

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 25th September**

Current Topic: **'We are Conservationists'** Current Value: **Empathy**



Attendance Award— Classes with the highest attendance this week are:

EYFS — Ducklings 94%
KS1— Penguins 99%
LKS2— Doves 98%
UKS2— Peacocks 92%

End of Week House points totals:

Spitfire — 166
Lancaster — 168
Hurricane — 184
Wellington — 208

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:
Jack (Eagles) Bella (Parrots) Eadie (Parrots) Ralfy (Parrots) Penelope (Doves) Esme (Parrots)

Stars of the Week



An update from Mrs Anstee



This week, we have introduced our new school value focus: empathy.

In assembly on Monday, we shared the story *The Rabbit Listened*, which helped us explore what empathy really means. The story reminds us that when someone is upset or finding something difficult, we don't always need to fix the problem. Sometimes, the most helpful thing we can do is simply stop, listen and be there for someone.

We talked about how empathy means taking the time to understand how another person might be feeling and considering things from their point of view. We may not always know what someone else is experiencing, so it is important to be kind, patient and understanding.

Empathy plays an important role in creating a happy, safe and supportive school community. It helps us build friendships, resolve disagreements, include others and recognise that everyone has different experiences and feelings.

This week, we have encouraged children to think about a simple question:

“How might they be feeling?”

We hope our children will continue to show empathy both in school and at home, remembering that small acts of kindness and understanding can make a big difference.

An update from Mrs Gardner



You may start to notice Widgit symbols appearing more frequently around our school and within information that we send home.

Widgit is a visual communication system that uses simple symbols alongside words to help make information easier to understand. Visuals can support all children, but can be particularly helpful for children with SEND, communication and language needs, or those who find processing spoken or written information more difficult.

We will be using Widgit across Gateway to support routines, instructions, expectations and communication. You may see symbols on signs, visual timetables, classroom resources and some of the information we share with families.

Using a consistent visual approach helps make our school environment more accessible and inclusive, supporting children to understand what is happening, what is expected and what comes next.

Keep an eye out for our new Widgit symbols appearing around school!

An update from Mrs Summers

The RAF Families Federation, on behalf of the RAF People and Families Team, is undertaking a confidential evaluation to better understand the experiences of neurodivergent RAF serving personnel (Regular and Reserve). The evaluation seeks to capture a broad range of experiences to help build a clearer understanding of neurodivergence across the RAF.



An update from Mrs Diamond

As our whole school topic 'We are Conservationists' began at the start of this week, so did the alternative provision sessions that have been taking place in The Hangar.



The children that have started accessing alternative provision this week have thoroughly enjoyed using the space, building relationships with staff and peers and getting used to the routines around and within The Hangar. This will continue to progress throughout the term.

Our new sensory room has been particularly popular, and the children have been learning how to interact with the resources and sensory integration opportunities in this room with support from the staff. As we become familiar with the equipment and its uses we will gradually introduce additional equipment and objects, alongside communication aids to support communication and interaction of the children's wants and needs when in the sensory room. This will include opportunities to request specific sounds, music, colour projections, pieces of equipment or activities.



NEURODIVERGENCE IN THE RAF

The evaluation takes around 10 minutes to complete.
Open from 14 September to 12 October 2026.

We would like to hear about YOUR views

YOUR VOICE MATTERS



ROYAL
AIR FORCE
Families
Federation
Support | Investigate | Influence



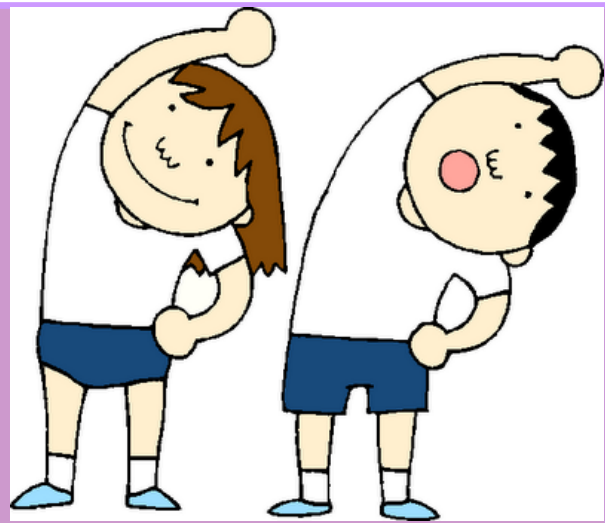
YOUR VOICE MATTERS

#EveryVoiceCountsRAF #EveryExperienceMatters
#NeurodiversityInTheRAF #RAFFamiliesFederation

EYFS

This week we have been busy thinking about the people who are special to us and the people who we share a house with. We have drawn and labelled everyone. We have loved the conversations with the children where they talked about you all!

We have been practising our pencil control and have been very busy drawing and writing our names. Some of the children have been busy writing menus of their favourite foods - there are lots of cupcakes on offer!



In PE this week we had our first REAL PE session, where we continued to think about how to be safe as we travelled in different ways and been balancing.

We have created a wonderful street full of houses that we have painted.

Starts of the week

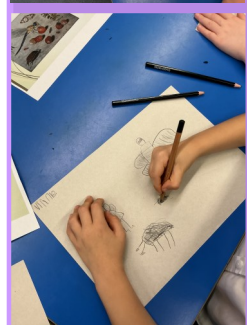
Jasper and Grace - for great focus when drawing and labelling the people who live in their house.

Roman - for already being an awesome Duckling and trying lots of new things.

Zanthia - for focusing really well and working hard for a very long time when drawing her family.

Year 1 and 2

Key Stage 1 has had an excellent first week of our new topic, We Are Conservationists. This week, we have started to explore our new text, Leaf. The story is all about a poor polar bear who has found himself lost from his home in the Arctic. The beautiful illustrations have inspired the children to make small worlds using loose parts to depict scenes from the story. Our focus is on adjectives, and children have learnt some fabulous vocabulary such as sapphire, glimmering and majestic. In art, children have been observing minibeasts and creating careful sketches using shading and depth. In RE, children have learnt the Christian Creation story and in PE children have practised their throwing and catching skills and learnt a brilliant Autumn themed dance. In Geography, we have started observing the weather and thinking about seasonal change. We are looking forward to our trip to Westonbirt Arboretum later in the term to support our learning in Science and Geography. Please keep an eye out on Dojo and Parent Pay for more about this exciting trip! Have a wonderful weekend!



Year 3 and 4

We have 'dipped' into our new topic 'We are Conservationists' this week. Quite literally on our trip to Coleshill Mill! The trip was an amazing opportunity to answer our first geography enquiry question "What is it like to be near a river?" children had the opportunity to go river dipping and find creatures such as water boatmen, bullheads and shrimps which live in the river. They also got to see the features of a river, see how a mill works and do some craft with willow. We were very impressed with the children's behaviour and would like to say a huge thank you to our volunteers who supported the day.



Aside from the trip, we have been create posters about living things in science, discussing our experiences of celebrations in RE, practising for Young Voices and continuing with gymnastics. In English, we have begun our new book, 'Wind in the Willows' this started with investigating some evidence as to whether Mr Toad committed a crime, followed by a court case to decide if he was innocent or guilty of dangerous driving.



Thank you for all your support with the trip, making sure children had the right equipment to enjoy the day.



Year 5 and 6

Year 5 and 6 have made a fantastic start to our new topic, 'We Are Conservationists'. Using their atlas skills, the children have been exploring where rainforests are located around the world and why they are found in these particular areas, developing their geographical understanding of climate, rainfall and the Equator.

In Maths, we have continued exploring decimals, tenths and hundredths, making links between decimals and measurements in metres and centimetres. In English, we have been building our grammar toolkit by learning about conjunctions, relative clauses, fronted adverbials and parenthesis, considering how and why these features are used. We will soon be putting these skills into practice as we begin writing our own explanation texts.



Peacocks have continued their swimming lessons, practising their core strokes, while Eagles have been developing their musical skills through ukulele lessons, learning to play a range of different chords. We have also started developing our sewing skills, learning to thread a needle and practise running, back and blanket stitches. The children have now chosen their own rainforest-inspired designs, so watch this space to see how their creations develop!

Dates For The Diary

Monday 28th September — Friday 2nd October — Year 6 Yenworthy

Tuesday 13th October — Individual School Photos (Year Groups TBC)

Wednesday 14th October — Individual School Photos (Year Groups TBC)

Wednesday 14th October — Mingle In The Mess 8:30am

Friday 16th October — Parent Book Look 8:30 — 9:00am

Wednesday 21st October — EYFS Open Day

Friday 23rd October — Inset Day—School Closed

Monday 26th — Friday 30th October — October Half Term

Monday 2nd November — Start of Term 2

Wednesday 11th November — Parents Evening

Wednesday 18th November — Parents Evening

Tuesday 1st December — Vision Screening EYFS

Thursday 3rd December — Flu Vaccination In School

Thursday 3rd December — EYFS Nativity to CHICKS Parents

Friday 4th December — EYFS Nativity to DUCKLINGS Parents

Friday 18th December — End of Term 2 — 1:30pm Finish

Monday 4th January — Inset Day

Tuesday 5th January — Start of Term 3

