

Griffins Newsletter - 11th September 2026

Our Mission Statement at Stella Maris

Our school mission is what God sent us into the world to do – to help build His kingdom through learning, playing and making friends together. The tools we will use to do this are:

Love, Care, Share, Trust and Respect

Our theme for reflection this week was **solidarity and peace**.

"Trust God from the bottom of your heart: don't try to figure everything out on your own." - Proverbs 3:5

In RE, we explored what makes people happy and discussed how kindness, fairness and helping others can make a difference. We read the story of the Good Samaritan and thought about what people need to live a happy life. We also learned about the idea of a covenant through the story of Abraham and explored how Joseph showed trust, kindness and forgiveness towards his family, helping God's covenant to continue.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of numbers up to 1,000,000. We have been learning how to read, write and partition large numbers, as well as exploring the important role of powers of 10. We have also been practising finding numbers that are 10, 100, 1,000, 10,000 and 100,000 more or less than a given number. These skills are helping us to understand place value and work confidently with larger numbers.

In English, we continued to explore our text and debated whether we would like to live in Roman Britain, sharing our ideas and considering what life may have been like at the time. We then began to think about writing our own diary entries, exploring the key features of an effective diary entry. We also had a go at using pronouns for cohesion, thinking carefully about how they can help our writing flow and link ideas together. In French, we continued building on our alphabet learning and practised counting in 10's. We also began learning the names of familiar places, including l'école (school) and l'église (church). The children enjoyed practising their new vocabulary through repetition and speaking activities.

In Science, we explored the life cycles of different groups of animals. We compared their life cycles, identifying similarities and differences and discussing how animals grow and change throughout their lives.

KEY REMINDERS

PE - Thursdays: Please ensure that children wear the correct school PE uniform. Branded sports kits should not be worn.

Homework: We encourage children to attempt their homework each week. Homework is beneficial to their learning and supports the work they complete in class. Homework will be uploaded weekly.

Spelling Tests: Spelling tests will take place every Friday, unless stated otherwise.

Toys: Children are reminded not to bring toys of any kind into school from home, unless this has been previously agreed with the class teacher.

KEY DATES

Friday 9th October: We will be taking part in Wear Yellow Day to support Mental Health and Wellbeing.