



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

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Lent Term 2026 Newsletter 17



*"With Christ as our guide, we let our light shine."*

## A Message from Mrs Yuen...

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another very positive week in school, with lots of fantastic learning taking place across all year groups. The children have been engaged, enthusiastic, and eager to share their learning, which has been a joy to see as we move through the term.

It was wonderful to come together for our Celebration Assembly today, where we shared and recognised the many achievements of our pupils. The children were rightly proud of their efforts, and it was lovely to celebrate their successes as a school community.

This week, the children have also been enjoying taking part in the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch. Armed with keen eyes and lots of excitement, they have been spotting and identifying birds around the school grounds, learning about local wildlife and the importance of caring for our environment. This has sparked some great discussions and curiosity, particularly during outdoor learning sessions.

You may also be hearing from your children about the new additions to our playground. We are delighted to have introduced a reading shed, additional seating areas, and a wooden play shop. These have already been hugely popular, with children enjoying role play, socialising, and reading during breaktimes. It has been lovely to see them making such positive use of these new spaces.

Next week, we aim to send out a short survey to parents to help us understand the range of activities children are involved in outside of school. Please do look out for this. We are very keen to celebrate our pupils' achievements beyond the classroom, so if your child has taken part in, or achieved something special in, a sport, club, or activity outside of school, we would love to hear about it and celebrate this together as a school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support

Best Wishes  
Mrs Yuen

Aspiration-Resilience-Awareness-Compassion



## Designing and Making dinosaurs in Reception



Year R have been making crocodiles using play dough. They used various tools to create the different features.

## Key Dates

### Lent Term 2026

**INSET Day: Monday 5th January 2026**

**Term starts: Tuesday 6th January 2026**

**7th January** – Young Voices Concert Y5+6

**19th January** – Y6 Parents SATs meeting 2.30pm

**20th January**- Zumba whole school event

**20th January**- Book Look for Parents 3.30-4pm

**21st January**- Eco Assembly Presentation

**21st January** – Sports Festival at Benham

**13th February** – Fit Fence whole school Event

### **Half Term:**

**Monday 16th February 2026-Friday 20th February 2026**

**18th February** – Ash Wednesday

**16th March** – Rise Theatre whole school event day

**27th March** – End of term

## RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch



Each class has been out in the school grounds identifying birds that they have spotted. The children have been really enjoying researching this and sharing their findings.

## From Galilee to Jerusalem- RE in Year 6

Year 6 have been investigated the miracles which Jesus performed as described in John's Gospel. They have been learning how to dig deeper to understand what John was trying to tell us about Jesus through each of these stories. They have enjoyed these spiritual discussions and gaining a further insight into the works of Jesus



## Reading Shed is a great success



We were delighted to receive a grant from Apethorpe Trust earlier in the year to fund various playground furniture. The aim being to develop Oracy through interactions. Here is our very new Reading shed. Our school Librarians have been helping the younger children enjoy using it at lunchtime. They have been excited to get a book to share with friends

