Science Week 2026 – Exploring the Unknown: Curiosity

Science Week 2026 was an extraordinary celebration of curiosity, questioning and discovery**.** Guided by the theme "Exploring the Unknown"**,** pupils across the school stepped into the roles of scientists, engineers, coders, explorers and astronauts**,** applying their knowledge and skills in imaginative and meaningful ways.

The week was carefully planned to deepen scientific understanding, strengthen enquiry skills and inspire pupils to think ambitiously about science, technology and the wider world.

Launching the Week: Coding a Space Landing
Science Week began with an exciting Computing and Science crossover, as Fox and Owl Classes coded their own space landings. Pupils:

- designed algorithms to guide a spacecraft to Mars
- debugged, adapted and refined their code
- tested and improved their solutions to achieve a safe landing

This activity developed logical thinking, perseverance and problem-solving while demonstrating how computing plays a vital role in real-world scientific exploration.

Real Scientists, Real Fossils
On Monday, pupils in Fox and Owl Classes had the unique opportunity to speak directly **with** two scientists from Oxford University, who brought a fascinating collection of real fossils to share.

Through hands-on palaeontology, pupils:

- examined fossils closely
- asked thoughtful "I wonder…" questions
- learned how fossils provide evidence about life on Earth millions of years ago

This experience strengthened scientific vocabulary, enquiry skills and curiosity, while also broadening pupils' cultural capital by connecting them with experts beyond the school.

Whole-School Science Workshop Day
Thursday was a particular highlight of the week, as the whole school took part in a Science Workshop Day, packed with space-themed investigations that encouraged exploration, teamwork and resilience.

EYFS pupils explored forces through balloon rockets, watching how air power could propel rockets across the classroom.

Key Stage 1 pupils investigated:

- *Why do stars shimmer?*
- *What food grows in space?*
- *How can shelters survive solar storms?*

Key Stage 2 pupils rotated through five high-quality investigations:

- Forces involved in space travel
- Mars Rover 'Egg-bot' landing challenges
- Testing Martian soil (regolith)
- Designing solar power storm shields
- Creating meteor impact craters

Throughout the day, pupils were observed building, testing, evaluating, improving and retesting, demonstrating excellent scientific thinking, collaboration and resilience.

Live Scientist Q&A
On Friday, Key Stage 2 pupils took part in a live online Question and Answer session with a scientist, confidently asking high-level questions about:

- space exploration
- physics
- engineering challenges
- life beyond Earth

The session strengthened pupils' understanding of real-world science and raised aspirations by showing how classroom learning connects to future careers.

What the Children Said
Pupil voice clearly demonstrated enjoyment, engagement and impact.

EYFS
- *"My balloon rocket zoomed really fast!"*
- *"Science is fun because I get to try things."*

KS1
- *"We looked at why stars shimmer!"*
- *"Our shelter was blown by the hairdryer – but it survived!"*

KS2
- *"Our egg survived! That means our rover design worked."*
- *"Storms on Mars can last years – I didn't know that before."*
- *"It felt like real engineering. We improved it every time."*
- *"Speaking to a scientist made me want to be one!"*

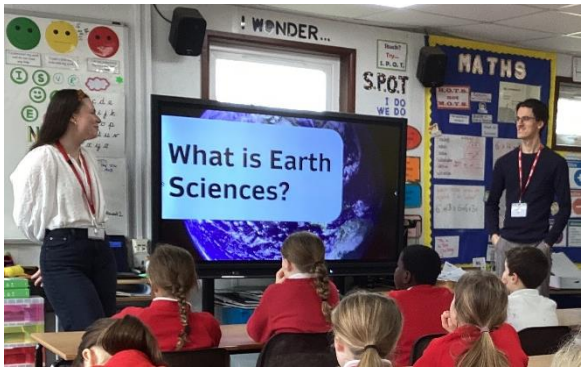
Impact on Learning and Personal Development
Science Week 2026 had a clear and lasting impact. Pupils:
- deepened their scientific knowledge and understanding
- developed strong enquiry, reasoning and problem-solving skills
- applied learning across Science, Computing and Engineering
- worked collaboratively with determination and confidence
- showed enthusiasm for science and curiosity about the unknown

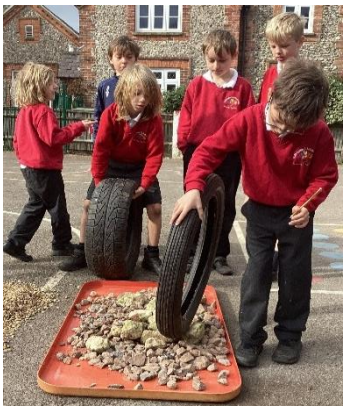
The week strongly supported pupils' personal development, helping them develop resilience, teamwork and ambition, while broadening their understanding of how science shapes the world.

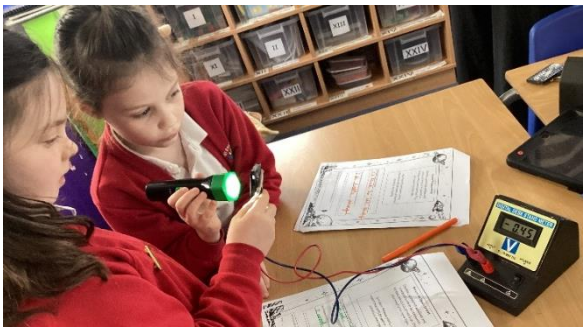
Inspiring Curiosity
Science Week 2026 showed that curiosity leads to discovery. Through rich experiences, expert encounters and hands-on investigation, pupils were encouraged to ask questions, take risks in learning and see themselves as scientists and problem-solvers of the future.

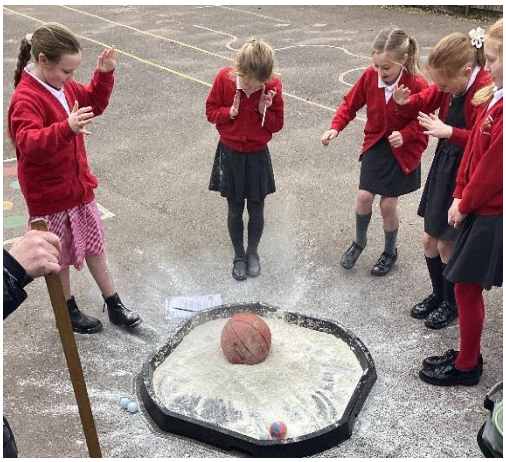
A huge thank you to our teachers, families, visiting scientists and everyone who helped make this inspiring week such a success. Our pupils' curiosity was evident - and it continues to grow.

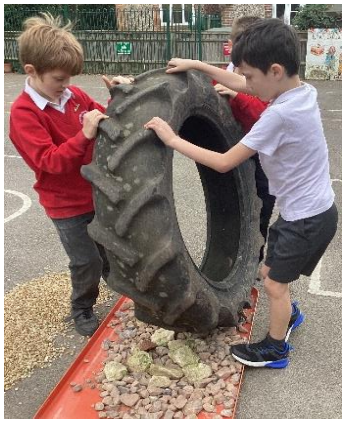
Science Enrichment Week

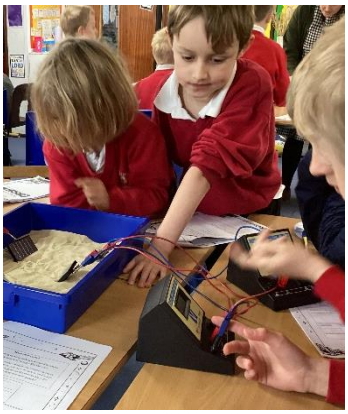


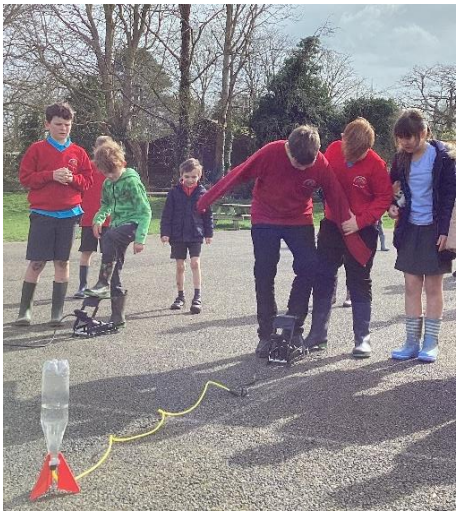


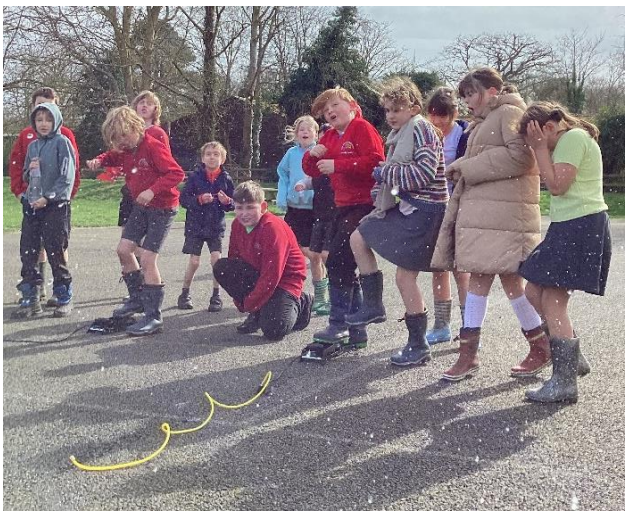












GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)