

# RISE



THE  
DIOCESE OF  
SHEFFIELD  
ACADEMIES  
TRUST

## The St Mary's CE Academy School Newsletter

1st May 2026

**“ Rise up, take courage and do it ”**

Ezra 10:4

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another fantastic week at St Mary's, with a real buzz of enthusiasm and hands-on learning across school.

Year 4 have been busy putting their taste buds to the test in Design Technology, exploring different breads as part of their sandwich project – a fun and engaging way to combine creativity with healthy choices. In Year 5, pupils have been thinking like real scientists, investigating soluble and insoluble materials and exploring different ways to separate them through careful testing and observation.

Year 2 have continued their learning about the local area, exploring the history of Walkley and using their imagination to bring the past to life, while Year 3 enjoyed a brilliant visit to Weston Park Museum, creating their own artwork inspired by Sheffield. In Year 1, children have been developing their understanding of division through practical activities, building confidence and working brilliantly together.

I hope you all enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday.

Mrs Burgess x



## Dates for your Diary

Monday 4th May –  
Bank Holiday – school closed

Wednesday 6th May – Class photos

Wednesday 20th May –  
Oakes Residential

Friday 22nd May - School close for  
the week and return to school  
Monday 1st June

St Mary's CE Academy | Cundy Street, Sheffield, South Yorkshire S6 2WJ

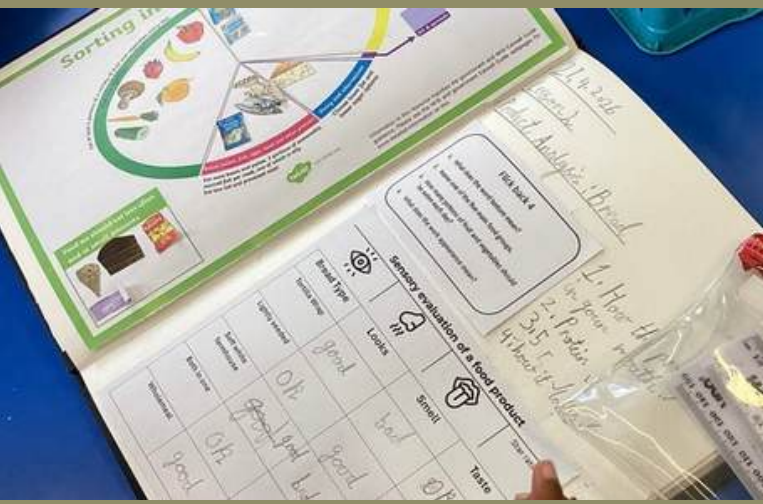
 [www.st-marys.sheffield.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys.sheffield.sch.uk)  [enquiries@sma.dsat.education](mailto:enquiries@sma.dsat.education)  Tel: 01142 344461



Year 4

# Year 4's Bread Tasting Adventure

This week, Year 4 had a delicious time in their Design Technology lesson, tasting various types of bread! The students explored the taste, smell, and appearance of five different breads to help them decide which would be best for a healthy and enjoyable sandwich for Nursery children. Each bread was rated based on their findings, sparking lots of discussion about what makes a great sandwich. It was a fun and educational experience that combined sensory analysis with creativity, setting the stage for their upcoming sandwich design project!





Year 5

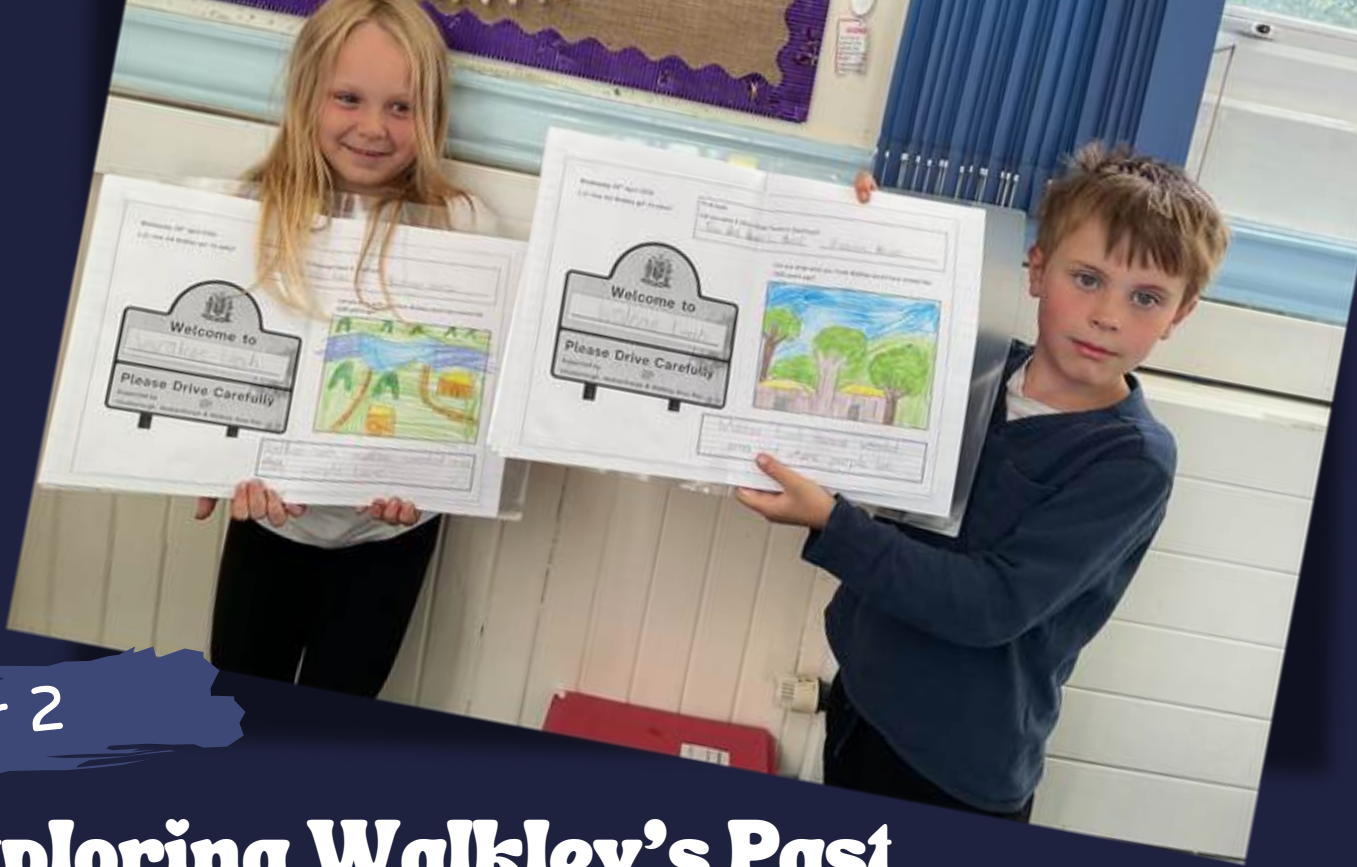
# Science Update: Soluble or Not?

This fortnight, Year 5 have been busy investigating soluble and insoluble materials. We began by testing a range of everyday substances—sugar, salt, sand, tea and pepper—to see whether they would dissolve in water.

The children made careful observations and recorded which materials were soluble and which were insoluble. Next, we explored how to separate these materials. Using filter paper, the class discovered that insoluble substances (like sand and pepper) could be successfully separated from water, while soluble substances (such as sugar and salt) could not be filtered out.

This led us to learn about evaporation as another method of separation. We discussed the importance of fair testing and variables, and the children decided to keep all conditions the same except for the heat source. Some groups placed their samples in the sun, while others used a radiator.

This week, we will be revisiting our investigations to see whether evaporation has allowed us to separate the dissolved sugar from the water. We are excited to see the results of our scientific thinking in action!



Year 2

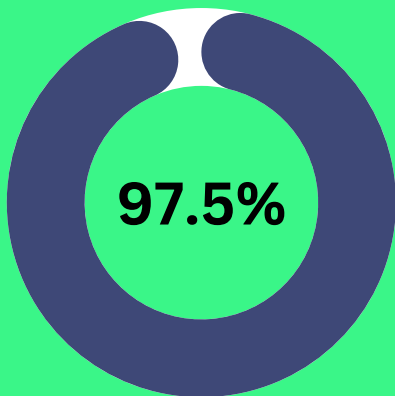
# Exploring Walkley's Past

Year 2 children have been learning about the history of Walkley and how it got its name. They explored different sources, including old maps, stories, and photographs, to understand how the area has changed over time. The children discussed ideas about where the name "Walkley" might have come from and shared their own thoughts. They also used their imagination to draw pictures of what Walkley might have looked like in the past, including fields, old houses, and paths. This helped them to think about how people lived long ago and how the local area has developed into what it is today.



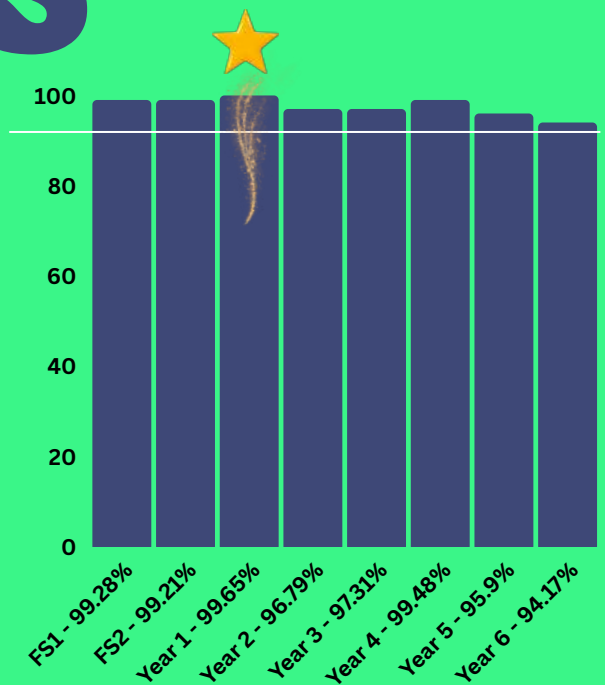
## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

WELL DONE Y1



Our whole school attendance for the week 97.53%

All classes that achieved 97% and above will get an extra 10 minute break.



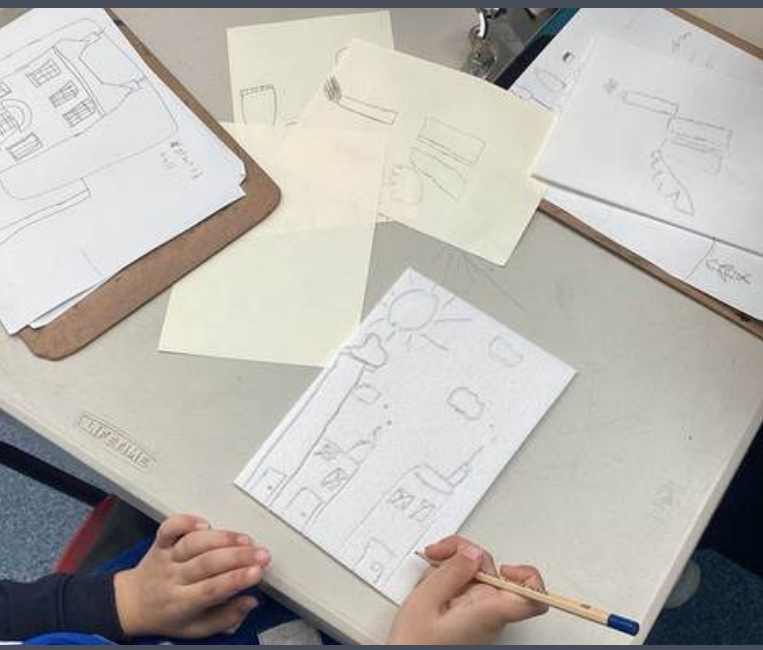
Y1 are class winners this week with 99.65%  
**WELL DONE!**



Year 3

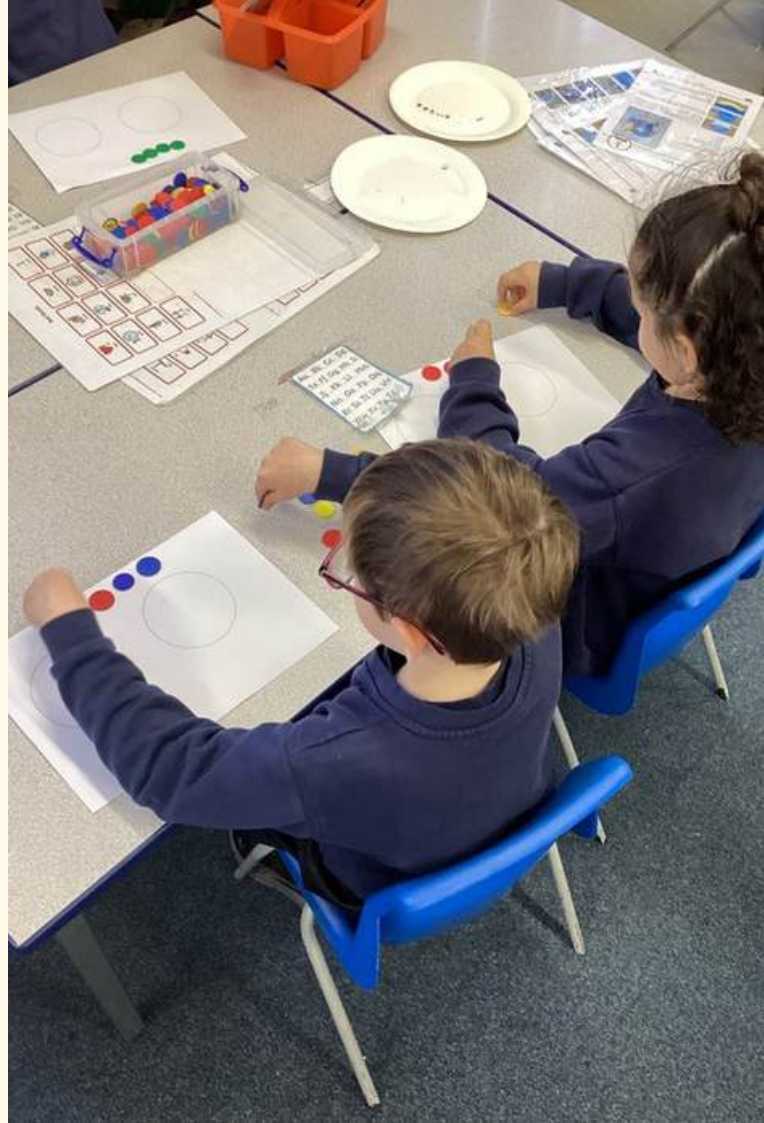
# Exploring Sheffield Through Art

Year 3 had a fantastic Art visit to Weston Park Museum. We learnt all about the history of Sheffield, looked around the museum, focused on how other artists have portrayed the city and created our own prints using ink. We had an amazing day creating a whole class banner with our prints of Sheffield. I love how we have all shown Sheffield in a different way in our prints!





Year 1



# Developing Division Skills

Year 1 have been having a cracking time in maths as they've been exploring division! The children have been learning to share and group objects in a variety of fun and practical ways, helping them to really understand what division means.

They've enjoyed using counters, cubes and even everyday classroom items to solve problems, working both independently and with their friends. It's been fantastic to see their confidence grow as they begin to explain their thinking and spot patterns.

Well done, Year 1 – keep up the great work!

