



ST. STEPHEN'S JUNIOR SCHOOL

May 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

This term has flown by in the blink of an eye! With the Bank Holiday and a shorter half-term, we are already racing towards our final academic term of the year.

Our Year 6 pupils have worked incredibly hard this term as they completed their SATs examinations. We are extremely proud of each and every one of them. Regardless of the results, they approached the tests — and the many changes needed around school to support them — with maturity, resilience and a positive attitude. The rest of the school also showed fantastic flexibility while adapting to changes in classrooms and staffing arrangements. It truly was a whole-school effort, expertly coordinated by Miss Williams and the Year 6 team. Well done to everyone involved! Our Year 5 pupils also completed their CAT tests this term, which involved another full day of focused effort and determination.

Alongside the assessments, pupils across the school have enjoyed a range of exciting enrichment activities to support and enhance their learning. Year 3 took part in a Roman workshop, Year 5 enjoyed a Forest School and wild cooking day, and Year 6 will celebrate the end of term with an Ancient Greek day.

We would like to wish all of our families a happy and restful half-term break, and we hope the sunshine continues for everyone to enjoy!

Laura Cutts and Sarah Heaney, Headteachers

This term, our Year 5 pupils have been busy preparing for their exciting production, inspired by the theme *Race Around the World*. The performance takes the audience on a journey across the globe, with each class visiting a different country and exploring the unique traditions, customs, and cultures that make each place special.

Year 5

Throughout the production, pupils celebrate a wide range of cultural experiences, including music, dance, food, art, and storytelling. The children have worked incredibly hard to learn their lines, songs, and choreography, while also developing a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diversity that exists within our world.

The production is strongly linked to our school value of *belonging*, highlighting the importance of respect, inclusion, and celebrating the different backgrounds and experiences that make our school community so special. It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm, confidence, and teamwork shown by all of the pupils involved, and we are very much looking forward to sharing their hard work and talents with families and the wider school community.



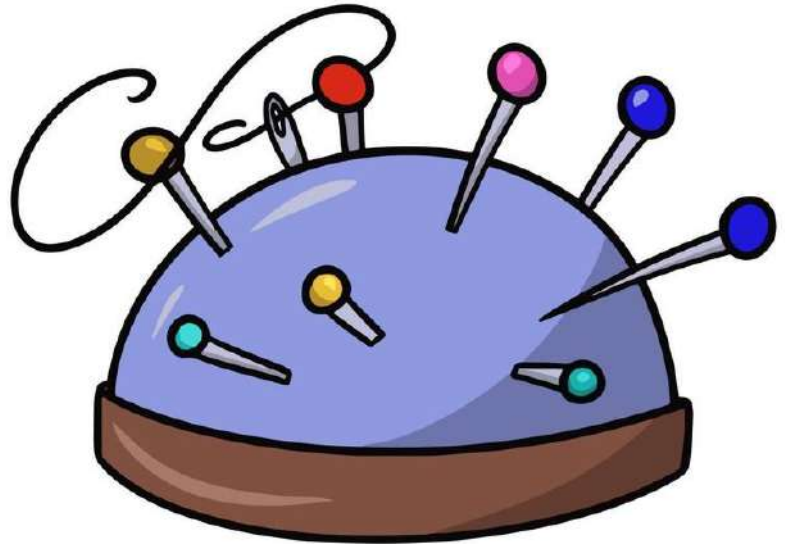
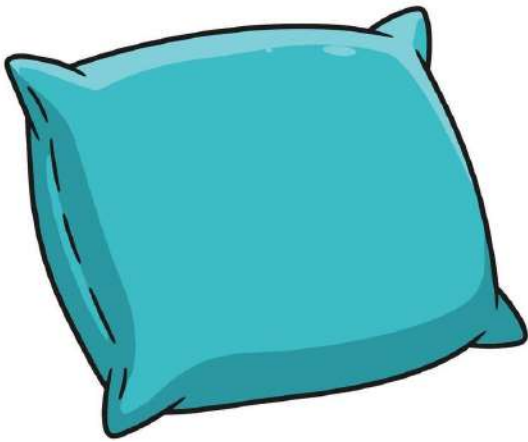
This week, during our PPA sessions, pupils have been enthusiastically taking part in our whole-school eco projects in the Forest School in preparation for next term's Eco Conference. These activities have provided children with a wonderful opportunity to work collaboratively across year groups while developing their understanding of the importance of caring for the environment and protecting local habitats. The overarching theme for the project is *providing homes for local wildlife*. As part of this, children will be creating birdhouses, building shallow-water habitats, planting wildflowers, and taking part in a range of other exciting environmental activities designed to encourage biodiversity within our school grounds.

The projects have encouraged teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving, while also helping pupils to appreciate the positive impact they can have on the natural world. We are looking forward to showcasing all of their hard work and learning at the Eco Conference next term.

Year 3



Year 3 made **their** **own** **amazing** **cushions**.



Thursday 7th May 2026
L.O: independent write

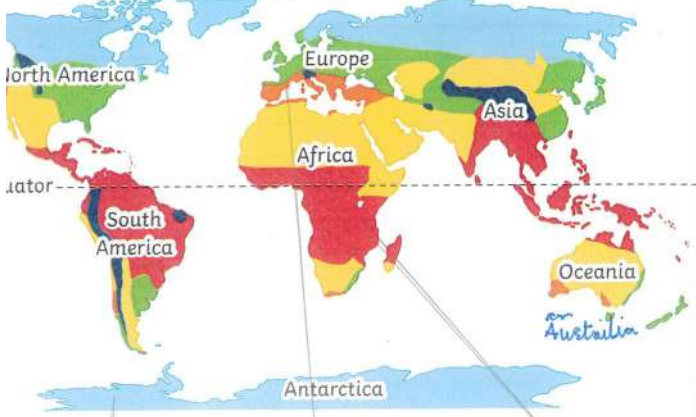
The hungry stray

One hot summer's afternoon, in a busy town, there was a kitty named Nerissa. She scurried round for some food, but all she ever found was a few pieces of rotten bread. "I'm starving, I hope I find some proper food soon!" A few days later, a kind, gentle girl named Kelly spotted Nerissa scurrying under a street light. "Come here kitty," she said softly. Nervous yet excited, Nerissa shook her tail and followed Kelly!

Kelly took Nerissa home and soon they were sitting by the fire under a blanket watching TV. The following day, Nerissa hopped down stairs and saw a spotty, pink ball full of candy. Nerissa got sage and happy but when she saw Kelly's little sister, Lily, everything changed!!!

At first, Nerissa was anxious because Lily was too hyper and over excited. "Chase me!" cried Lily and she jumped in excitement! Nerissa hid behind Kelly and panicked. Slowly, she began to trust Lily and one afternoon they played together at the beach. "It's fun!" Lily squeaked while Nerissa snuggled around. Eventually, Nerissa found her place in the family and the fear passed away!

Geography- learning about climate zones



Polar
Polar places are cold and places like the North pole and south pole are polar places there not near the equator.



Arid
Arid climate is dry and doesn't rain that it is very different from polar and Arid places are near equator of near



Temperate
Temperate climates are hot and cold it depends on the season.

Wednesday 6th May 2026
L.O: to learn about a famous expedition

- 1) Polar ice bergs and ice sheets ✓
- 2) ~~None~~ ✓
- 3) a volcano has lava in it and a mountain is a big rock ✓
- 4) Cold snowy ✓

- he had a very positive soul
- he named his ship the Endurance ship
- he was a famous explorer
- he went in 1st August 1914
- they were stuck for 9 months
- there were 28 men including him
- he was born on February 15th 1874
- when he was 16, he joined the army

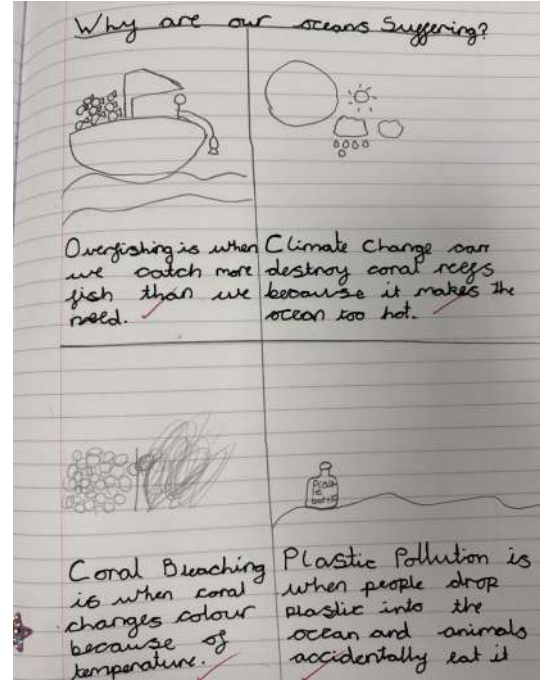
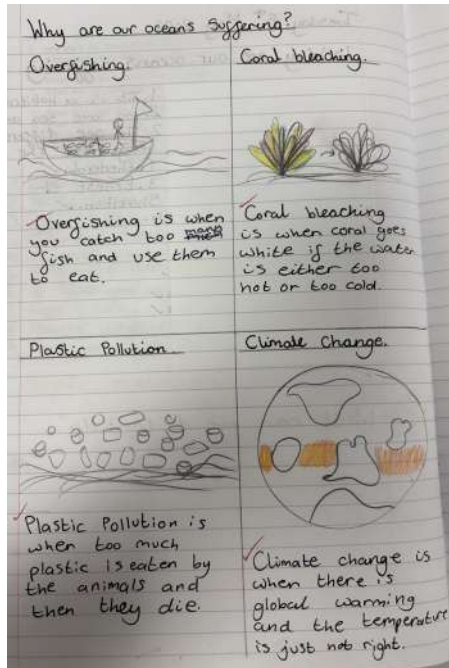
Ernest Shackleton-explorer

Year 5



This good work is from Anokhi and Mia in Tree Frogs. This term we've been learning about oceans, focusing on how we use the oceans, coral reefs and why our oceans are being damaged.

Below is more photos for the wild classroom day.



★ ★ GOOD WORK ★ ★

Year 6

Leopard Class have designed their own dragons (based off our class text 'Darwin's Dragons'). They have drawn some beautiful pictures and written some amazing diary entries describing their explorations!



ier this week. So far, the weather has
and we are making no progress
to the captain, we are expected to complete
in at least a week. Hopefully, I will be
and...! Charles Darwin, will achieve
ering a new species that will change
science.

s and tribulations)

g weather, the first week on the
challenging. My robin is crowded
is thick and sticky, making
the at times. None of this has
aggressive bashing of the ship
bly with motion sickness and
ill ever grow accustomed to
g conditions when I am well
when I am bored, I study the
attached on this trip so far.

m... eventful! Shortly after waking
us cries of the captain. I wonder
early, I heard the echoing screech
sand and rain pelted over me. I had



June 1972