

Kilby St Mary's

C of E Primary School

Newsletter



May 2025

Christian Value and British Value Focus: Respect

I am absolutely amazed at how much we have achieved this half term, in what has been the shortest term of the year!

I want to say a huge well done to our Year 6s who sat their SATs last week. It was encouraging to see how focussed and determined they were to give of their very best.

In April, the teachers received training on our new writing scheme '**Literacy Tree**'. We have invested in new texts and resources to support the new programme and already the teachers are seeing amazing results. This week our '**Lunchtime Teachers**' spent a day with the fabulous Steve Harris on working towards being an accredited 'Happy Lunchtimes' school. The children absolutely loved the day, and it was wonderful to see the enjoyment the activities brought to the school community. Steve described it as 'a golden day' and commented on how proud we should be of the children's behaviour across the whole school. (which of course, we always are!)

And finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to the FOK who have provided the leaver's Hoodies again this year they are very much appreciated. Don't forget to sign up for the colour run on the 26th June which promises to be another great fundraising event.

Miss Hartshorne



Seedlings



It has been a short but busy half term in Seedlings. We have recently welcomed four new children into our group and it has been lovely to see the children getting to know each other and making new friends.



Our topic this half term has been all about mini-beasts so we have made the most of our outdoor areas and the beautiful weather, looking for teeny tiny creatures. We have learnt all about snails and slugs, spiders, ladybirds, bees and butterflies! Some of our favourite books have included 'The very busy spider', 'What the ladybird heard' and 'The very hungry caterpillar'.



Oak

- ▶ This half term has flown by with so much to learn and celebrate...
- ▶ We all had a wonderful time recreating the street parties of 1945 for VE Day. We even learnt a typical dance to Glen Miller's music!
- ▶ We have continued to find out more about our wonderful world and the varied natural habitats that animals have.
- ▶ We continued to watch our tadpoles and were so excited when they started to grow their legs and become froglets! Mrs. Graves was able to return them to their original pond to continue their life cycle.
- ▶ We are so excited that a Blue Tit family have made our bird box their home and we see them coming and going busily building their nest.
- ▶ Libby had an abandoned nest which she brought in for us to investigate. We were amazed at what hard work went into creating it. It was made up of so many different materials.



Willow

- ▶ Willow class have had a superb half term.
- ▶ We have started our clubs on a Tuesday, and the children have been really excited with their choices between pom pom making, sports clubs, mindful colouring and board games.
- ▶ In PE we've been learning lots of gymnastics, including rolling, jumping and climbing. We loved getting out the gymnastics frame and wall bars.
- ▶ We became colour mixers in art, looking at what primary colours make which secondary colours and creating our own collages.
- ▶ Have a lovely half term break. I can't wait to welcome you back for our final half term of the year!

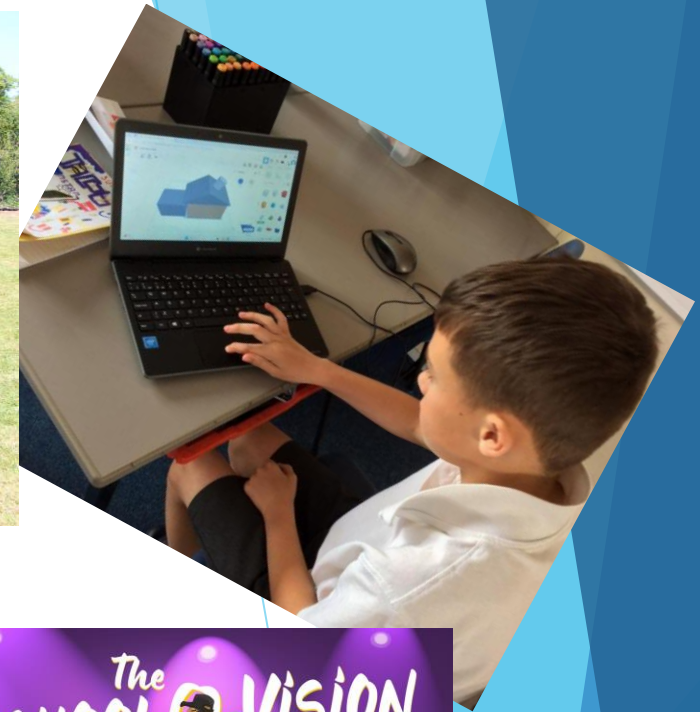




As we come to the end of another half term, I'd like to share some photos of our trip to King Richard III Visitor Centre. The children learnt about DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) looking the part as young scientists in their white coats. An interesting fact is that we share 50% of our DNA with a banana. They all thoroughly enjoyed the day (as did we) displaying impeccable behaviour, and an innate curiosity to learn and ask questions to develop understanding. I hope you all have a lovely half term. Mrs Connell and Mrs Fielding.



Rowan



- ▶ We have been studying different forces in Science, including friction and air resistance. We investigated different sized 'parachutes' (made from balloons!) and how long each took to fall to the ground.
- ▶ In Computing, we have been learning how to use a CAD (Computer Aided Design) programme called 'TinkerCad' to design our own name plate and desk tidy; it's very technical!
- ▶ Our Year 6 pupils completed their SATS Tests earlier this month; they were all fabulous! They worked so hard, kept calm and never gave up. We are so proud of you all. Thank You to Friends Of for gifting the 'Leavers' Hoodies'.
- ▶ We have started rehearsals for our end of year show, School-o-Vision. No spoilers, but you are in for a treat. Most of the staff are in it... but we've said too much already...!



What's been in the news this Half term?

Coverage Summer 1 2025



Week	News Story	Focus Question	British Value Link	Protected Characteristics	UN Article
21 st April	Singer, Ed Sheeran, has written a letter to UK Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, asking for more money to support music education in schools.	Should music be part of every school day?	Democracy	Disability	31 REST, PLAY, CULTURE, ARTS
28 th April	Workers in Birmingham have been on strike (choosing not to work) since January because they don't think the way they are being treated, or their pay, is fair.	Whose job is it to keep our local places clean and tidy?	Mutual Respect	Sex	24 HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT
5 th May	The government has recently announced that a new theme park will be built in the UK, which is due to open in 2031.	What makes somewhere special to visit?	Individual Liberty	Disability	12 RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS
12 th May	Three teenagers from Indore, India – Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania, and Mridul Jain have created a salt-powered fridge.	What everyday items could be changed to help others?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Age	6 LIFE, SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT
19 th May	A vehicle once used by Pope Francis to wave and greet people—called a popemobile—is being turned into a mobile health clinic for children in Gaza.	Can donating something important be a powerful way to show you care?	Individual Liberty	Religion or Belief	14 FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION

Picture News is used in collective worship weekly.

We are a 'Picture News Advocate School'!



Happy Lunchtimes!

This month, Steve Haris, from WellBeing Education, helped us launch 'Happy Lunchtimes', an approach to lunchtime that ensures there's always something exciting going on! Yesterday, we had giant chalk pictures on the playground, bottle flipping, the Button Stacking Championship, construction towers and D-I-S-C-O! Watch this space every month for details on what's happening in 'The Zone' on the playground every day; a new activity every day!



Lunchtime Clubs

Lunchtime Clubs have been really popular this half term.
Here's what's on offer for your child

KS1 Clubs Every Tuesday

Mindfulness Colouring
Board Games
Pom-Pom Making
Ball Skills



KS2 Clubs

Choir Mon
Mindfulness Colouring Wed
Pom-Pom Making Wed
Lego Club Thurs
Rounders Thurs



Every Friday is DISCO FRIDAY for the whole school!

Area Athletics @ Saffron Lane

- ▶ A group of our best athletes from Maple & Rowan took part in the Inter-Schools athletics meeting at Saffron Lane this month, and they all had a great morning competing and watching the action from the stand!
- ▶ We had some real highlights: our long-distance runners kept going, some top finishers in the throwing events, and Phoebe in Year 3 made it through to the 50m sprint final. Well done, everyone!
- ▶ Thank You to parents and carers who came along to cheer us on.



Attendance

Attendance is a statutory element which staff and governors are required to monitor in accordance with the school attendance policy. The government requirements regarding attendance were updated in August 2024 and our Attendance policy has been updated and shared with parents accordingly. Our whole school target for attendance is 96%.

It is important to ensure that all children attend school in order that they continue to make progress across all subjects as well as socially.

Attendance for the school year until 22.05.25 by year group.

Foundation Stage 95.9%

Year 1 97.1%

Year 2 95.6%

Year 3 95.0%

Year 4 94.8%

Year 5 95.8%

Year 6 97.5%

Well done to Year 1 and Year 6
who have exceeded the 96%
target.

Keep up the good work!

E Safety



- ▶ This month's E Safety Guide from National Online Safety is all about: 'In-Game Chats'
- ▶ See the attached guide for more details.



www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Twitter - [@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

Facebook - [/NationalOnlineSafety](https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 31.07.2019

Happy Birthday from Kilby!

May Birthdays

Max

Emilia T

Nancy



Diary Dates

- ▶ Monday 9th - Wednesday 11th June - Year 5/6 Bikeability
- ▶ Friday 20th June - Sports Day
- ▶ Wednesday 25th June - Rowan Class Production (1:45pm and 7pm)
- ▶ Thursday 26th June - FoK Colour Run
- ▶ Friday 27th June - Reserve Sports Day
- ▶ Monday 30th June - Wednesday 2nd July - Rowan Class Residential
- ▶ Friday 4th July - Year 6 Leavers Service
- ▶ Tuesday 8th July - Break up for Summer.



