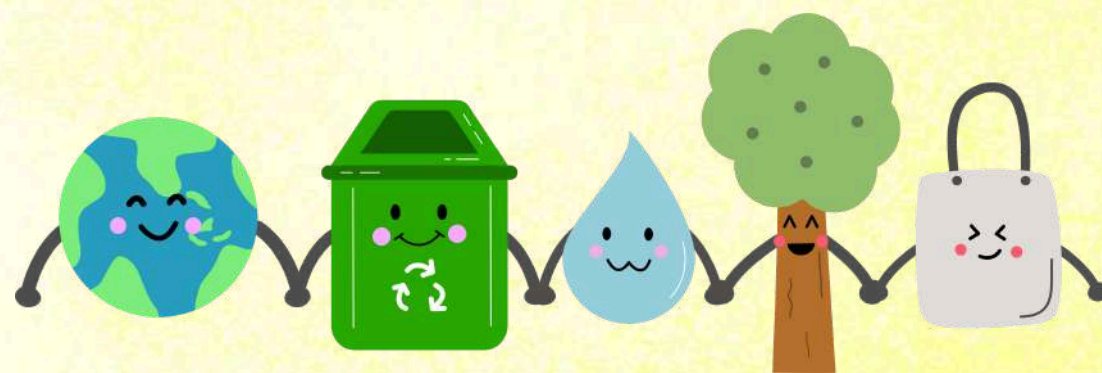
WALK



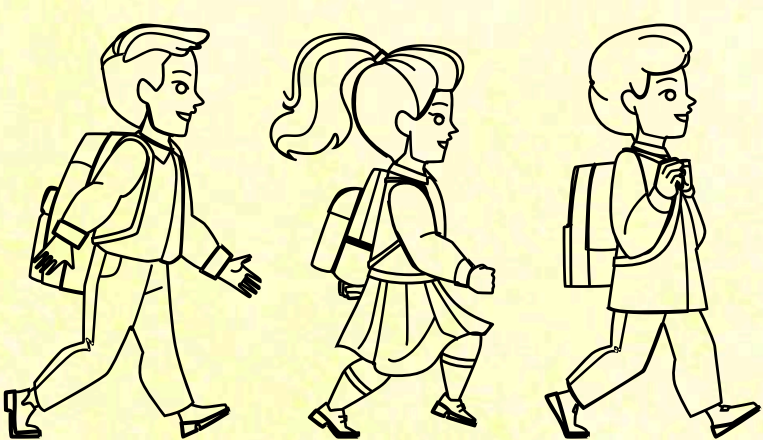
CYCLE



SCOOT

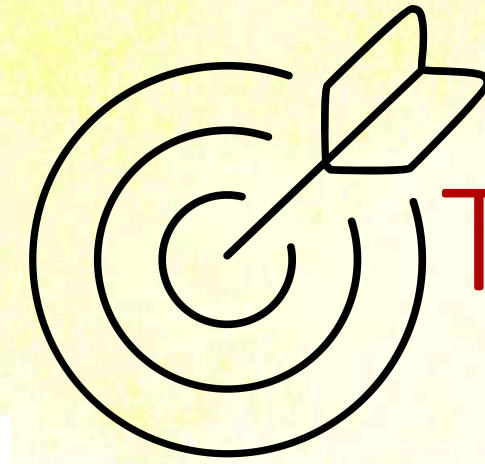
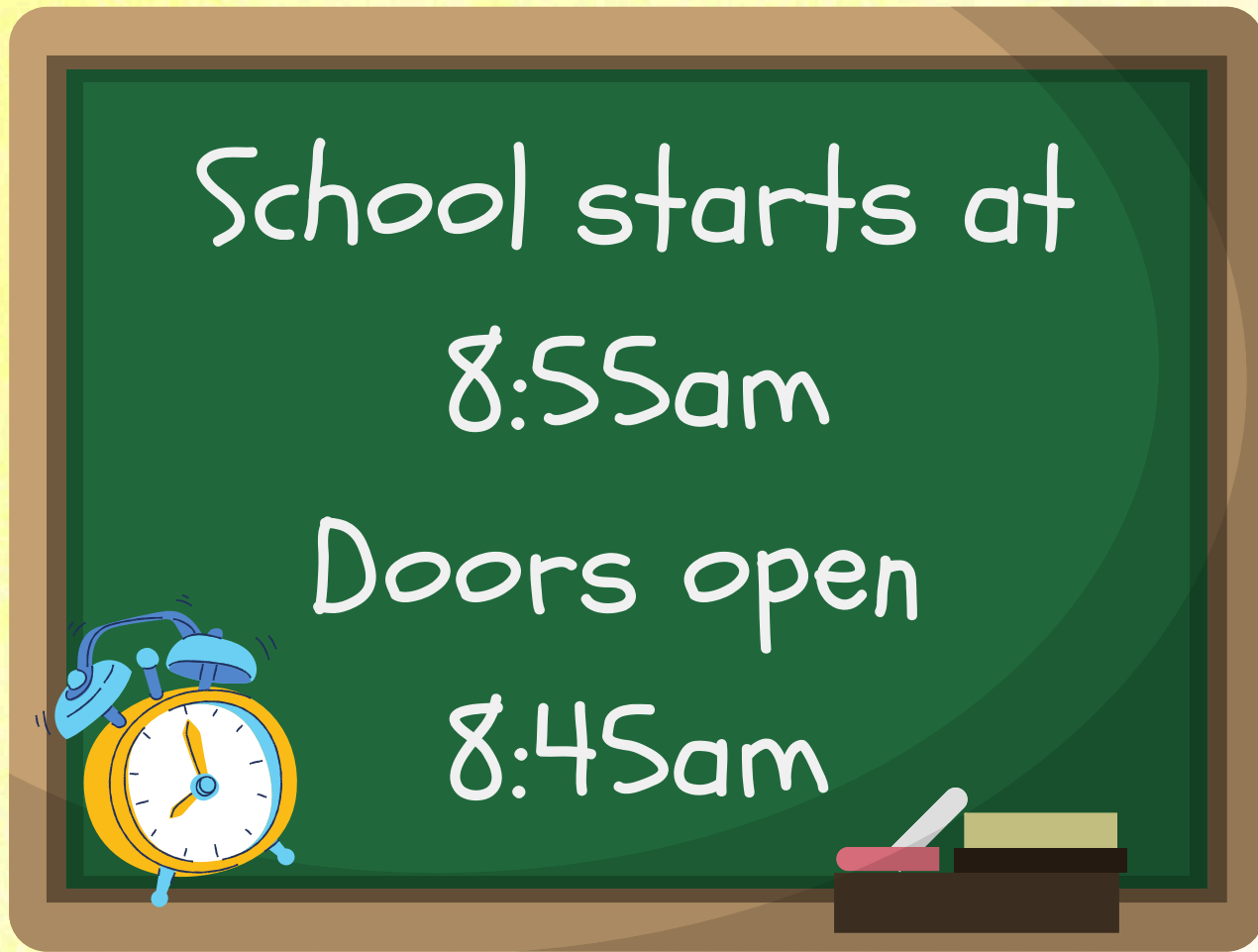


Our walk to school day will take place on Thursday 5th June and we are asking everyone to walk, cycle, scoot or stride to school! Let's see how much St Francis can do to help our planet!





Attendance & Punctuality



Target:
100%



**Your child's
attendance needs
to be above
95%**



At St Francis we monitor attendance **regularly.**

Our attendance is also monitored by school governors and the Local Authority.

Attendance at school is extremely important for all pupils so that they can achieve as well as possible, and is now part of safeguarding procedures.



If your child is unwell please contact the office otherwise the absence cannot be authorized.

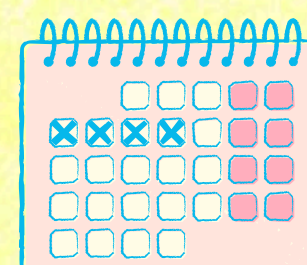


Please ensure your children are in to avoid potential fines.



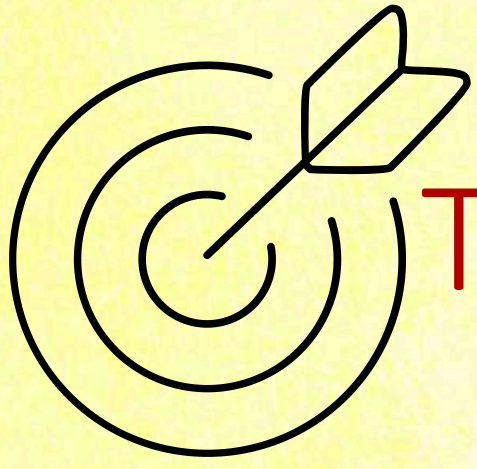
Every moment in school counts.

Days soon add up and the more children are in school the more they are likely to learn. Please do all you can to bring you child to school.





Attendance & Punctuality



Target:

100%

Slightly down from last month!

Overall Attendance

89.33%

Your child's attendance needs to be above **95%**

Nursery AM

86.94%

Nursery PM

89.17%

Reception

82.83%

Reception/Year 1

91.05%

Year 1

90.26%

Year 2

88.45%

Year 2/3

90%

Year 3

89.60%

Year 4P

91.74%

Year 4M

94.72%



Year 5M

92.17%

Year 5P

91.41%

Year 6B

86.25%

Year 6M

90.14%

Attendance Rewards

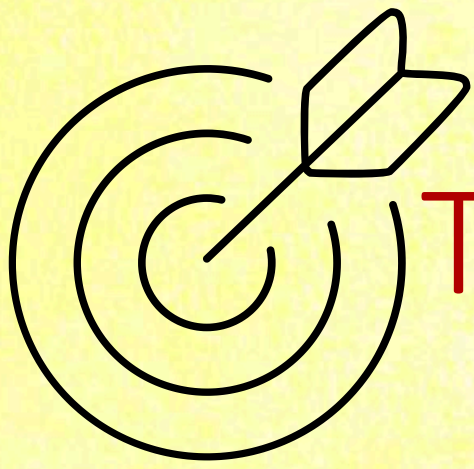
Our School Senedd have decided on a **No Work Day**; which would include things like a movie, board games P.E, chrome books and arts, for the class with the best attendance.

You can help your child's class win this by **bringing them in everyday!!**





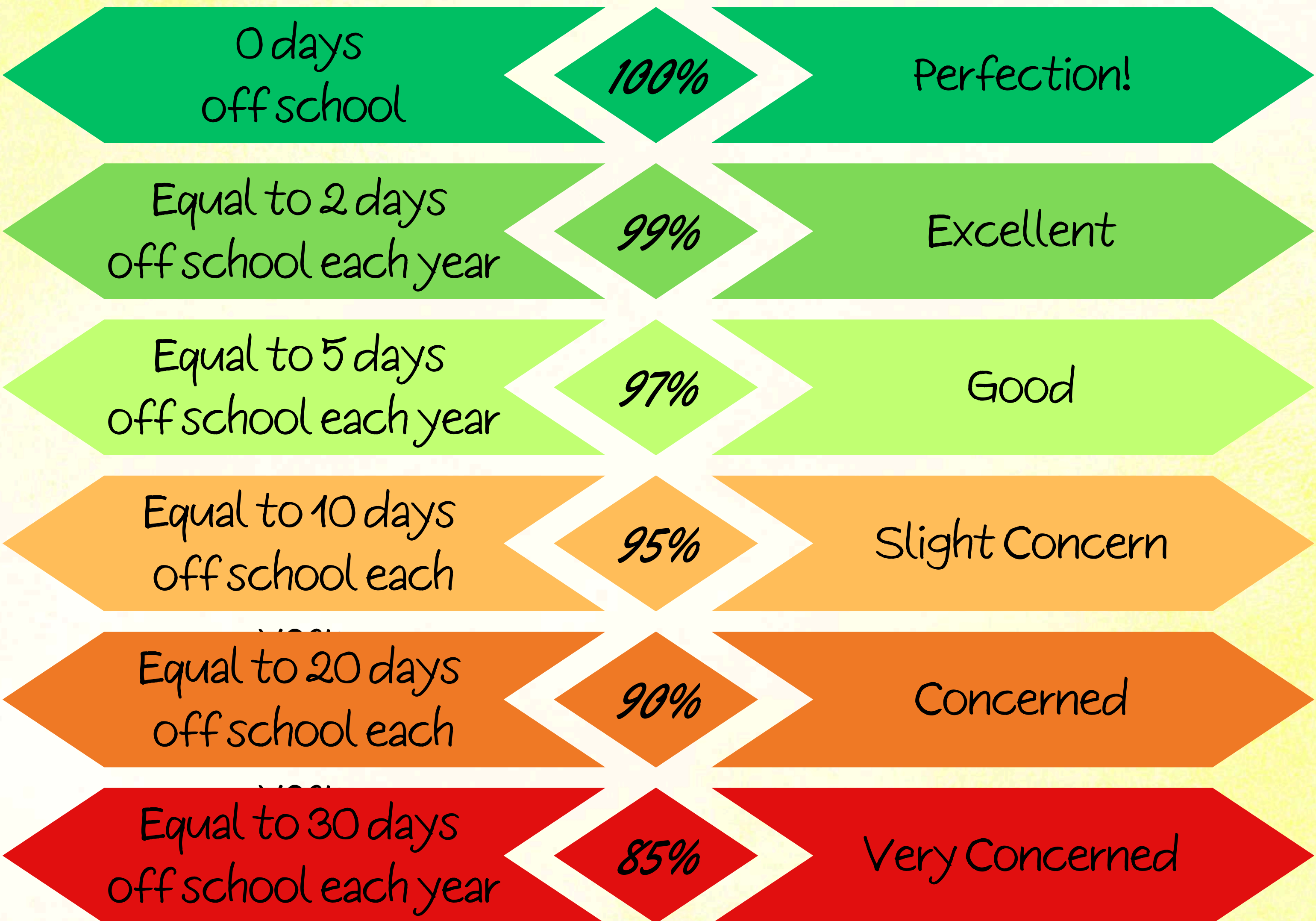
Attendance & Punctuality



Target: 100%

EVERY School Day COUNTS

Your child's attendance needs to be above **95%**



EVERY Minute COUNTS

- 5 Minutes late each day
- 10 Minutes late each day
- 15 Minutes late each day
- 20 Minutes late each day
- 30 Minutes late each day

IS APPROXIMATELY

- 3 days lost!
- 6.5 days lost!
- 10 days lost!
- 13 days lost!
- 19 days lost!

Lateness = Lost Learning





Our 24-25 Topics

Autumn Term



Tymor yr Hydref

What's it Made of?

Beth mae e wedi'i wneud o?

During the Autumn topic our focus is::

Being curious and searching for answers is essential to understanding and predicting phenomena.

and

Matter and the way it behaves defines our universe and shapes our lives.

Spring Term



Tymor yr Gwanwyn

Fantastic Physics!

Ffiseg Ffantastig

During the Spring topic our focus is::

Forces and energy provide a foundation for understanding our universe.

During this pupils will be exploring everything from 'push and pull', sources of light and sound, friction and gravity, all the way into Space and flight!

Summer Term



Tymor yr Haf

Nurturing Planet Earth

Meithrin Planed Ddaear

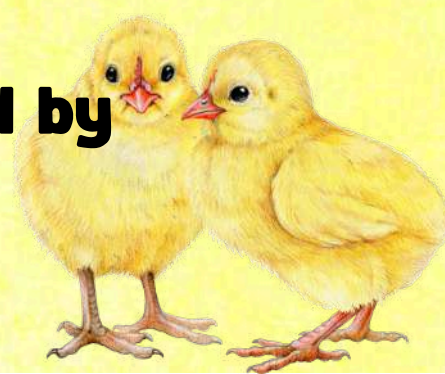
During the Summer topic our focus is::

Informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity, and are able to take considered and ethical action.

Human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.

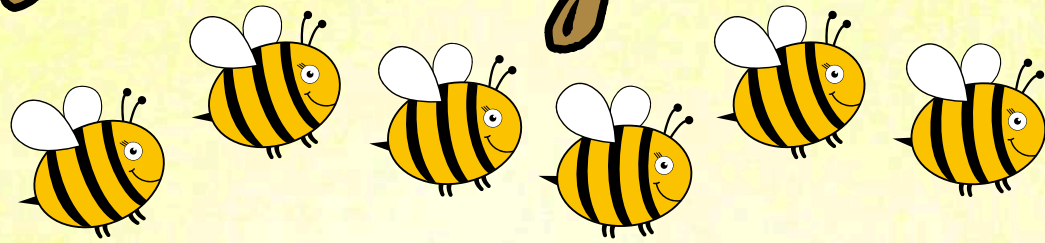
and

Our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions.





Our Learning Journey



Nursery's

BEE PARTY



We looked amazing in our costumes!

Nursery celebrated World Bee Day on Tuesday 20th May by having a minibeast and plant themed party!



We made minibeast decorations for our party!



We had to be bees to collect pollen from the big flower and take it to the little flowers.



We had a competition to see which beehive could collect the most pollen! We had to be very careful not to spill it!



We tried HONEY on TOAST! It was delicious!



Then a bee flew into our classroom and we said 'thank you' for our honey!



Ei'n taith Dysgu



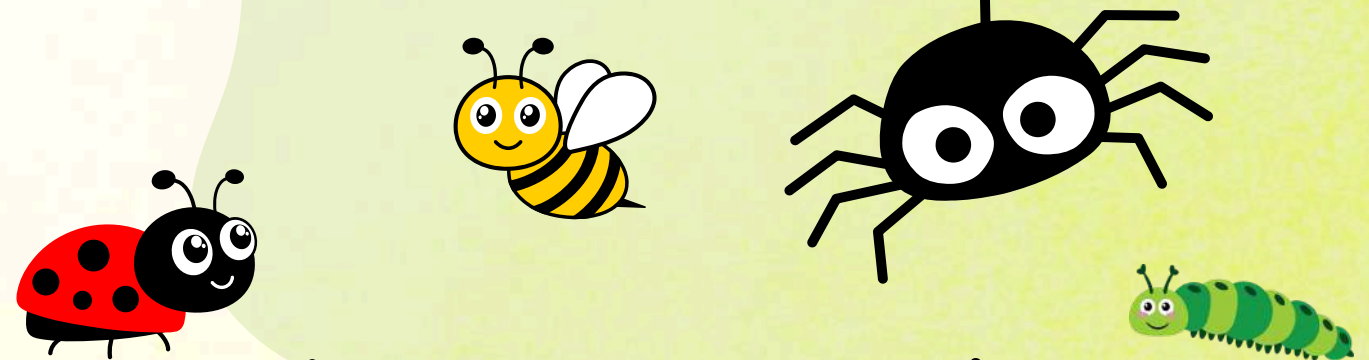


Our Learning Journey

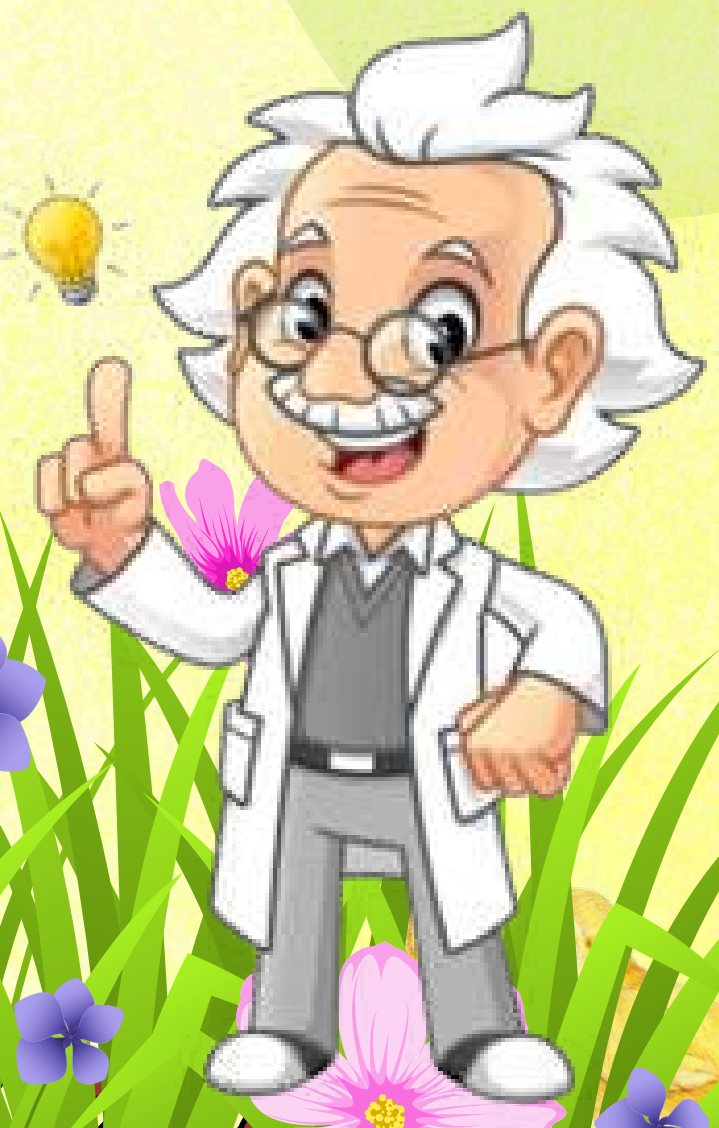
NURSERY'S PROFESSOR KNOW-IT-ALL



Our Nursery children are taking it turn each week to become Professor Know-it-All! They get to choose a minibeast or Plant to learn some facts about to share with their class.



We have been very impressed with their confidence and ability to stand at the front and share what they have learnt.



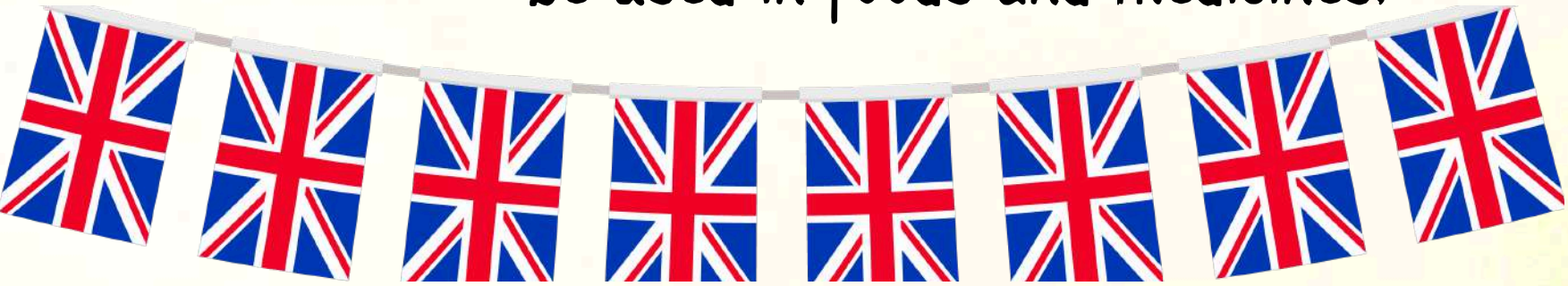


Reception Our Learning Journey

Our new topic this term is 'Nurturing Planet Earth'. We began by arriving back to school after the Easter holidays, rolling up our sleeves and helping the staff transform our outdoor area. We upcycled some of the equipment, built a den, filled a very large sandpit, rearranged the layout and planted some beautiful flowers! I think you will all agree that the children have done a wonderful job!



We have been talking about ways to keep our planet happy and healthy. We understand that our small actions can make a big difference. We have started the topic by looking at plants and flowers. The children understand how they grow, what they need to help them grow and the positive impact they have on our planet Earth. The children have shown an interest in bees and why they are so special. They have carried out an experiment to help them understand pollination and have explored different ways honey can be used in foods and medicines!



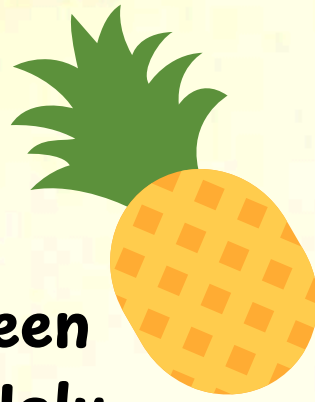
On the 8th May, we celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Throughout the week the children learnt about how peoples lives changed during the war. Ms Saville spoke to them about how her parents were evacuees. The children dressed up and wrote a list of special things they would pack in their suitcase. The children enjoyed an afternoon tea with their friends where they made their own scones and enjoyed eating them with jam and clotted cream!





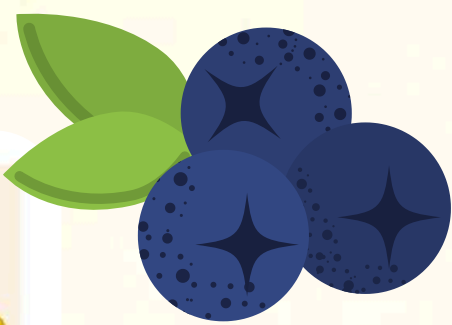
Our Learning Journey

Year 2/3



In Religious Education we have been learning about the fruits of the Holy Spirit. We learnt there are 9 altogether.

These include joy, goodness, love, gentleness, kindness peace, patience, faithfulness and self-control. We then made a fruit skewer for each of the fruits of the Holy Spirit.



We have been continuing with our 'Nurturing Planet Earth' and have focused on fairtrade food. We baked banana bread with fairtrade sugar and bananas. It was very yummy!



We used our cutting, measuring and mixing skills to make the banana bread.



The children have been hard at work identifying lots of different fairtrade foods by looking for the logo. They have also tasted some fairtrade foods and identified where the fairtrade products come from using their map skills.



Year 3

Our Learning Journey



We are thoroughly enjoying our topic 'Nurturing Planet Earth' and our enquiry question was 'What is Pollution and why should we care?' We have focused on the 3 types of Pollution - Air, Land and Water and the impact this is having on our planet!

In our outdoor area we created water pollution and land pollution so we could actually understand what we as humans are doing to our planet!



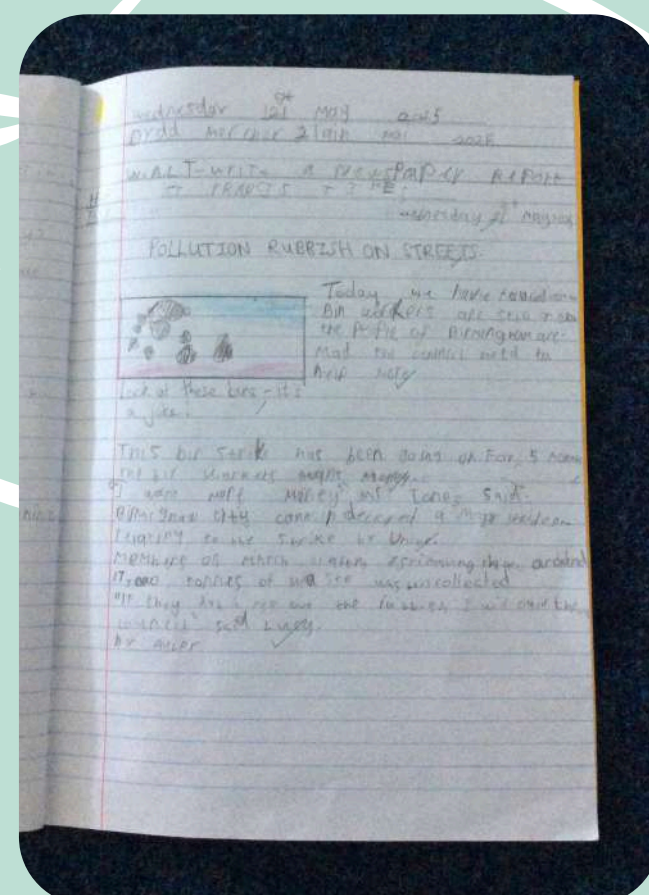
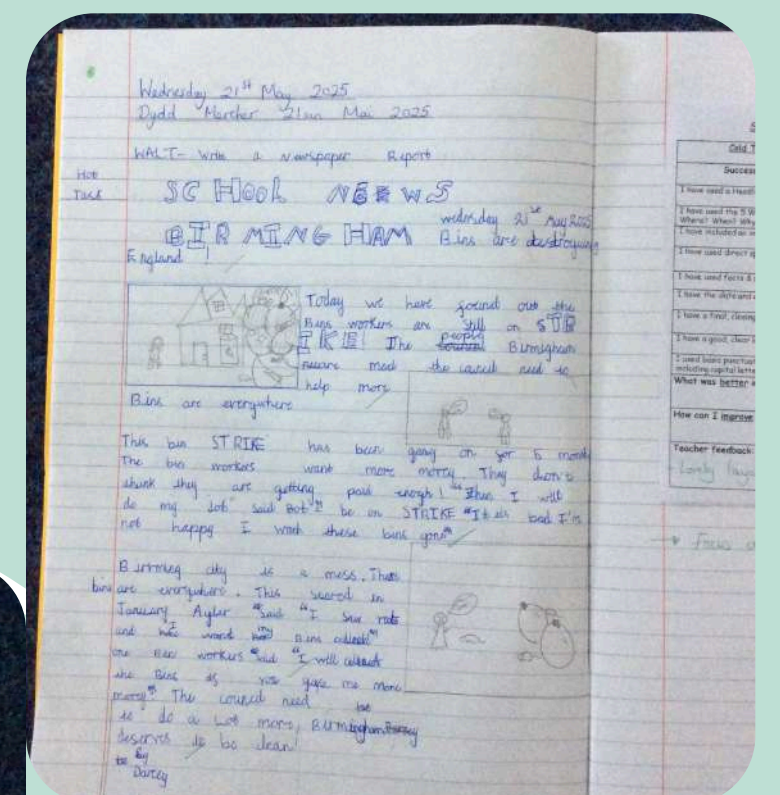
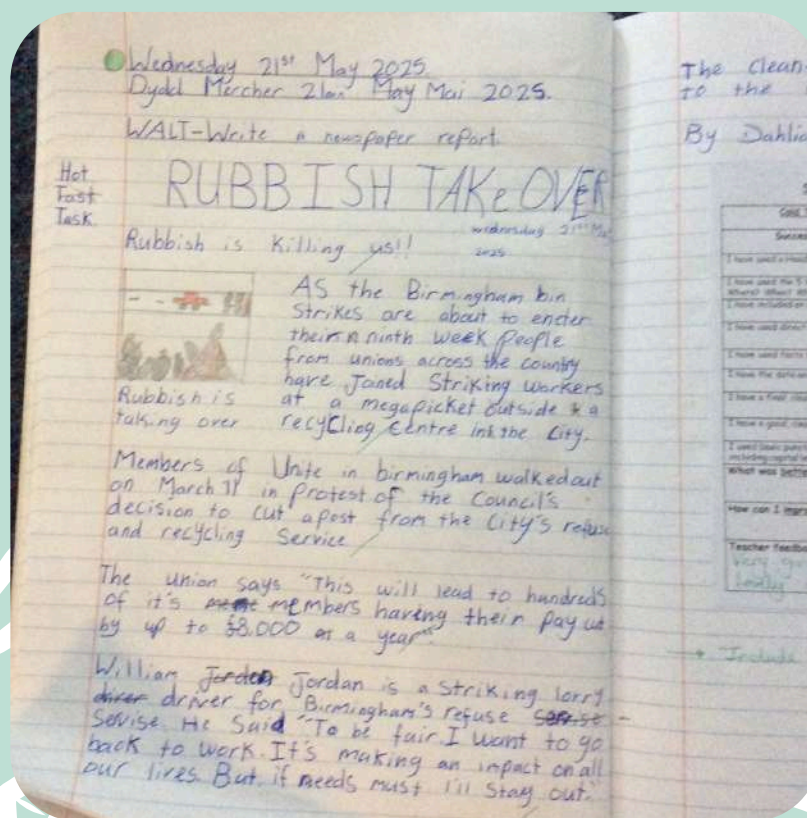
In Year 3 we are keen to make a difference and are already making simple changes in our daily lives to help stop pollution.

Hope YOU can join us in our Walk/ Scoot/ Bike to school day on Thursday 5th June, we are up for the challenge!

In expressive arts we created a negative area of land full of toxic waste, chemical, fumes, gases and rubbish which is destroying our environment. Underneath in our positive clean area of land we created green space! Full of nature, wildlife, and fresh water to allow all habitats to thrive. We loved this lesson!



In LLC the children have completed a fabulous genre of writing on Newspaper Reports! Over the 3 weeks the children have focused on newspaper features and a WAGOLL. We wanted to link it with our topic of Pollution so we focused on two headlines this last year... Their final report was a choice of Birmingham Bin workers on Strike or the Port Talbot Steel Works closing permanently. Check out our work...





Year 5

Our Learning Journey

We have started our new topic 'Nurturing Planet Earth.' and have thrown ourselves into being Earth Heroes!



We are ethical, informed citizens

Our first essential question was "What is Climate Change and why should I care?" We have learnt about how fossil fuels and deforestation contributes to the greenhouse effect causing global warming and our climate to change. We conducted an experiment to show how the production of CO₂ causes an exothermic reaction and therefore causes our Earth to get hotter.

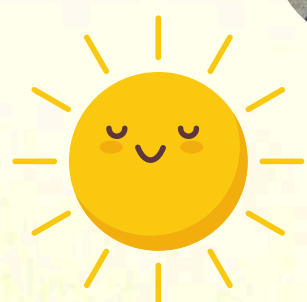
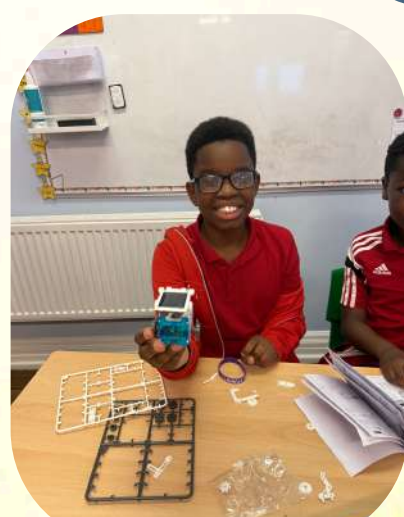


THERE IS NO PLANET B

We are healthy, confident individuals



We have been very lucky to have a student teacher with us for the last few months, Miss Curry! She taught us a fun and engaging maths lesson where we estimated and measured the time it took us to complete various physical activities. We loved taking our learning outdoors! Miss Curry has now left us to continue her teacher training and we will miss her very much!



We are ambitious, capable learners

SMALL ACTS BIG IMPACT



LET THE EARTH BREATHE



To make a difference and help save our Earth we have written letters to Cardiff Council asking them to put Solar Panels on the roof of our school! We learnt about persuasive devices to write our letters. We also learnt that renewable energy sources are better for the environment and can save money! We built solar powered bots to help us understand how solar panels work.



National Botanical Gardens of Wales

YEAR 5

Year 5 had an amazing day at the National Botanical Gardens of Wales. We saw hundreds of rare plant species and learnt how they are working to conserve endangered plant species.



We learnt lots in our workshop called "Our Carbon Footprint." We measured trees to calculate their age and how much carbon dioxide they take in from the atmosphere. We realised that by planting a tree we can help reduce the greenhouse effect by reducing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.



We explored the gardens and had a lovely walk through the Woodlands along the Gruffalo trail. And of course we had to spend a bit of time in the park!





Outdoor Learning



safe risks



CREATIVITY



RESILIENCE



STRENGTH

EXPLORATION



SKILLS



PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT



PLAY



INDEPENDENCE





Year 5&6 Football Tournament



Catholic Primary Sevens Tournament



Team 1

THESE AMAZING CHILDREN HAD MANY SUCCESSES IN THE GROUP STAGES AND WON 3 OUT OF 4 GAMES. THEY WORKED TOGETHER AS A TEAM AND PROGRESSED INTO THE SEMI FINALS. UNFORTUNATELY THEY LOST THIS GAME DUE TO A QUESTIONABLE DECISION WHICH LED TO A GOAL.

MR WINDROSS AND MRS STRATTON-ROSS ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD OF THEM ALL.

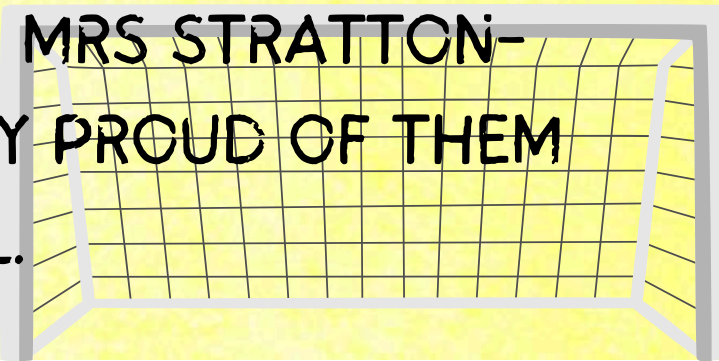


GOAL!



Team 2

THESE AMAZING CHILDREN WORKED REALLY HARD IN THE GROUP STAGES AND GOT A MIXTURE OF RESULTS. THEY DEFENDED FOR MUCH OF THEIR GAMES AND SHOWED REAL HEART THROUGHOUT THE GROUP STAGES. MR WINDROSS AND MRS STRATTON-ROSS ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD OF THEM ALL.





Year 6 Botanical Gardens

In May Year 6 went to the Botanical gardens of Wales for the first time. None of us had ever been before and we were amazed at the beautiful flowers and trees we saw. We took part in a workshop where we learnt all about our carbon footprint.





Stars of the Month! Seren y Mis!

Seren Yr Wythnos
Star of the Week

Enw
Name _____

Am For _____

Dosbarth
Class _____ Dyddiad
Date _____

Pennaeth Gwestfreadig
Llangatwg



Some of our
Stars of the Week
from this month!

Congratulations
to all the
recipients!



Good to be Green Champions this Month



Great behaviour this month has earned
these classes 10 minutes of extra play!





Stars of the Month! Seren y Mis!



Carlo in Year 3 came into class beaming this week! He has won 2 medals in his 2 rugby festivals, his team Llandaf remain undefeated! He told the class all about it.

Da iawn!



Lucas has won some fabulous trophies in football! Amazing talent - well done!



Kalil has won a trophy for rugby and we're very proud!

We are very proud to announce that the school achieved the Siarter Iaith Arian award this week. We want to say a big thank you to all the children especially the Criw Cymraeg for all their hard work. Da iawn!

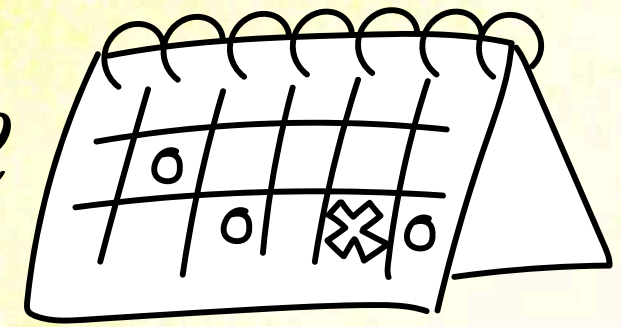
Let your child's teacher know if they have achieved something outside of school and we will celebrate them here!





After School Clubs

Spring Term Timetable



MONDAY

Gymnastics/
Cheer Leading
Year 3
3pm - 4pm
Mrs Coray



Choir
Years 4, 5, & 6
3pm - 4pm
Mr Philp



Football
Year 3 & 4
3pm - 4pm
Mr McConkey



TUESDAY

Dance
Year 4&5
3pm - 4pm
Miss Mathias

Football
Years 5 & 6
3pm - 4pm
Mr Windross





Google Translate App



FREE APP

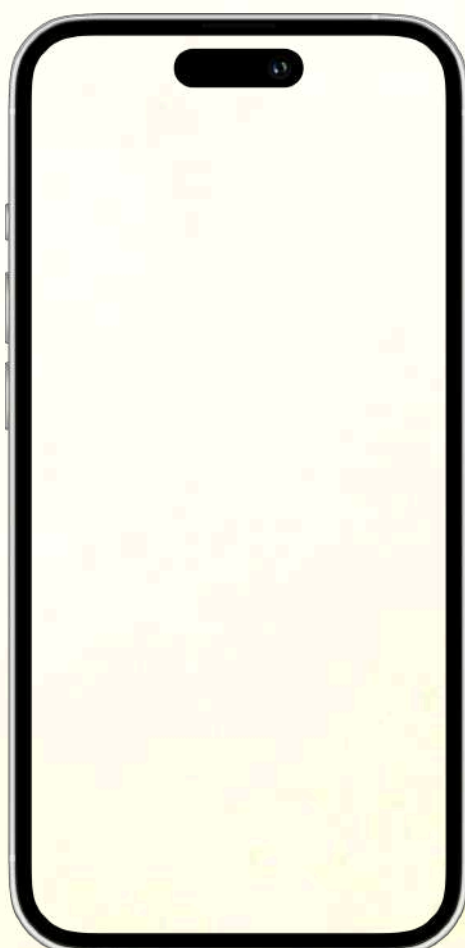
Google Translate is a free app available on the web, iOS for iPhone and Android.

Click here  for web

EASY TO USE

It is easy to use and can translate between up to **133** languages.

You can copy and paste text into the translator if the text is digital, or use the camera to convert in real time if the text is printed.



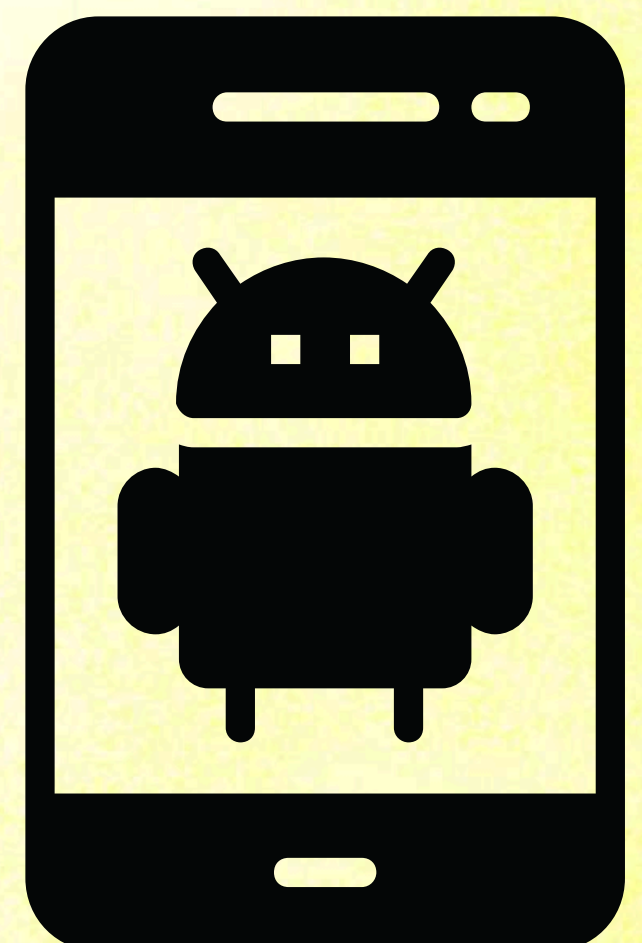
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for iPhone



Click here 



Click here 

DOWNLOAD THE APP

for Android





Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

All St Francis Primary School Staff took part in vital training on our Inset Day: **Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.**

1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will have experienced domestic violence

1 in 7 children will have lived with domestic violence at some point in their lives

What is it?

Domestic Abuse

Harassment

Coercive Control

Female Genital Mutilation

Stalking

Sexual Violence

Forced Marriage

Modern Slavery

Honour Based Violence

This is the International Hand Signal for Help. All staff are aware of this signal and will subtly act upon seeing it.

SIGNAL FOR HELP



1). PALM TO CAMERA AND TUCK THUMB



2). TRAP THUMB



If you or anyone you know is suffering from any of the above or more, there are people out there who can help.



Click the links below for more information, for help, support or just someone to talk to.



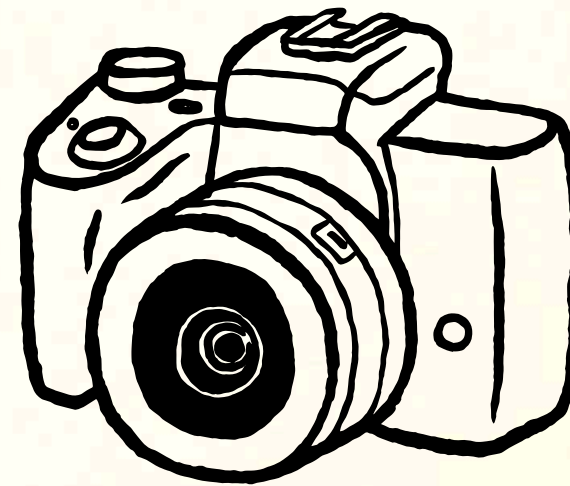


Year on a Page Blwyddyn ar Dudalen



	Term Starts	Half Term	Term Ends
Autumn Term	02.09.24	28.10.24 - 01.11.24	20.12.24
Spring Term	06.01.25	24.02.25 - 28.02.25	11.04.25
Summer Term	28.04.25	26.10.25 - 30.05.25	21.07.25

School Photos



Thursday 7th November
Individual Photographs

Thursday 22nd May
Class Photographs

Inset Days

1. Monday 2nd September
2. Tuesday 3rd September
3. Monday 18th November
4. Monday 3rd March
5. Friday 11th April
6. Monday 21st July

Pupil Progress Meetings

Wednesday 23rd October
 Wednesday 2nd April
 End of Year Report in July

Important Dates in the Catholic Calendar

Friday 4th October - The Feast of St Francis

Thursday 26th October - Harvest Festival

Monday 3rd February - Celebration of the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.

Wednesday 5th March - Ash Wednesday

Monday 7th April - Holy Week Assemblies





Dates for your Diary



June



Monday 2nd June - Summer Term Starts



Thursday 5th June - World Environment Day



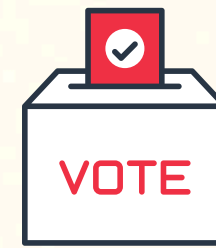
Sunday 8th June - World Oceans Day



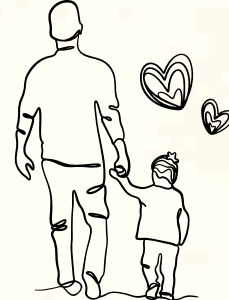
Tuesday 10th June - Year 5 Trip to Senedd



Wednesday 11th June - Year 6 Trip to Senedd



Sunday 15th June - Father's Day



Monday 16th June - Refugee Week Starts



Friday 20th June - Year 5 Transition Day at Mary Immaculate



Sunday 21st June - Summer Solstice / First Day of Summer



Wednesday 25th June - Sports Day



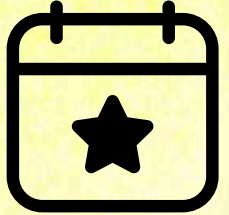


Dates for your Diary

July



Tuesday 1st July - Sports Day - Reserve Day



Tuesday 2nd July - Summer Fayre



Tuesday 8th July - Nursery Graduation



Friday 18th July - Break up for Summer



Monday 21st July - Inset Day



Tuesday 22nd July - Windrush Day

