



28TH FEBRUARY 2025

Resilience ~ Compassion ~ Excellence

NEWSLETTER

Signs of Spring!

I hope you all had a lovely half term, it's been wonderful this week to hear about different trips and days out that the children enjoyed!

We started to think about and recognise some signs of Spring this week in Collective Worship, discussing the beauty in nature at this time of year.

We have a busy half term coming up with our Parent Consultation Evenings and both our Year 5 and Year 6 residential trips. All classes have this week begun their new themes and I'm excited to share more of their learning in the coming weeks.

Have a great weekend,

Mrs. Housden

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our recent Stars of the Week...

Friday 28th February - Olivia, Imogen, Saoirse, Alex, Freddie and Jordan.

Disco Tickets - on sale now!

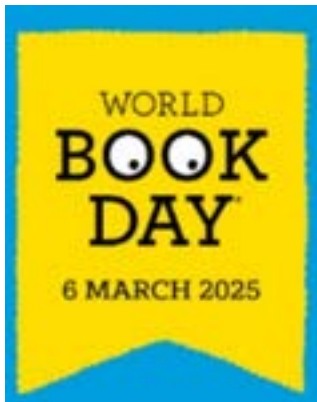
DJ Hayley is back on Friday 28th March.

Tickets are on sale via ParentMail, once you have bought your ticket, it will no longer appear in the 'shop'.





World Book Day – Thursday 6th March



We are inviting children to dress as an adjective! Choose a describing word and dress to illustrate that word e.g. spotty, stripey, colourful etc. Equally for those who want to dress as a character, do so and think of what your character's adjective would be e.g. The Gruffalo could be 'scary' or Matilda could be 'intelligent'.

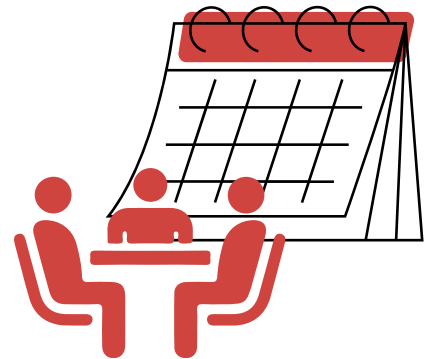
Children have also come home with a piece of bunting to decorate with their favourite books – competition entries need to be returned to school for Monday 3rd March,

Parents' Evenings

Parents' evenings are coming up in the next few weeks, appointments can be booked via ParentMail. Dates and timings for each class are outlined below.

Children's books will be available prior to your appointment to look through, so please allow time for this. We ask that, where possible, children do not attend.

We will also be collecting some valuable parent feedback across the evenings and ask for your support by completing a short questionnaire either before or after your appointment.



ACORN – Wednesday 12th March (3.30–6.00pm) & Thursday 13th March (4.30–7.00pm)
ASH – Wednesday 12th March (3.30–6.00pm) & Thursday 13th March (4.30–7.00pm)
BIRCH – Wednesday 12th March (5.30–6.30pm) & Thursday 13th March (3.30–7.00pm)
HAZEL – Tuesday 11th March (3.30–5.30pm) & Wednesday 12th March (3.30–6.00pm)
YEW – Wednesday 12th March (3.30–6.00pm) & Thursday 13th March (4.30–7.00pm)
OAK – Wednesday 12th March (3.30–5.30pm) & Thursday 13th March (4.30–7.00pm)

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Acorn Class

In Acorn class this week we have been learning all about our new topic of growing. We have enjoyed listening to the story of The Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle. In Maths we have been recapping our learning on length and height and measuring our models and creations using unifix cubes, rulers and tape measures. Next week we will continue our learning about growing by focusing on the life cycle of a butterfly and watching what happens to the bulb we planted. We have also been reviewing our Phase 3 phonics learning. Please continue to practise the graphemes we sent home as these really benefit the children and make reading much easier for them. We have been enjoying our outside area (even in the very wet weather) so if you want to send your child in with wellies and/or puddle suits or waterproof trousers, these would be welcomed as the children can get very wet. Also, we have run out of spare pants! If your child has borrowed school pants please could you wash and return them please. It is handy for each child to have spare pants in their book bags – just in case! Thank you for your help with this.



Ash Class

What a busy first week back it has been in Ash class. Mrs Polito and Mrs Tidey have been so impressed with how enthusiastic the children have been this week on their return to school, re-energised by a week at home doing lots of fun things!

We have been working hard on our Phonics, our writing about monsters, our understanding of place value in Maths and we have impressed Ms Smith with our thoughts and ideas in RE.

Birch Class

In our English lessons we have been learning about writing a diary to entertain based on the story, Man on the Moon: a day in the life of Bob. Continuing with the space theme, many of the planets will be seen in the sky just after sunset today – the next time this will happen is 2040!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5yd4z15r54o>

In our Geography lessons we have been learning about the South West of England and what makes the area unique in terms of human and physical geography. In Science we have been learning about measuring the force (in Newtons) needed to overcome friction created by dragging shoes over different surfaces. Reading scales has also been a focus of recent Maths lessons.

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

Hazel

ClassHazel class took a shopping trip to France where they could buy a variety of pets, a range of clothing, a selection of fruit and vegetables and a treat from the bakery. Appropriate greetings and vocabulary had been learnt over the half term to make the trip a success. Fun was had by all.

As well as this we had a lot of fun writing kenning poems, a list of two word phrases used to describe an object or person without actually saying what it is. This was a tradition used by the Anglo Saxons.

In gymnastics, in small groups we worked together to create routines using rolls and jumps, these were then performed to and enjoyed by each other.



Yew Class

In English, we are continuing with our topic based on the book 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe.' The class have enjoyed reading and listening to this classic book and have produced their own story based on travelling through a portal to another world.

This week, in Maths, we have finished working on written methods for multiplication and division. Our next topic, in Maths, will be multiplying fractions.

The children are looking forward to the residential trip to Grafham Water, at the end of March, and we hope the weather will be ok. A reminder that if your child needs medication please bring this in, with the completed form, on the day of departure – Wednesday 26th March and hand it in to Mrs Weddepohl please. We anticipate leaving around 9.15-9.30 on the Wednesday and returning before the end of the school day on Friday. Also please return the other forms (information form and calpol form) as soon as possible if you have not already done so. I hope you found the meeting informative and useful.

The next homework will be due in on Friday 7th March.

Thank you for your continued support.

Oak Class

Year 6 have come back to school re-energised for the half term ahead. It is going to be a very busy six weeks, filled with curriculum learning, a residential visit to Castleton in Derbyshire (18th-21st March), World Book Day (6th March) Parent Consultations (12th & 13th March), a school disco (28th March) and a Rocksteady Concert (4th April), to name but a few.

The class are working incredibly hard on their writing linked to 'Tom's Midnight Garden' and their Maths work with a continued focus on Fractions, Decimals and Percentages alongside a range of new topics in other curriculum areas.

Thank you for your continued support with homework activities as follows:-

Reading Book bags – into school daily please

Homework Folders (CGP Maths & SPaG books) – return to school on Mondays please

Spelling Folders – return to school on Mondays please

Mathletics – will continue to be set weekly on Fridays

Y6 Residential - Castleton, Derbyshire – please return all completed forms to school on Monday 3rd March if you have not already done so.

PE Kits – our current PE lesson is on Tuesday but kits are needed in school all week. Many thanks for your help with this.

OTHER NEWS

Art Club – a message from Nathalie

Our Farm animals art project has come to an end. The children's drawings look fantastic. They had a lot of fun using the dry pastels and they were very involved in our technical drawing – an introduction to light and shadow.

Please find here [Steeple Morden on-line art gallery](#) of the children's artworks.

We are back on 27th of February
Nathalie

Maths News from Mr Beavan

Help Learning Multiplication Facts

Knowing your multiplication tables helps free up your brain as calculations become more complex. Here are some helpful websites to help your children learn and recall them:

<https://www.themathsfactor.com/times-tables-check/pinpoint/#/>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

<https://completemaths.com/more/teaching-tools/timestables>

<https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/mathsMenu.html>

These are the multiplication facts each year group aims to recall instantly.

Year 2 – x2 / x5 / x10

Year 3 – x3 / x4 / x8

Year 4 – x6 / x7 / x9 / x11 / x12

School Council

The school council have suggested that the school make a suggestion box to capture any ideas the children have. We have taken them up on this idea and the box sits at the front of school for your children to use.

Planet Protectors

Tips to save water from the Planet Protectors:

- Try not to leave taps running (could you use a bowl or a bucket?) and repair leaky taps straight away.
- Run dishwashers and washing machines only when full.
- Take shorter showers.



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