



February 2025  
Chwefor 2025

**St Francis R.C. Primary School**



[stfrancisprm.cardiff.sch.uk](http://stfrancisprm.cardiff.sch.uk)



Wilson Road, Ely, Cardiff, CF5 4JL



02920 591 666



[stfrancisprm@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:stfrancisprm@cardiff.gov.uk)

*A message from our Headteacher,*

*Miss Langsdale*



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have come to the end of a busy half term.

There have been lots of lovely things going on this month. We have had a big focus on Science with children learning about the planets and the solar system.

Year 5 and 6 have had the fantastic opportunity to continue working on the Mini Dragons project.

Last week the class chaplains led us in a beautiful Collective Act of Worship celebrating the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple.

The children also took part in Safer Internet Day on 11th February finding out about different aspects of staying safe online and in particular learning based on the theme of 'Too good to be True? Protecting yourself and others from scams online.'

We will celebrate St David's Day on Friday 7th March and World Book Day on Friday 14th March. The children are welcome to dress up in Welsh costumes for St David's Day and as a character from a book for World Book day. Watch out for March edition of the newsletter for photos of both of these events.

Just to remind you that the first day back after the half term break, Monday 3rd March, is an INSET day and only staff need to attend.

Thank you for your support.

Have a lovely Half Term holiday!

Miss M. Langsdale  
Headteacher





# Religious Education Directory

Prayer of the Month



*Gweddi'r Mis*

Almighty and ever-living God,  
We humbly pray that, as your Only-  
begotten Son was this day  
presented in the temple, so we may  
be presented to you  
with pure and clean hearts by Jesus  
Christ our Lord,  
Amen





# Religious Education Directory



## Virtues

# Grateful and Generous

### Grateful: (Luke 17: 11-19)

On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

### Generous: (Luke 10: 27-37)

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and, Love your neighbour as yourself.' "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' "Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." Here was a generous man.





# Religious Education Directory

## Assemblies

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord – Sunday 2nd February.

We celebrated the feast of Jesus being presented at the Temple, where he met Anna and Simeon.

The class chaplains in Year 4, 5 and 6 did a wonderful job of leading this act of worship – **diolch!**

Our Mission: To shine like lights bringing joy and hope into each other's lives. Just as Jesus shone when he was presented at the temple.



In Foundation Learning last week we learned about the miracle of Jesus turning the water into wine. The children watched as Ms. Saville filled the pots with water and then were amazed when wine was poured into the cup.

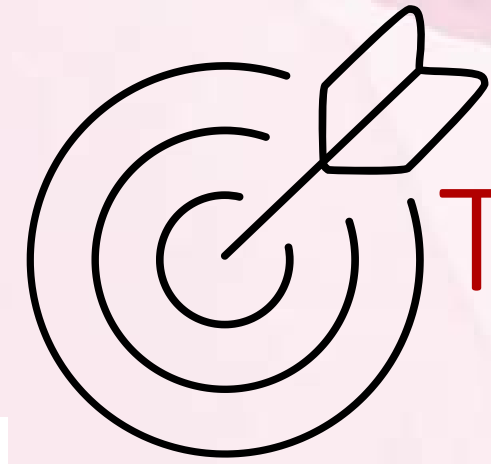


In Foundation Learning Miss Kennett taught us all about the Presnetation of the Lord. Children from the 2/3 class acted out parts of Simeon, Anna, Mary and Jesus. They were very confident and acted out the story beautifully. Thank you to my helpers!





# 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.

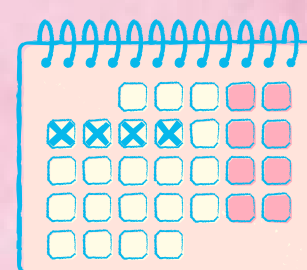


Please ensure your children are in to avoid potential fines.



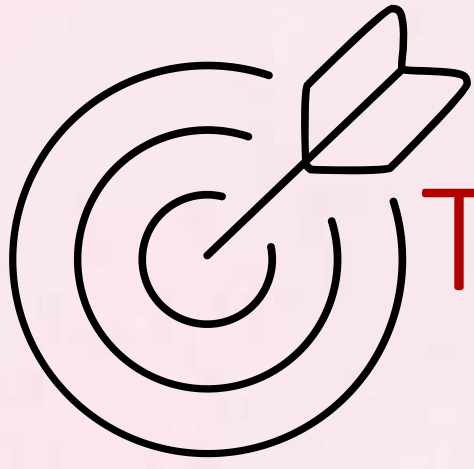
Every moment in school counts.

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%

Overall  
Attendance

89.95%

Slightly up from last month!

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

Nursery  
AM

85.98%

Nursery  
PM

80.68%

Reception

86.14%

Reception/  
Year 1

85.55%

Year 1

92.48%

Year 2

91.88%

Year 2/3

89.92%

Year 3

89.39%

Year 4P

96.69%



Year 4M

90.73%

Year 5M

91.70%

Year 5P

94.58%

Year 6B

86.55%

Year 6M

88.54%



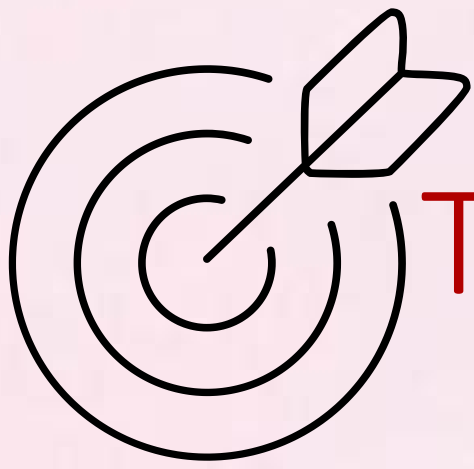
## Attendance Rewards

Our Senedd group met and had plenty of ideas for rewards for good attendance!





# Attendance & Punctuality



Target:  
100%

## EVERY School Day COUNTS

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

0 days off school

100%

Perfection!

Equal to 2 days off school each year

99%

Excellent

Equal to 5 days off school each year

97%

Good

Equal to 10 days off school each

95%

Slight Concern

Equal to 20 days off school each

90%

Concerned

Equal to 30 days off school each year

85%

Very Concerned



## 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

### Fantastic Physics!

*Ffiseg Ffantastig*

During the Spring topic our focus is::

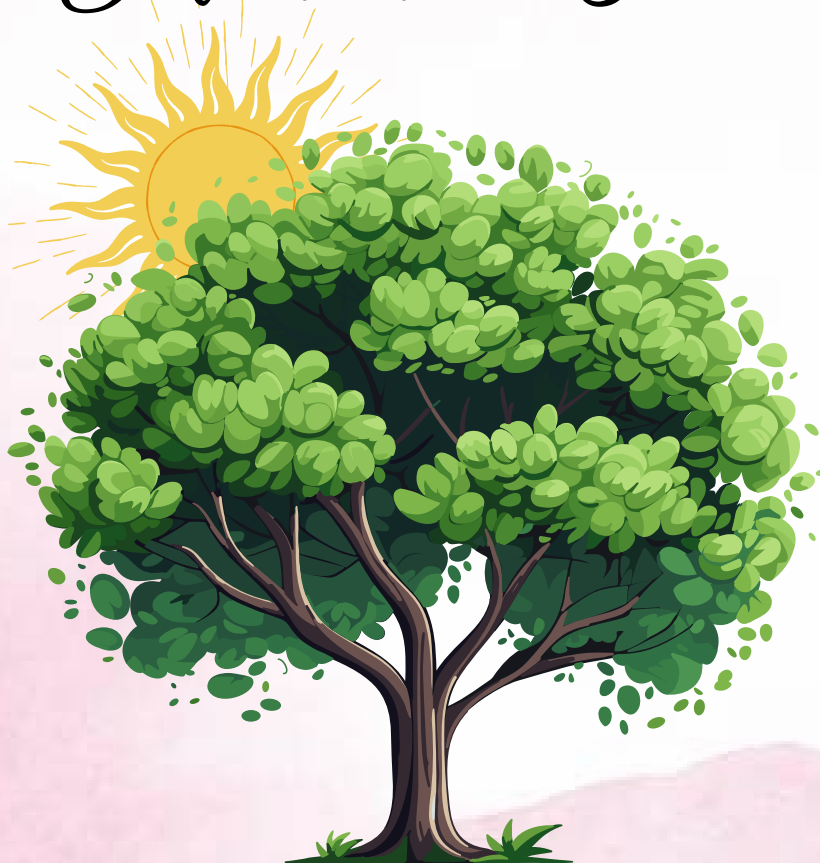
**Forces and energy provide a foundation for understanding our universe.**

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!



*Tymor yr Gwanwyn*

## 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.**





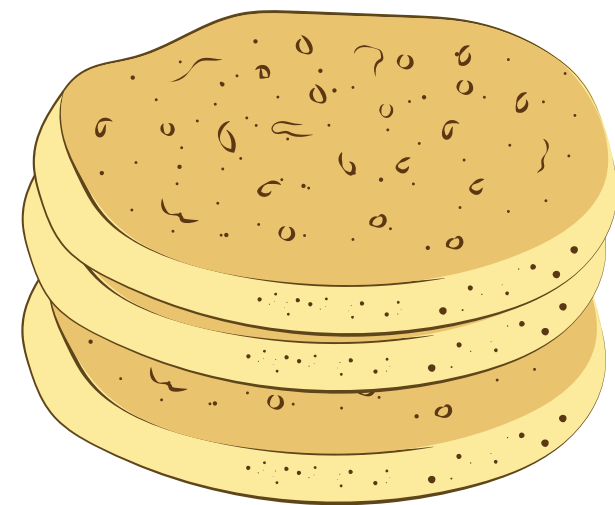
# St David's Day

**Cupcake - £1.50**

**Welsh Cake - £1**

**Welsh Dragon Face**

**Paint - £1**



**Pre orders, permission slips (for face paint) and money need to be brought into school by Wednesday the 5th of March please!**





# St David's Day Home-School Project



As part of our Eisteddfod celebrations for St David's Day, one of the competitions is a Home-School Project.



## In Foundation Learning (Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 2/3)-

We would like you to channel your creativity and make a model of something related to Wales:



*This could be a model made out of cardboard/ recycled materials/wood/cake/playdough/clay/bicuits...and so on!*

## KS2- Year 3, 4, 5 and 6-

This year we would like the children to represent Wales/Welshness using their initiative and therefore developing their own special talents and creativity. This could be a favourite place in Wales, a Welsh symbol or something that represents Wales or being Welsh.

*Some examples include:*

- 2D/3D Models - using a wide range of materials of your choice
  - Posters
  - Leaflets
  - Stop motion picture
  - Film
- Powerpoint/Slide show
  - cookery
  - painting...and so on!



**All entries must be handed into to teachers  
by Tuesday 4th March**





# Our Learning Journey

## NURSERY

We are developing our independence!

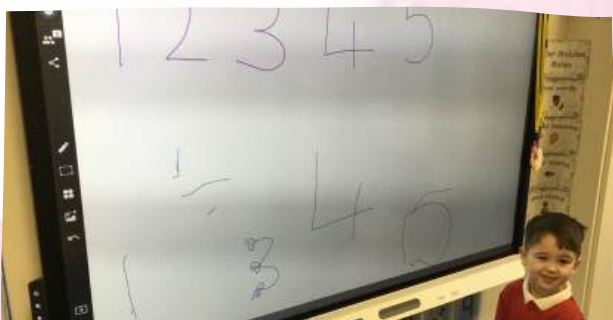
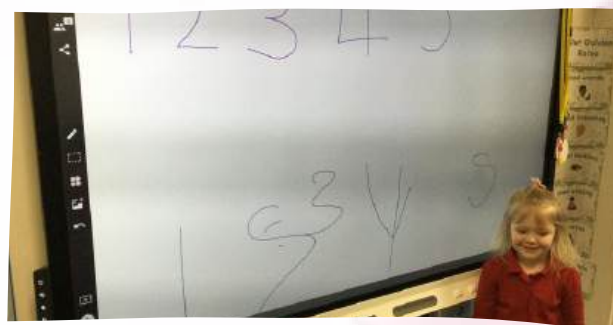
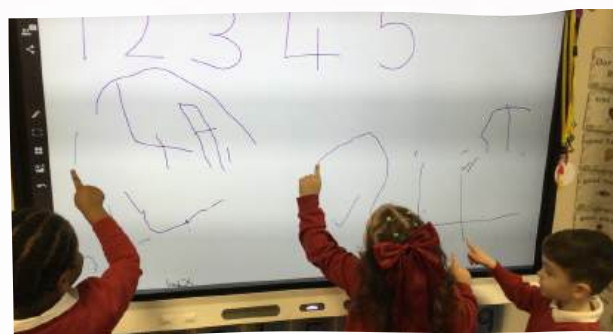
Putting our coats on ourselves using the flip trick!



Learning to zip our coats up and button our cardigans without help!



Taking our shoes off and putting them back on all by ourselves!



Writing our numbers 0-5!

*Ei'n taith Dysgu*





# Our Learning Journey

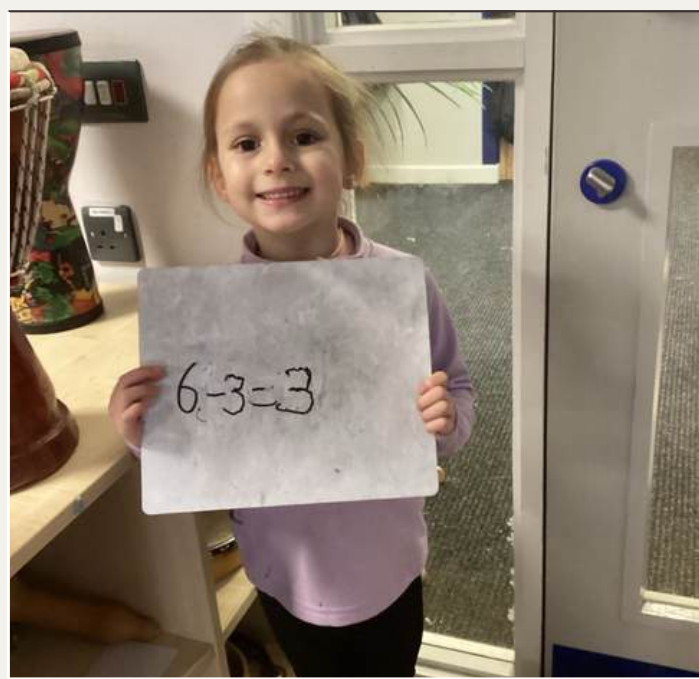
## Reception

We have been really busy in Reception developing our mathematical skills. We have been learning how to add, subtract and this week name and talk about 2D shapes.



*Subtraction Skittles*

We played skittles and used our subtraction skills to work out our score!



*Number Sentences*

We have learnt how to read and write number sentences.



## *Reading Buddies*



*Shape Alien Game*

We played a shape game where we had to take turns turning the alien cards and seeing if they matched our given shape.

Reception have enjoyed their weekly visits from the Year 6 pupils where they are given time to listen and share the enjoyment of reading with one another.





# Our Learning Journey

## Year 2

In Maths, to help us understand the concept of measuring weight in grams, we had a great time making Space Rock cakes. We weighed the flour, sugar and butter. The photos tell the story of us making and enjoying our cakes.



In our Science Topic, we have been learning about the natural phenomenon of the "Northern Lights". A member of our class has actually been to Canada and seen them. Wow! We used pastel chalks to create our own Northern Lights.



In Literacy, we have been looking at how to write a persuasive letter. This week we will be writing a letter to Miss. Langsdale in the hope she will be persuaded to agree to our idea. WATCH THIS SPACE!



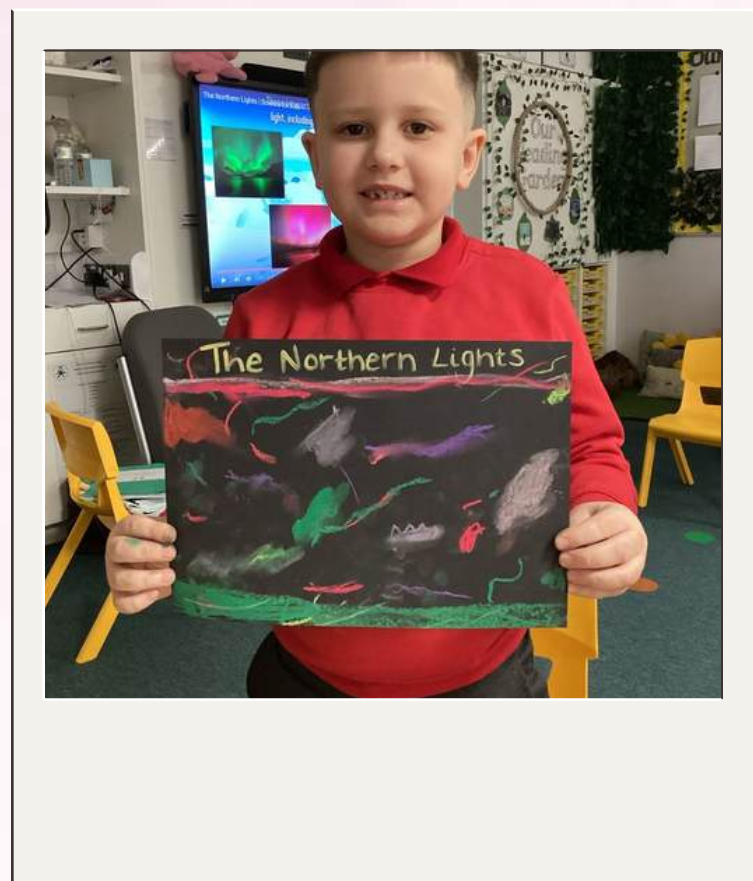


# Our Learning Journey

## Year 2/3



We have really been enjoying our physics topics this term and continued to look at light. We have learnt all about the Northern Lights and used our art skills to recognise what the Northern Lights look like. We discovered that the Northern lights are mainly green but can also be red, pink, purple, yellow and blue! We then voice recorded over our artwork on Seesaw to show our understanding.



At the beginning of February it was mental health week and therefore to support the children's well-being and understanding of emotions we watched inside out 1. Following on from this we created our very own personality islands and memory boxes. It was lovely to hear about the children's memories when they wrote on sticky notes to post through their memory box.

In literacy we have been learning all about persuasive letters.

Following on from our learning we have individually written a persuasive letter to Miss Langsdale to try and persuade her to buy a water trail for our outdoor area. We wrote her address on the envelope and delivered our letters to her on Thursday. Miss Langsdale said she'll let us know if we managed to persuade her after half term. We will let you know how we got on soon!





# Our Learning Journey

## YEAR 3H

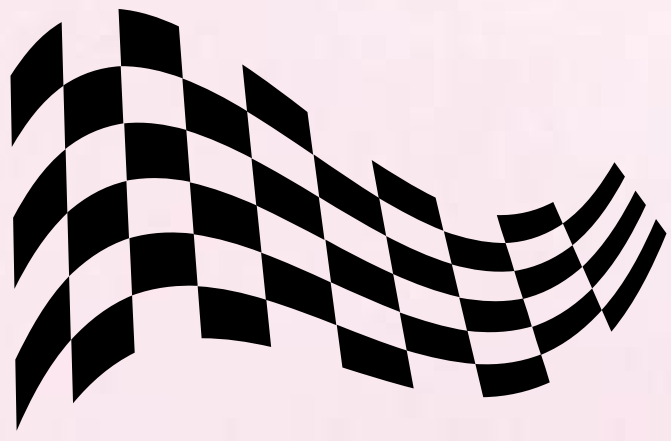
The children have worked hard this month. In our Science topic we have had a focus on Gravity, Momentum and Friction. The children independently chose how to present their work on Sir Isaac Newton, and working collaboratively they have created amazing rollercoasters using recycled materials. This was a lot of fun! They had to build a rollercoaster for a marble to run down! Great team work and resilience from each group!



We have just come to the end of our Branch 3 work in the R.E.D and the children have been thinking about the Kingdom of God. They have had many opportunities to think about how we as followers of Jesus can build up the kingdom of God, just like many Saints did! We chose to look at our Saint - St Francis and Carlo Acutis. The children in pairs have created their 1st Google Slides presentation independently on their chosen saint. They have thoroughly enjoyed this work!

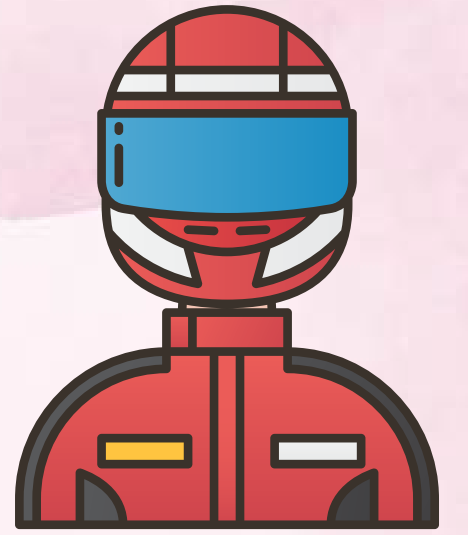
We will start Branch 4 after half term 'Desert to Garden' where we will focus on the Eucharist at mass and the importance of the Holy Bread and Wine...





# Our Learning Journey

## Year 4 / Blwyddyn 4



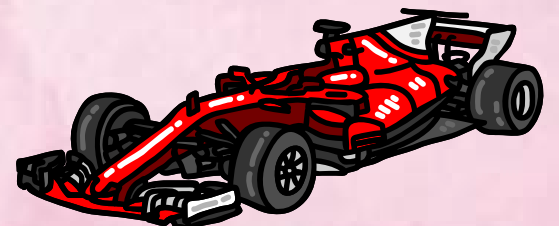
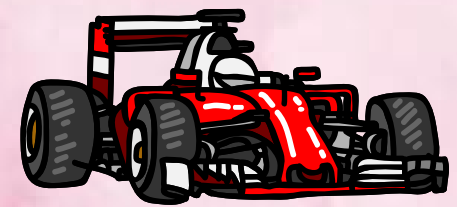
In Year 4 this month we have been very busy again!



In Welsh the children have read, translated, created and practiced their own role play doctors surgery script. The final plays were **bendigedig!**

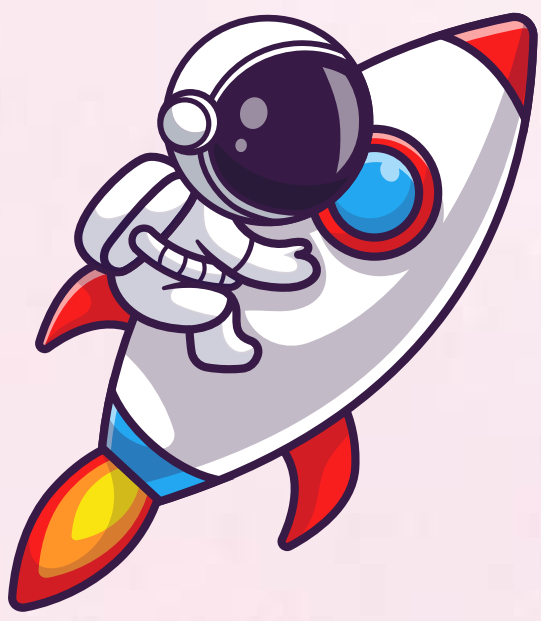


We have been so busy in our topic! We became engineers and using our knowledge of gravity and momentum, we created our own roller coasters! Take a look at the fantastic creations by our wonderful pupils.

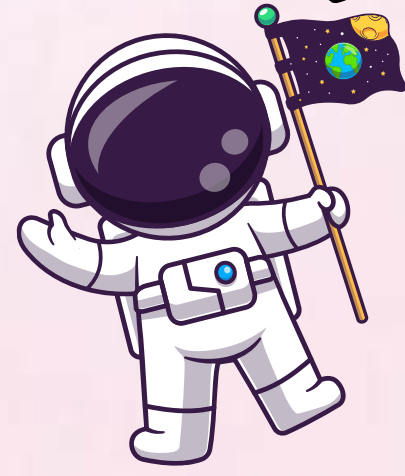


The children have been diving into the world of biography writing in literacy this term. To tie in with their topic, they are exploring the life and achievements of F1 World Champion Lewis Hamilton. Through research and discussion, they are learning how to structure a compelling biography, highlighting key moments from his inspiring journey in motorsport. We can't wait to see their fantastic writing!



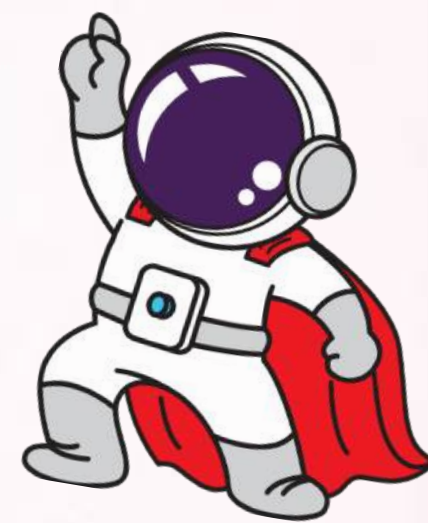
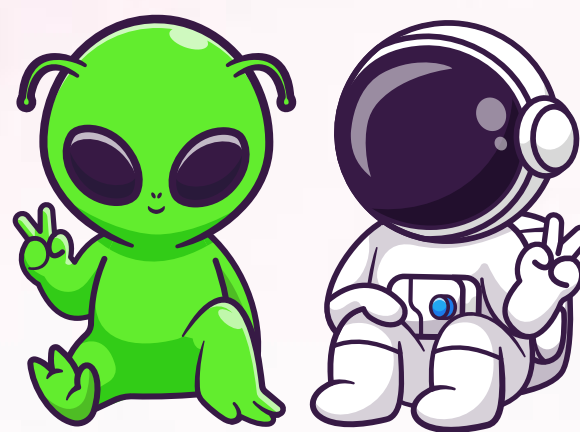
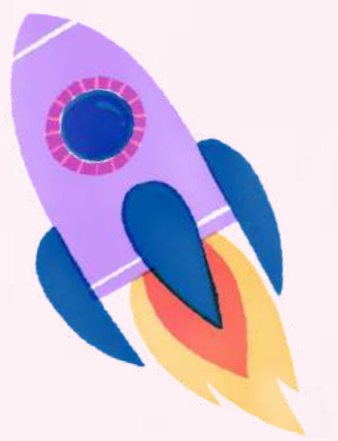


# Our Learning Journey

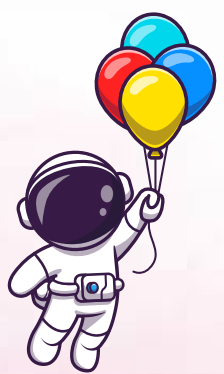


## Year 5

We have been enjoying learning lots in our topic 'Journey to Space.' We have learnt about the forces acting in space and know that gravity holds our solar system together. We experimented with moon gravity, learning that moon craters are formed by objects hitting the moon at great force. Here are some pictures from the experiment we did to determine how the distance travelled by the object affects the diameter of the crater formed.



The children have worked tirelessly to plan their creative writing and have written some excellent, imaginative science fiction stories. I am so proud of their finished stories and they have impressed me with their use of advanced language and literary features.

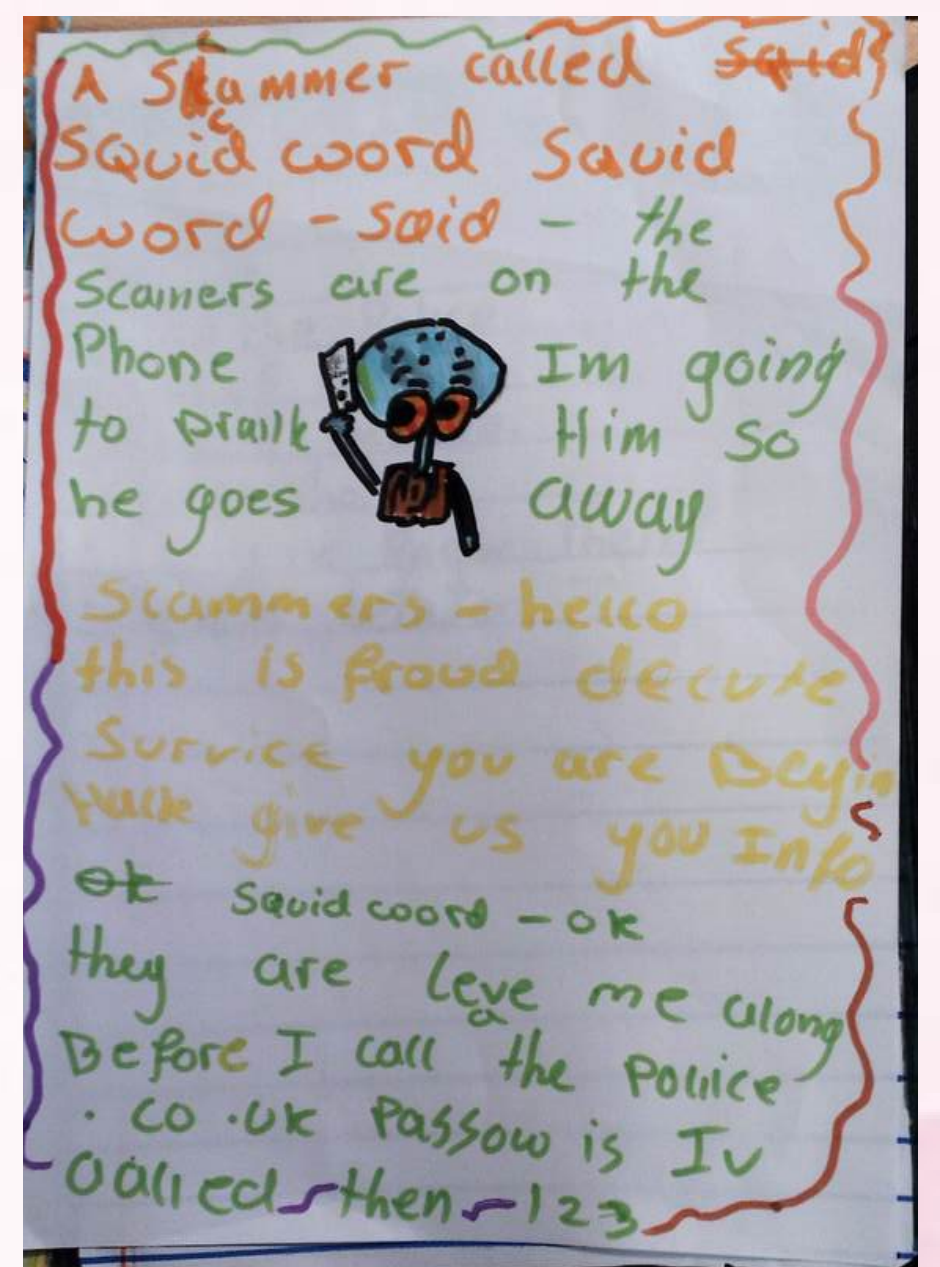
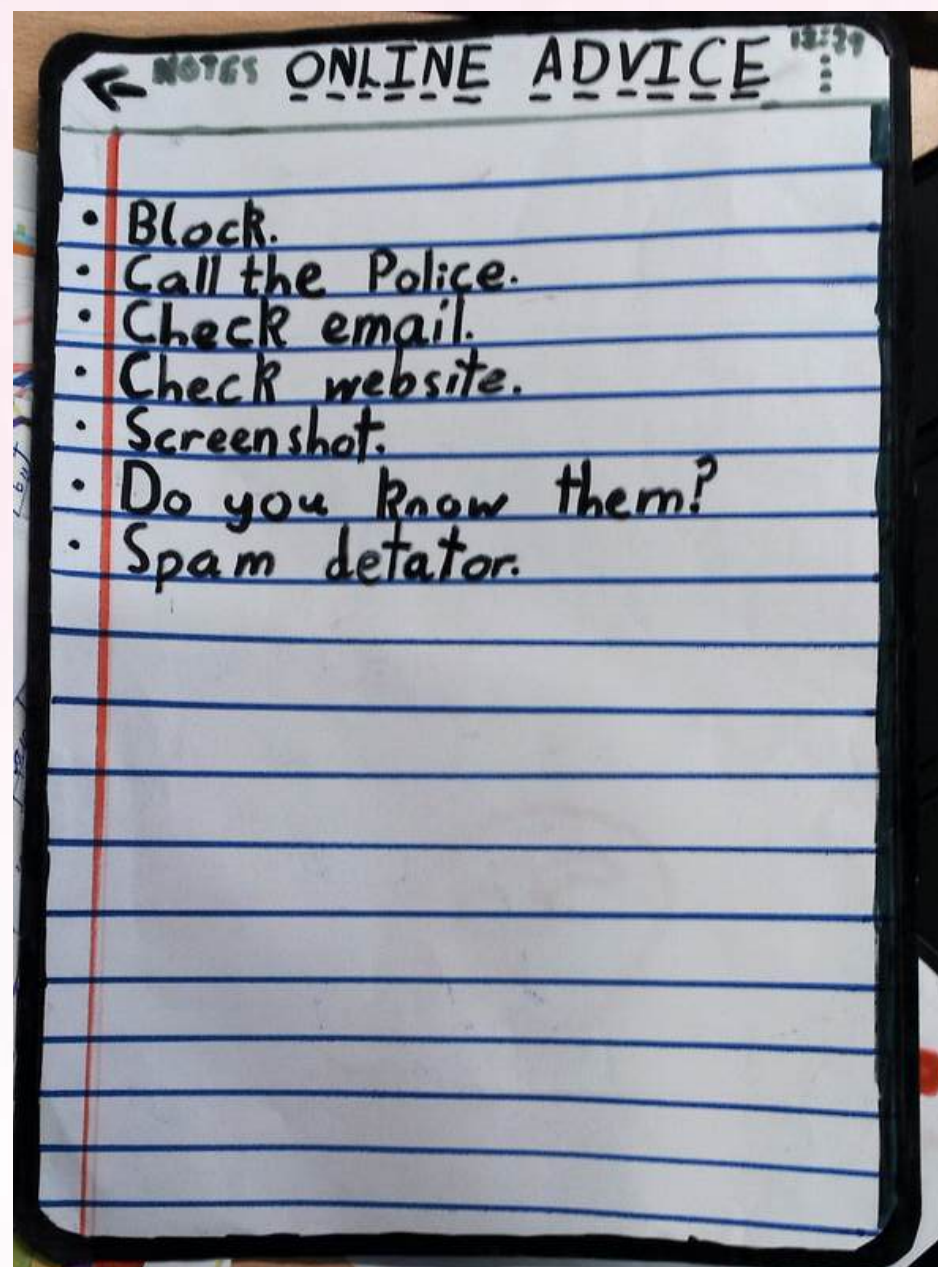
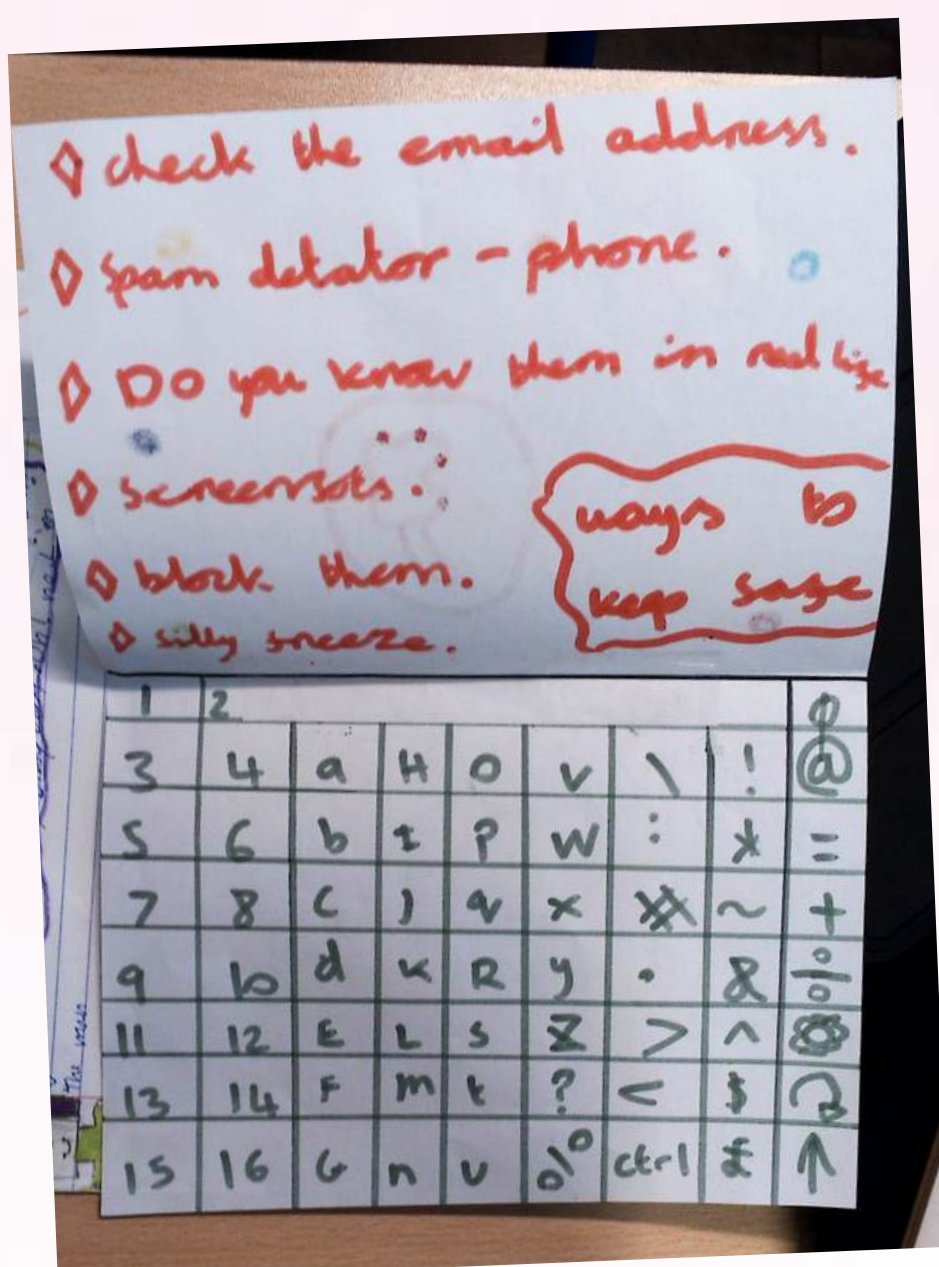


Remember to bring back your letters for Storey Arms! This is an exciting opportunity that I know the children are more than ready for.

# Our Learning Journey

## Year 6

The 11th of February was Internet Safety Day. Year 6 watched the live show all about keeping safe against Scammers. We talked about our own experiences of scammers, how to spot them and what advice we had for others to keep safe online.



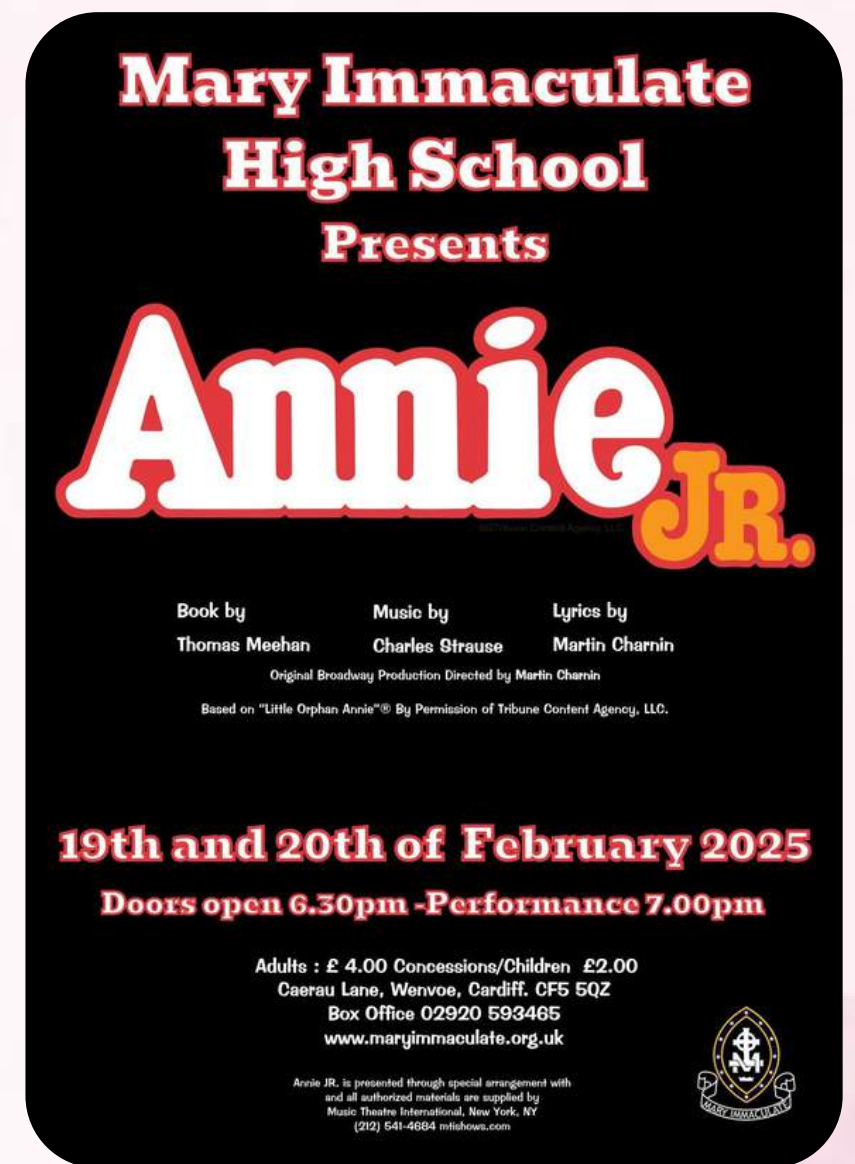
The children made a variety of different written pieces to give advice. Some made 'Leaflets, posters, stories, comics and artwork.' Two children made laptops using paper which showed the advice on the screen.



# Annie at Mary Immaculate Year 5 & 6



On Wednesday 19th February Year 5 and 6 were lucky enough to be invited to watch Mary Immaculate's performance of 'Annie.'



The performance was spectacular and it was lovely to see 11 ex pupils starring in the show, as well as a few more helping backstage! The children are excited at the prospect of being in a show in high school!

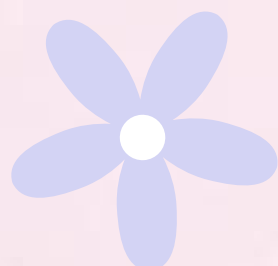
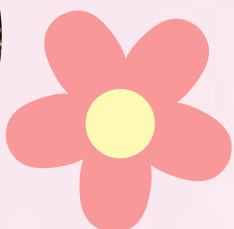




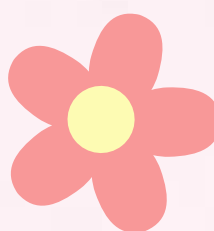
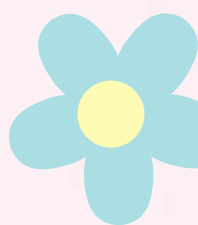
# Outdoor Learning



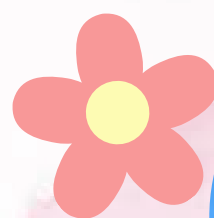
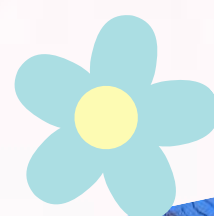
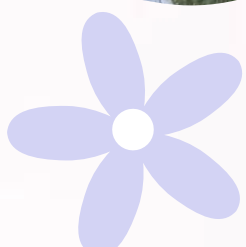
Miss Mathias' Year 5 class had a lovely time planting bulbs with Aimee from 'Keep Wales Tidy.'



The children worked together to be Ethical. Informed Citizens by improving our green spaces in school.



We planted 320 bulbs altogether which consisted of bluebells, snowdrops and wild garlic.



The children were open-minded when learning this new skill and showed resilience when digging into the soil. Aimee said that we are the only school to plant all of the bulbs in one session! Fantastic effort!



# Valentine's Day



*Nursery are Sending Love to our families!*

In Year 2 we had great fun icing and decorating biscuits for Valentine's Day.



Year 2/3 decorated biscuits and created space themed Valentine's Day cards. The planets were bouncy balls and the children were so excited to play with them!



Year 5 made 'Love Bugs' to show their love on Valentine's Day!



# Safer Internet Day 2025

The theme of the day this year was:



The internet can be a dangerous place for our children, with access to more information, disinformation, images, and chat-enabled features than ever before. It is everyone's responsibility to keep our children safe and educate them on the dangers of the internet.



Zoom in on the posters for advice and tips on how to help keep your child safe online.



You can also visit these websites by clicking on them, for more information and advice.





# Safer Internet Day 2025

Here's some of what we did to celebrate the day...



**NURSERY**

We watched a video about Mo and Jas; they saw a video that scared them so they did the right thing and told an adult. We talked about telling an adult if we see anything online that we don't like or makes us feel worried.



Reception read a book 'Buddy the Dog's Internet Safety Story'. The children learnt a song to help them remember how to keep safe when using the internet. Scan the QR code to watch their performance.



**RECEPTION**

**YEAR 2**

We began by watching a powerpoint teaching the children how to keep safe when using the Internet.

Then we wrote the names of five trusted adults we can go to to help, on the fingers of one hand, and some of us designed 'Safer Internet Day' posters.



Year 2/3 learnt about keeping ourselves safe whilst on our devices. We learnt that it's important to show an adult our devices and to only use websites that our adults show us are safe. We never talk to strangers on the internet and we do not give out our information. We created internet safety posters in the shape of an Ipad to spread our knowledge.

**YEAR 2/3**

**YEAR 3**

We focused on spotting the signs of a scam! We went through some scenarios and discussed what we should do to protect ourselves and our loved ones.



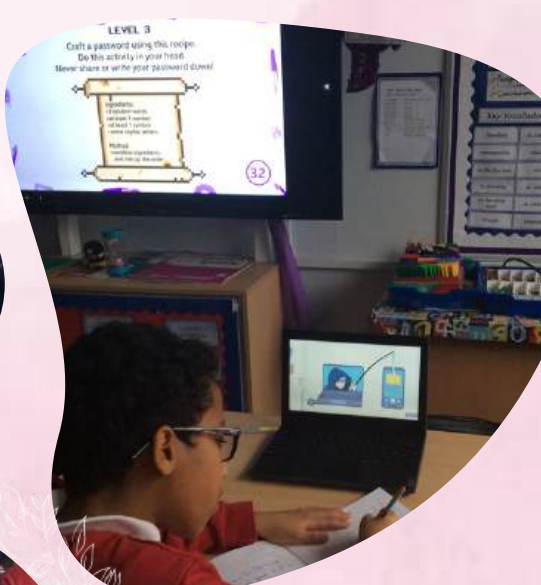
**YEAR 5**

Year 5 enjoyed being Scam Busters on the CBBC Live Lesson for Safer Internet Day. We know how to spot a scam and what to do if someone tries to scam us!

Year 4 enjoyed learning how to stay safe online by spotting the signs of a scam. Through fun, interactive activities, they have explored common online tricks and how to avoid them. By staying alert, they are becoming smarter, safer internet users! Don't forget the SCAM acronym!

**YEAR 4**

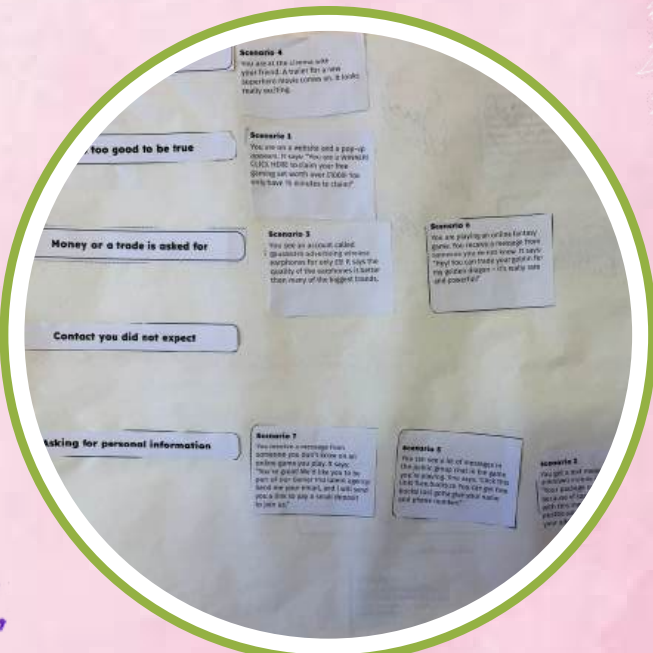
**YEAR 6**



Year 6 took part in the internet safety lesson online. We talked about our experiences of scammers on online gaming and social media and ways we can keep safe from them.



- S** 'Seems too good to be true'
- C** 'Contact you did not expect'
- A** 'Asked for personal information'
- M** 'Money or trade being asked for'





# LEGO Spike

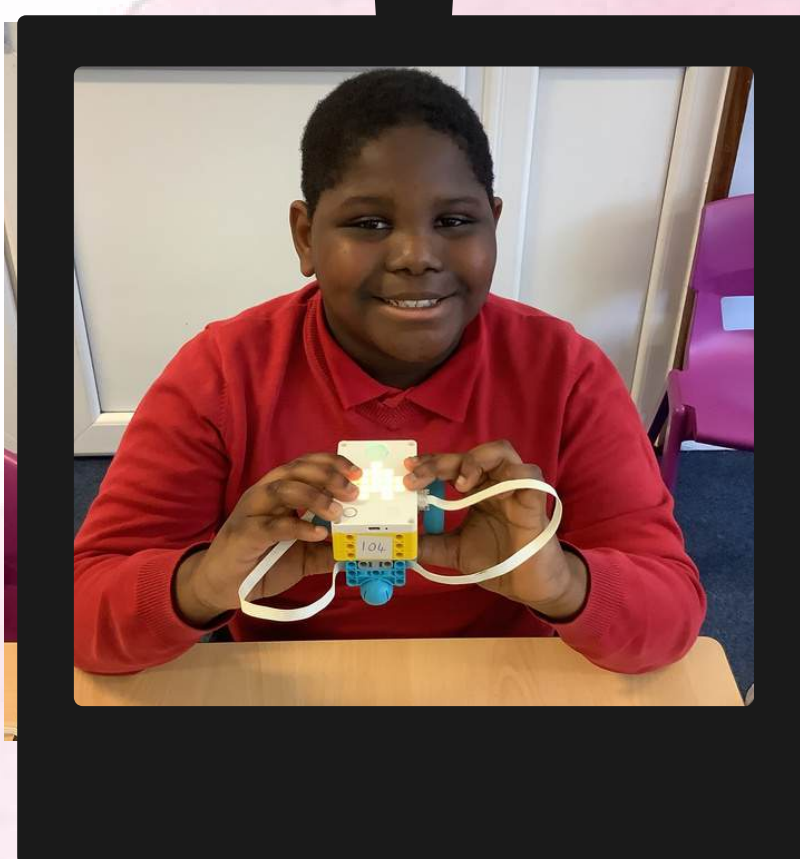


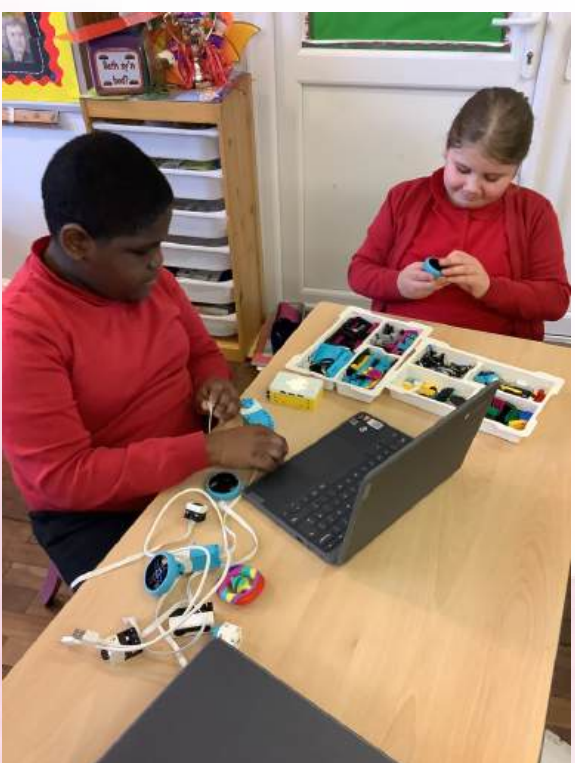
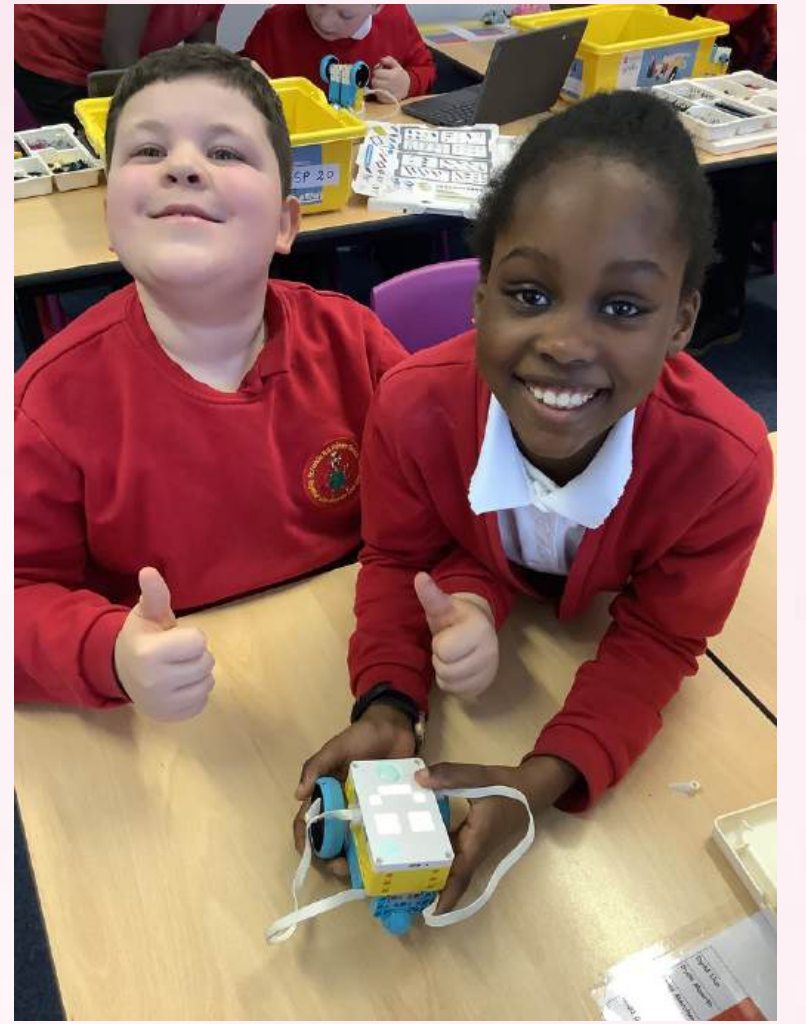
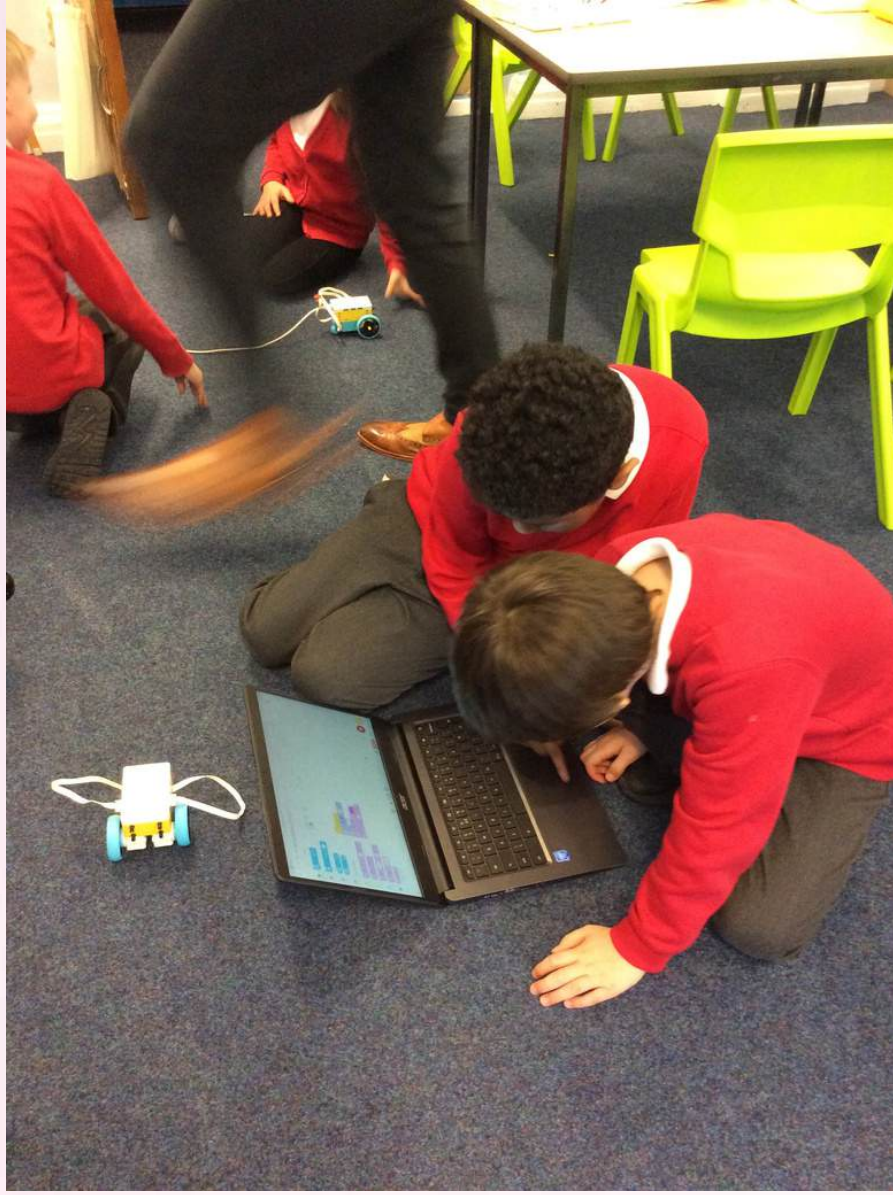
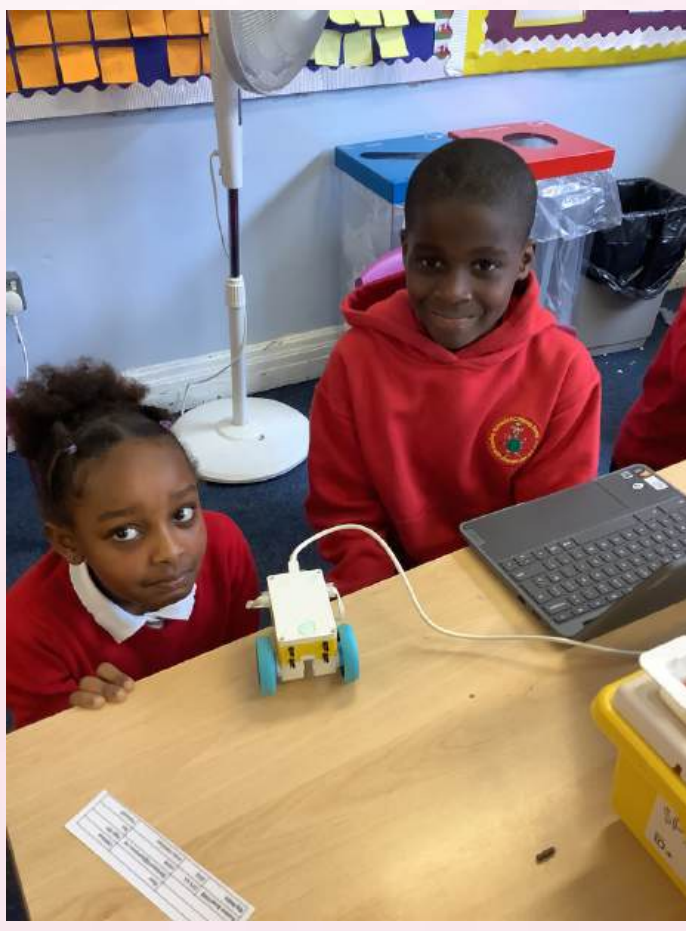
## Year 3 & 4 Get Hands-On with LEGO Coding!

Our Year 3 and 4 pupils had an exciting opportunity to take part in a hands-on learning session with Luke from the Cardiff Commitment Curriculum Team. As part of our 'Fastest on Earth' topic, pupils explored the world of coding and engineering using LEGO Spike.

During the session, the children worked in teams to build and program their own LEGO cars. Using their growing knowledge of forces, they coded their vehicles to move across different surfaces, adjusting speed and direction based on what they had learned in class. It was fantastic to see their problem-solving skills in action as they experimented with how to make their cars go faster or navigate obstacles.

The session was a brilliant mix of creativity and teamwork  
A big thank you to Luke for such an engaging and inspiring experience!  
Check out the children's great work on the next page!







# Stars of the Month! Seren y Mis!

Some of our  
Stars of the Week  
from this month!

**Seren Yr Wythnos**  
Star of the Week

Enw  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Am  
For \_\_\_\_\_

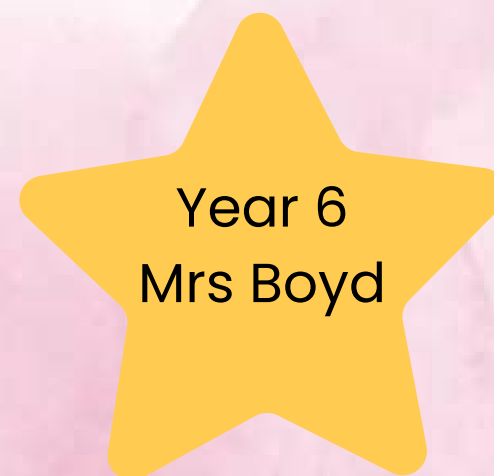
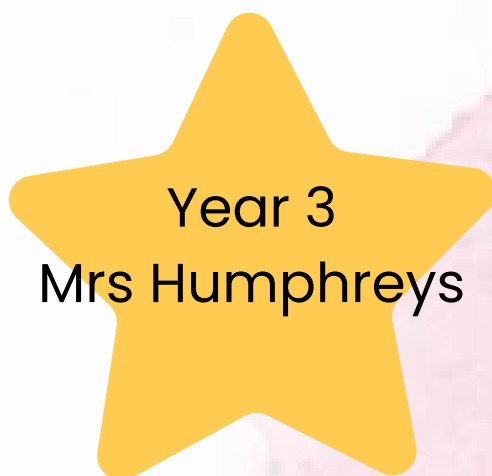
Dosbarth  
Class \_\_\_\_\_ Dyddiad  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Pennorth Gwestfrodol Miss Llanopale

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!



In assembly, we celebrated one of our Year 4 children for her talent in karate. She showed us the medals she had won at a competition. Well done!



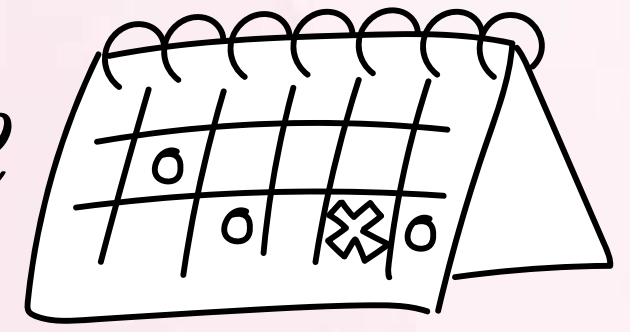
Well done you got your pen licence!





# After School Clubs

## Spring Term Timetable



### MONDAY

### TUESDAY



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

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



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



Take a look at what we've been doing...





# Mini Senedd Senedd Bach

This month the spotlight is on:

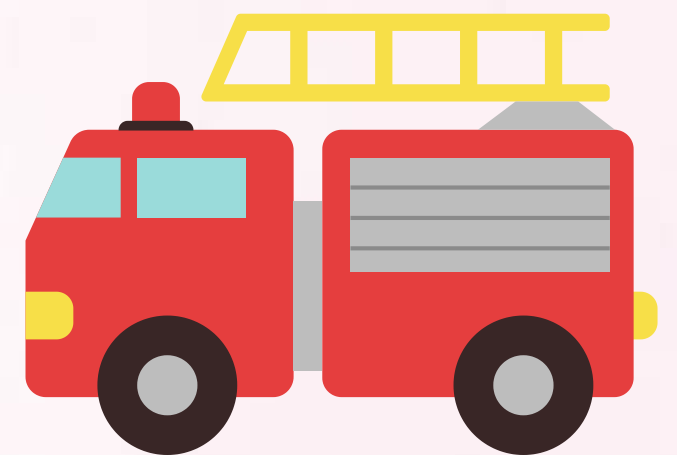


## Open Your Eyes!



Our role:

Our group are working on finding out about all sorts of jobs and careers.

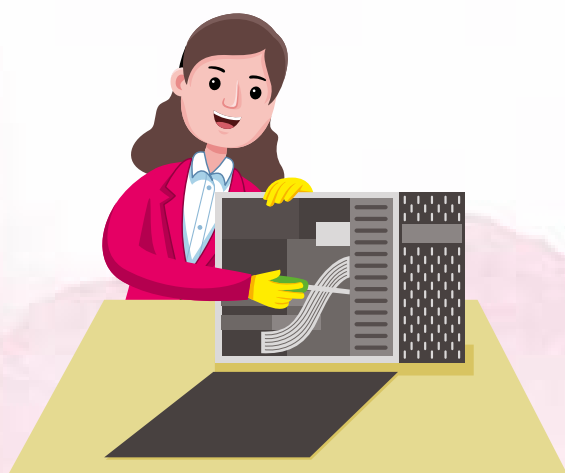


Our agenda:

To invite visitors into school to talk about their jobs e.g. musicians, firefighters, footballers etc.

To help children in St Francis R.C Primary School have good ideas for their futures.

To help children have ideas for jobs and careers they might like to do when they grow up.





# Google Translate App



# Google

# Translate

*Click here*  for web

FREE APP

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

## 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.



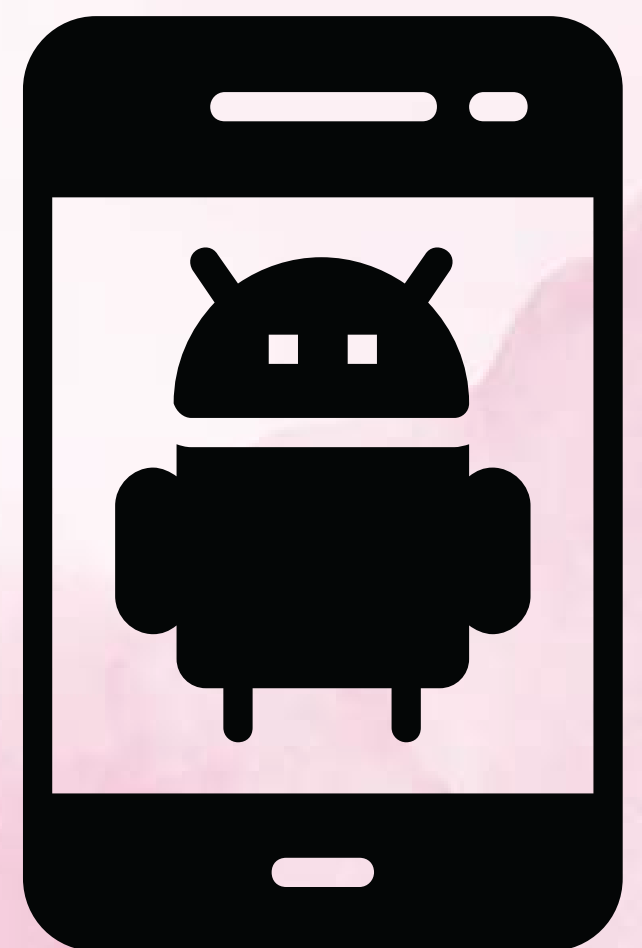
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for iPhone



*Click here* 



*Click here* 

DOWNLOAD THE APP

for Android



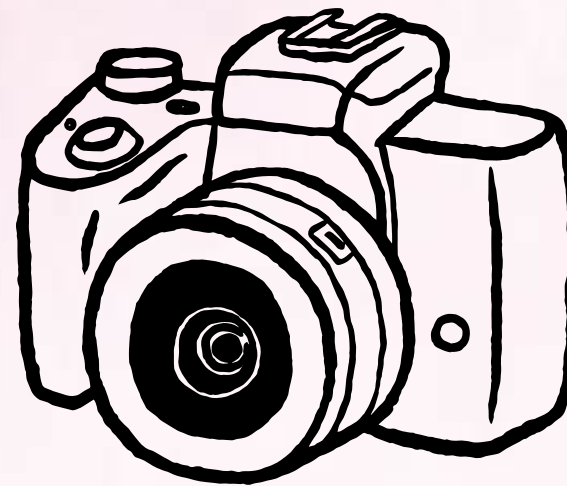


# Year on a Page Blwyddyn ar Dudalen



	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 -- May (Date TBC)  
Class Photographs

## Inset Days

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

## Pupil Progress Meetings

Wednesday 23rd October  
Wednesday 26th March  
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





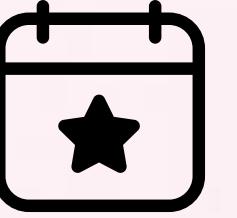
# Dates for your Diary



## March



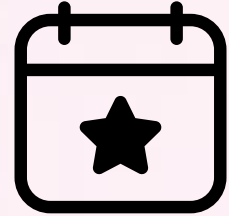
Saturday 1st March - St David's Day



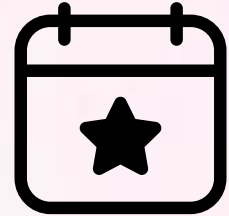
Monday 3rd March - INSET DAY



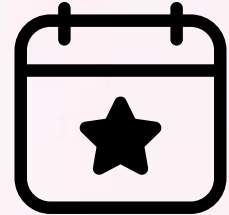
Tuesday 4th March - Pancake Day



Wednesday 5th March - St David's Day Preorders



Wednesday 5th March - Ash Wednesday



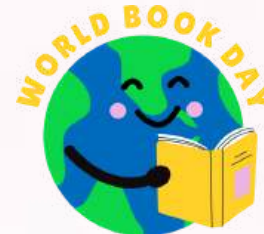
Friday 7th March - St David's Day Celebration in School



**Children are invited to celebrate St David's Day by wearing something Red, White and/or Green or something Welsh, e.g. Traditional Dress or Welsh rugby/football tops**



Friday 14th March - World Book Day



**Children are invited to celebrate World Book Day by dressing up as a character from a book, and bringing a book in to school with them**



Monday 17th March - St Patrick's Day



Wednesday 26th (Year 5)

Friday 28th (Year 6) Techniquet Trip



Sunday 30th March - Mother's Day



Sunday 30th March - British Summer Time Begins



Sunday 30th March - Eid al-Fitr





# Dates for your Diary



## April



Tuesday 1st April - April Fool's Day



Friday 11th April - Break up for Easter



Friday 18th April - Good Friday



Sunday 20th April - Easter Sunday



Monday 21st April - Easter Monday



Tuesday 22nd April - Earth Day

Click the Earth for ideas of how to celebrate with your child!

