



# ST MONICA'S NEWSLETTER

## FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER, 2025

### Anti-Bullying Week: Odd Socks Day

This week, we took part in Anti-Bullying Week. Thank you to parents for sending in pupils in odd socks to celebrate individuality and to highlight that it's our differences that make us unique in St Monica's.

Across the week, children been learning how they can use their "Power for Good" to change the world around them: how even small positive actions can have a big impact.

Each class created and shared a pledge in assembly, focusing on how they can use this power to help others be kind and include everyone. **Why not ask your child if they can remember their class pledge?**

### Ali Harwood – Author Visit

We were delighted to welcome local author Ali Harwood into school this week. Ali delivered an inspiring assembly that wove together the history of Liverpool with poetry and art. Our pupils were thoroughly engaged and even collaborated to create a whole-school poem, showcasing our creativity and an understanding of our city's rich heritage. It was a fantastic morning that left many children eager to write more of their own poetry.

### TT Rockstars Day – Next Friday

Next Friday is TT Rockstars Day. Pupils are invited to come to school dressed as rock stars as we celebrate the power and importance of maths across every year group. There will be fun challenges, activities and opportunities for pupils to show off their maths skills. We can't wait to see the children's rock star outfits and their enthusiasm for maths - our key aim is to make children realise maths is a fun, rewarding subject. A full letter with further details will be sent out on Monday.





# Headteacher's Hot Chocolate

Each week, pupils who have lived out our values and have demonstrated the “St Monica’s Way” are selected by their class teacher. They are celebrated in assembly and then enjoy a hot chocolate and a chat with Mr Gouldbourne to celebrate their inspirational week.

Mr Gouldbourne	James B (Y6): A superb all rounder: he represents Sefton in cross country and football, plays a range of sports for St Monica's with great leadership qualities - and is a superb mathematician who often gets full marks in complex maths tests. On top of all of that, a young man with good manners and a caring attitude.
Ms Tohill	Paisley M (1H) : for amazing dancing and remembering all the details of the choreography. I don't know what I'd do without her - she is absolutely fabulous!
Nursery	Parker H-S is doing a great job of helping others and making positive choices. He shows respect for others and takes responsibility for his actions. A lovely pupil.
Miss Andrews	Lee C - for being a kind friend and showing great initiative in his learning. Well done Lee, you're a star!
Miss Horder	Ava M - for showing a wonderful enthusiasm for our Diwali topic. She has remembered lots of interesting facts about Diwali and has enjoyed using her knowledge creatively in her role play.
Miss Hatcher	Koko for always trying her best and following school values. A pupil with a kind smile and who shows aspiration and care towards others.
Miss Tew	Henry H for always helping others, leading by example, and being a wonderful role model. He read in assembly wonderfully this morning - well done, Henry.
Mrs MacDonald	Ryan Mc: For showing dedication with his artwork. He is an artist in the making. - Mrs Macdonald is very proud. He showed his artwork to Mr Gouldbourne today, an amazing picture of Mo Salah!
Mrs Chorzepa	Victoria T- for consistently putting in great effort and demonstrating strong ambition in her work. What a wonderful and positive attitude she always shows. A lovely pupil.
Mrs Reardon	Leo Mc - for excellent attitude and behaviour in all lessons this week and for always being ready to help others. A kind hearted and caring young man.
Miss Gibbons	Zara C – For outstanding work in Maths this week. Zara has risen to the challenge and thrived by pushing herself even further with extra questions. A true and brilliant mathematician – well done, Zara!
Mrs Ware	James Mc - for his impeccable manners. He is always respectful to staff and has worked hard to also display the same level of respect to his peers. Well done, James, we are very proud of you.
Miss Thomas	Travis T - for his fantastic perseverance and hard work in all areas of the curriculum. He has taken pride in all his work this week and is becoming more confident while working independently. Well done, Travis!
Mrs Gilbertson/ Mrs Birch	James H - for being a wonderful Y5 pupil, always demonstrating excellent manners and respect for staff, peers, and visitors. A lovely pupil with a kind heart.
Miss McGuckin	George C - For showing aspiration towards all of his work. In particular, his Maths work this week focusing on inverse operations and his Science work when learning about gestation periods. A great week George - keep it up superstar!
Miss McGiveron	Isabella R - For always giving 100% effort in all of her subjects. She shows true St Monica's dedication and determination: a real role model to all.
Mr Lynch	Sofia H - Your hard work making poppies for all the staff is a wonderful way to show kindness and support for the British Legion. You've shown great creativity and care for others – we're really proud of you!



## Nursery - by Miss Byrne



We have had a wonderful time celebrating the vibrant festival of Diwali! Our classroom was buzzing with creativity as the children explored a variety of hands-on activities. They carefully designed and created colourful rangoli patterns, made their own diya pots, lanterns, and festive cards, proudly showing off their artistic creations whilst developing their fine motor skills.

The children listened to the story of Rama and Sita, exploring themes of bravery, kindness, and the triumph of good over evil. As a special treat, they joined Carolyn in the kitchen to cook some delicious Diwali-inspired food, which they happily shared and enjoyed at snack time.

It was a joyful and memorable topic filled with storytelling, arts and crafts, cooking, and cultural learning, helping the children develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of Diwali whilst having lots of fun together.



## Reception - by Miss Andrews and Miss Horder

Reception have been learning all about the festival of Diwali this week.

The children started by talking about what Diwali means and how it is celebrated with family and friends. They made colourful Diwali cards to take home and share with their loved ones.

In the home corner, the children prepared for Diwali by dressing up in their best clothes and jewellery. They had great fun pretending to make sweets and creating a special feast for everyone to enjoy.

The class also explored beautiful rangoli patterns and made their own using rice, shapes, and chalk.

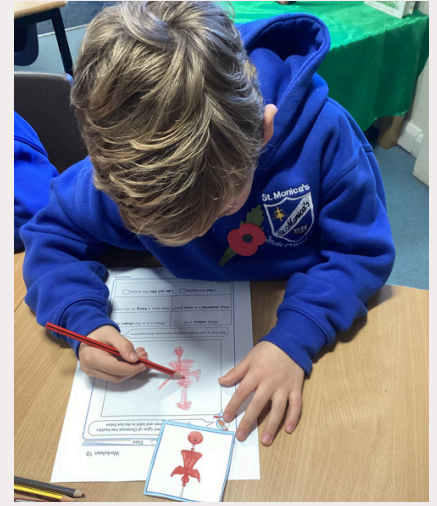
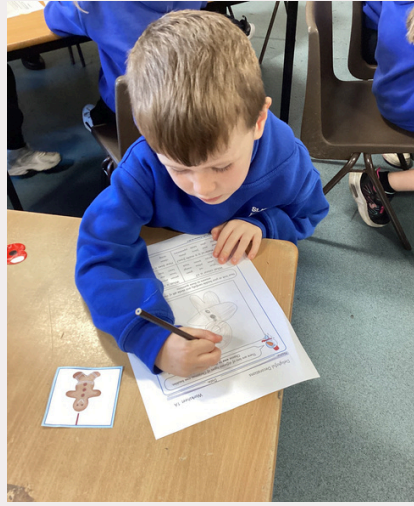
To finish the week, the children worked together to make their own traditional barfi sweets – a perfect end to a bright and festive week!





## Year 1 - by Miss Hatcher and Miss Tew

In Design and Technology, we have been learning all about Christmas decorations. We explored a range of different examples and then sketched them in our books. Today, we discussed how to use scissors safely and even created our own Christmas-themed pictures. We're now excited to begin designing our own decorations - we will use our sewing skills to bring them to life next week. We will bring them home to hang on our trees!



## Year 2- by Mrs MacDonald, Mrs Chorzepa and Miss Partington

### Year 2 Animal Visit – Owls! 🦉

Year 2 were thrilled to welcome some very special feathered visitors this week – owls! The children were fascinated to see the owls up close and learn all about their incredible features and habitats. They discovered many interesting facts, such as how silently owls can fly and how far they can turn their heads! The children also enjoyed sharing their own owl facts that they had researched beforehand. It was a fantastic opportunity to combine curiosity, learning, and a bit of wonder!





# Year 3 - by Mrs Reardon and Miss Gibbons

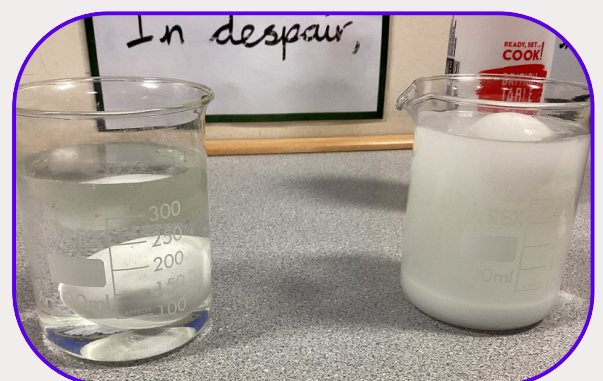
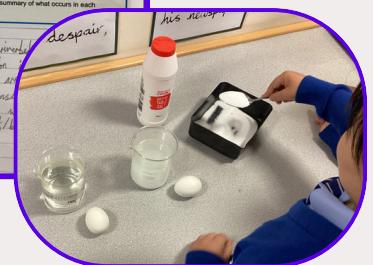
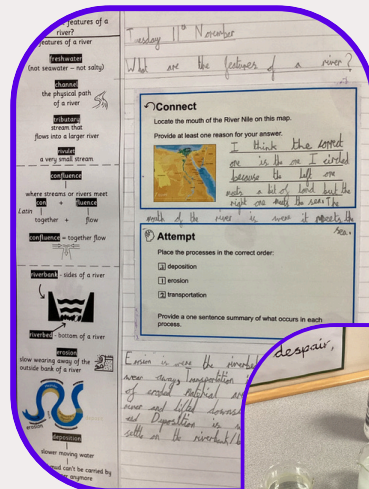
**This week in Science, Year 3 have been looking at the components of different foods and learnt about the different food groups. We thought about why we need foods from each food group: carbohydrates for energy, protein for growth and repair and fats to absorb vitamins and give us energy. We thought about how much of each food group we should eat for a healthy diet. We also found out why water was so important - hydration is vital!**

**Thanks to Active Sefton too for their sessions!**



# Year 4 - by Mrs Ware and Miss Thomas

**Our Year 4 pupils have been busy investigating the differences between fresh water and salt water as part of our Geography topic on rivers. As part of their learning, the children placed an egg in a beaker of fresh water and another in a beaker of salt water to observe what would happen. They were amazed to discover that the egg in the salt water floated! This simple experiment helped them understand how salt affects water density and why rivers, lakes, and oceans differ so much. The investigation sparked plenty of curiosity and thoughtful questions, deepening their understanding of the important role water plays in shaping our world.**





# Year 5- by Mrs Gilbertson/ Mrs Birch and Miss McGuckin

I imagine we will find our words somewhere that it can be of the people you meet or anything you desire.  
Reading is power for the wisdom you seek or the journey with the people you want to meet.  
Everyone



**This week, our Year 5 pupils were delighted to welcome author and poet Ali Harwood for an inspiring morning of poetry. The day began with an engaging assembly, where Ali shared some of his own poetry and inspired pupils with his energy and passion for writing.**

**Following the assembly, each class took part in a creative workshop where pupils explored language, rhythm, and expression before crafting their own wonderful poems. Ali's enthusiasm helped everyone find their voice and celebrate the joy of words. It was a truly uplifting experience and a fantastic way to start the week.**

**A huge thank you to Ali Harwood and Kingsley & Co for supporting and inspiring our young writers!**



# Year 6- by Miss McGiveron and Mr Lynch

**Year 6 have been thoroughly enjoying our fascinating science topic on Evolution and Inheritance. This week, we explored the vast timeline of Earth's history and were amazed to discover just how recently humans appeared compared to the age of our planet! To help us visualise this, we headed into the hall and created a giant timeline, mapping out the key stages in the evolution of different species. It stretched much further than we expected and really helped us to understand the enormous scale of time involved.**

**After lots of teamwork (and a few surprises along the way), we can now confidently recall the order of evolutionary events – so feel free to test us at home!**

