

# Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Spring Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 23 Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy and uplifting week in school, with much to celebrate across our community.

This week we marked Science Week and, although we experienced some internet outages at different points, it did not dampen the enthusiasm or curiosity of our pupils. One of the highlights was seeing the wonderful engagement from the children in the independent science activities available for them to explore during break times. Pupils approached these with excitement, asking thoughtful questions, testing ideas and sharing their discoveries with friends. It was a joy to see them showing awe and wonder in the world around them and letting curiosity guide their thinking.

Another special moment this week was led by our School Ethos Council. The children organised a whole school worship and shared their idea of planting sunflowers as a symbol of hope. As a school community we reflected on how small beginnings can grow into something beautiful.

Their message linked with the parable shared in Monday's Celebration Worship, the Parable of the Sower and the Seed. The story reminds us that when we nurture kindness, curiosity and perseverance, wonderful growth can happen. The idea of planting sunflowers felt like a perfect symbol of this message.

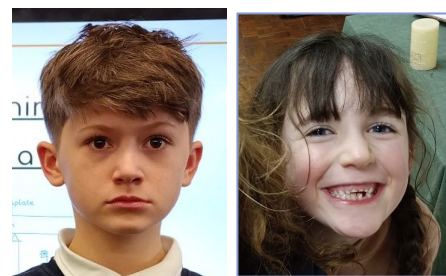
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is a privilege to see our pupils living, learning and growing together each day.

With best wishes, Sal Davies

Our core value this term is:

*Hope*

*Our golden apple winners this week are....*



The winning house this week:

*Silver Birch*

W/B 16/03/26:

Monday

Breakfast club  
Lego & Games ASC: 3.15-4.30

Tuesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30  
Forest School Sessions  
Bikes+Trikes ASC: 3.15-4.30

Wednesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30  
PE Lessons  
Sports Skills ASC: 3.15-4.30

Thursday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30  
Creative ASC: 3.15-4.30

Friday

Breakfast Club: 8-8.30  
Chromebooks ASC: 3.15-4.30

Please like, comment and share on our social media posts to spread the word of our wonderful school. Click below to be taken to them.



"Curiosity fuels hope because it pushes us to care and explore."  
Dr. Jane Goodall



St. Mary's CE Primary Academy, Chard Street, Thorncombe, Somerset, TA20 4NE

Phone: [01460 30535](tel:0146030535) Email: [office@stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk)

Website: <https://www.stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk/>



# Class News from this Week!

## Little Acorns - Claire Stockford

This week Little Acorns have loved gross motor activities. They have all enjoyed using the balancing beam and jumping apparatus. They also showed fantastic teamwork when building their own obstacle courses, communicating well and sharing their ideas.

Little Acorns have really impressed me this week with their maths skills, showing amazing progress and a real willingness to learn. Our story of the week, Oi Frog, has been thoroughly enjoyed and the children loved listening to the story and learning about rhyming words. For our cooking session we made scones. The children really enjoyed making these and they looked delicious, so I hope they were enjoyed at home with some jam and cream. The children have taken great pride in making their Mother's Day cards. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend celebrating.

## Pippin Class - Mrs Wheaton

In DT we have been exploring structures. By the end of the term, children will have created their own church structure. This week they began designing their church against success criteria, ensuring their designs were strong and supported. We also discussed the role of an architect and how important it is for their drawings to be clear.

Year 3 have been learning about shape, size and colour in French. This week they were tasked with translating different French sentences such as "C'est un grand cercle." I was genuinely impressed with how well they were able to do this independently.

We had a lovely time discussing our 'Mothers & Others' - the special people in our lives who look after and care for us every day. The children shared some nice things about their special people, which was really lovely to hear.

## Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

In English, children have been completing their writing on Norse legends. They have worked really hard to use all kinds of descriptive language and imagination!

We have had so much fun with Science this week, it has been great to see the children exploring with mini microscopes at break and lunch and asking so many curious questions!

Last Friday the children joined Harry to release the fish. It is always lovely to see them swim away to their new lives! We successfully raised 63 fish with no mortalities! The children have been amazing!

In Art the children have created their backgrounds for their multimedia Viking Art piece, they explore brush strokes and colours to create different skies.

In RE, children learnt about The Golden Rule that Humanists follow - treat others as you would like to be treated. They discussed different ways people could act to observe this rule.

## Over the next week...

- Hear your child read at least 3 times each week. Please record this in their reading records/BoomReader. Parents - children are never too old to have a story read to them. They gain so much from this special time with you.
- Practise your multiplication and division facts using TTRS or other resources.

Year 1	2s, 5s, 10s
Year 2	2s, 5s, 10s
Year 3	3s, 4s, 8s
Year 4, 5 and 6	all multiplication tables up to 12x12

Children learn  
**4,000 to 12,000**  
words per year  
through reading.

# What a lovely week!








Wishing a happy Mother's Day to all the mums and special people who care for our children!

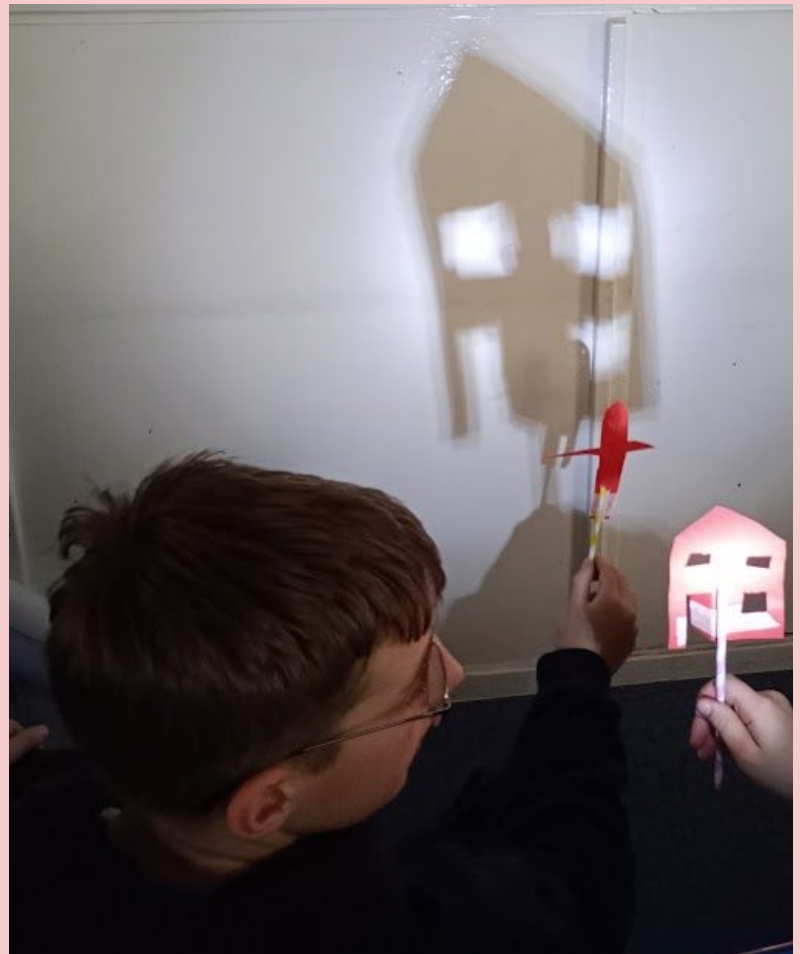




Miss Taylor organised a week of exciting science investigations for the children to enjoy.

-  Microscope Monday – Mini Worlds
-  Twinkle Tuesday – Light & Shadows
-  Wacky Water Wednesday – Float or Sink?
-  Tuning Thursday – Sound Explorers
-  Fantastic Friday – Nature Hunt

The children loved exploring, asking questions and making their own discoveries!

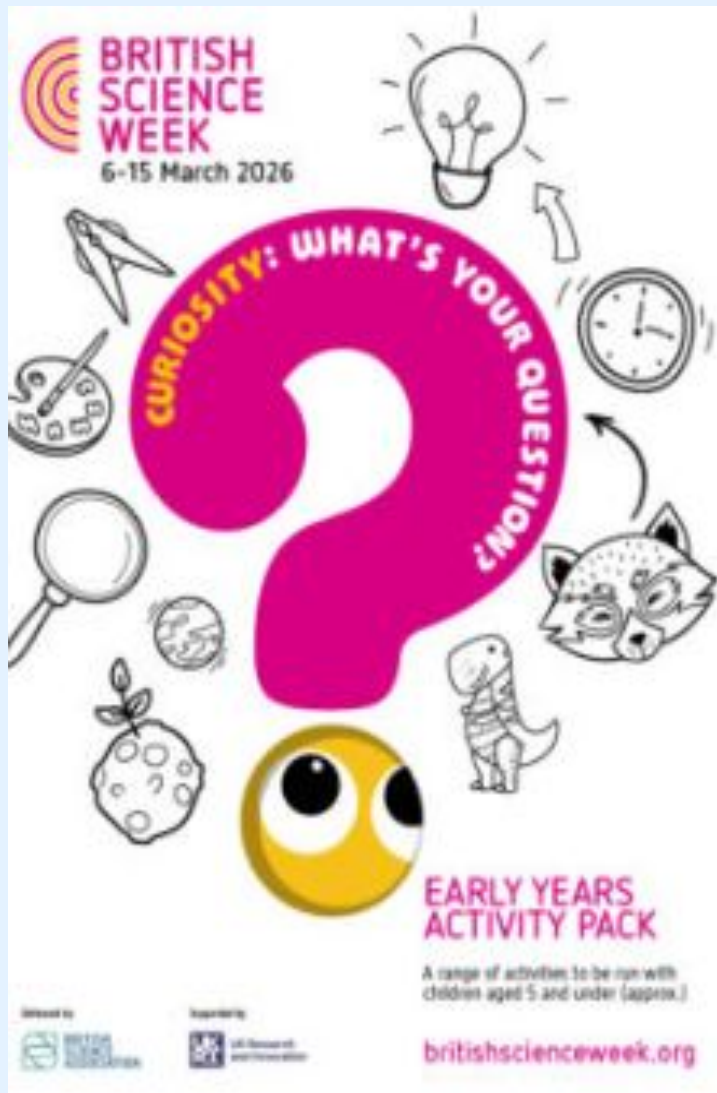




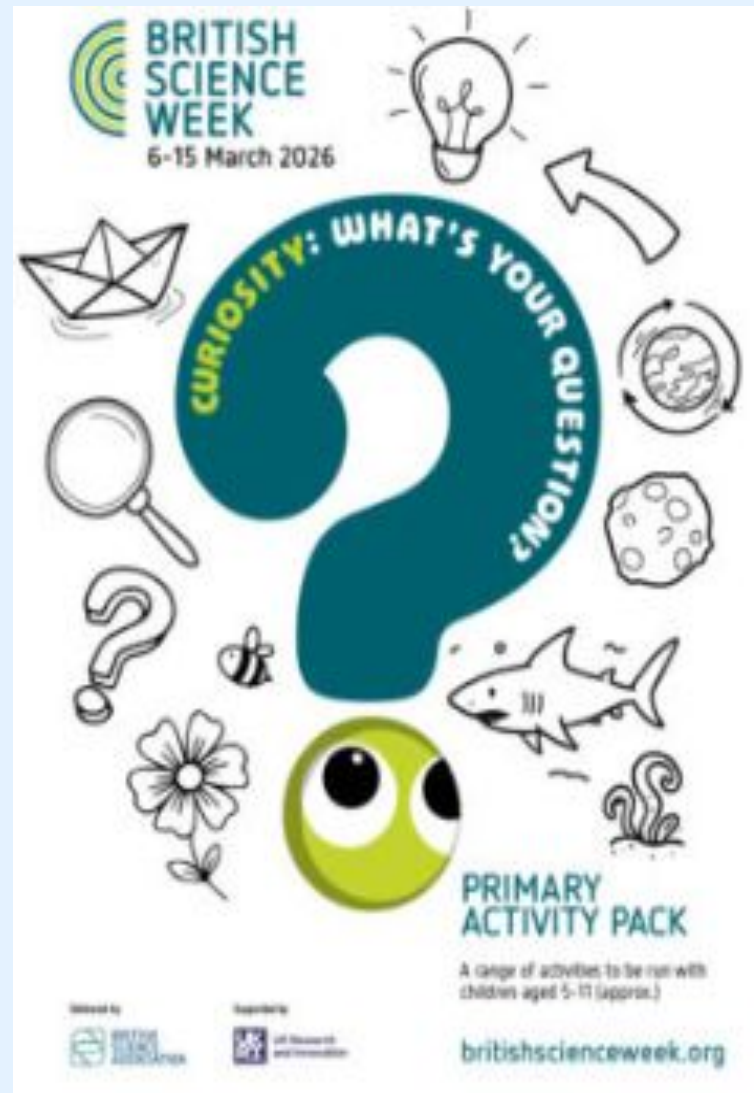
# What a lovely week!



# Additional Information



<https://www.britishscienceweek.org/app/uploads/2026/01/British-Science-Week-2026-Early-Years-activity-pack.pdf>



<https://www.britishscienceweek.org/app/uploads/2026/01/British-Science-Week-2026-Primary-activity-pack.pdf>

## Mental Health Support Services:

[Dorset Support](#)

[Somerset Support](#)

[Devon Support](#)

## Safeguarding Information

Mrs Sol Davies  
Acting Head of School  
Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Merryn Wheaton  
EYFS Lead and Pippin  
Teacher  
Deputy DSL



Our child protection policy can be found [here](#).