

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 10th October**

Current Topic: **'We Are Invaders'** Current Value: **Empathy**



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

EYFS— Chicks 99%
KS1— Penguins 98%
LKS2— Owls 99%
UPKS2— Eagles 98%

End of Week House points totals:

Spitfire — 388
Lancaster — 336
Hurricane — 280
Wellington — 331

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:
Daisy (Parrots) Aidan (Penguins)
Hennie (Penguins) Ava (Parrots)
Zachie (Penguins) Seren (Owls)

Stars of the Week

EYFS

Chicks: Hermione W: For learning to write her name independently and for careful letter formation when writing about her pet.

Ducklings: Jack H: For listening carefully, joining in, and being awesome in maths this week.

Year 1 and 2

Penguins: Sienna C: For using amazing conjunctions to write about the King and Queen of the castle. Eden: For being a fantastic role model and always following the school rules

Robins: Mia: For showing such enthusiasm and positivity in all areas of her learning. Minnie: For her determination and independence in Maths when finding one more and one less than a number.

Parrots: Ava: For fantastic maths explanations about addition and subtraction. Esmae: For being a fantastic and supportive partner in Science.

Year 3 and 4

Owls: Florence P-J: For her amazing Viking longboat and shield homework Luca: For great understanding about reasons why the Vikings invaded Britain in history.

Kingfishers: Esme D: For settling into Kingfisher's class and writing a wonderful dragon poem.

Doves: Marty: For showing excellent effort and perseverance in writing his Dragon poem. Arlo: For showing excellent enthusiasm and effort across all of his learning.

Year 5 and 6

Eagles: Sophia: For demonstrating innovative thinking and skillful sequencing whilst using scratch. Olivia C: For writing well-structured and inventive sentences to explore ideas about Darwin.

Peacocks: Jasleen: For completing several pieces of homework to an excellent standard. Max K: For reading fluently and with expression to engage his audience in our reading lessons.

Toucans: Grace M: For producing an amazing powerpoint for her topic homework about the Roman Gods. Maisie: For baking some delicious shortbread biscuits for her topic homework

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club: Aaric: For being supportive to others, interacting more with his peers and growing in confidence each day.

After School Club: Cohen: For always showing respect, kindness and being a great team player.

An update from Mrs Anstee

It has been a pleasure to work alongside our newly appointed house captains to choose house charities and develop some fundraising ideas for the year ahead. Supporting charities in school teaches students the power of kindness, teamwork, and making a difference — shaping compassionate leaders for tomorrow. This year, our house captains have chosen the following charities to support:



Spitfire - Motor Neurone Disease Association

Hurricane - Cancer Research

Lancaster - Blue Cross

Wellington - Unicef

You will soon find their charity collection pots at reception - they would welcome any loose change on your visit to the office. We will share regular total updates with you.

The house captains will also be holding regular food bank donations on a Friday - keep an eye on Class Dojo for further details.

An update from Mrs Gardner

This week, our school took part in Mental Health Awareness Week, focusing on the theme of understanding and managing our emotions. During our special assembly, the children learned that our feelings can change quickly – and that's completely normal! We explored how emotions like happiness, sadness, worry, and excitement can come and go throughout the day, and that everyone experiences them at different times.



We also talked about what we can do when we feel sad, worried, or overwhelmed. The children shared lots of great ideas – such as talking to someone they trust, taking deep breaths, having a few quiet moments, or doing something that helps them feel calm.

As part of the week's activities, our KS2 pupils took part in a fun "Bubble Bounce" session – a calming movement exercise designed to help them refocus their minds and bodies. The children enjoyed bouncing and breathing along with the bubbles, helping them to relax and feel ready for learning again.

It was wonderful to see everyone joining in and thinking about how we can all take care of our mental health – just like we do our physical health.

An update from Mrs Summers

Mingle in The Mess (coffee morning) is on Wednesday morning from 8.35. The Mess is situated where our wraparound is based, next to the hall/EYFS. You can access via the white door near the EYFS playground, there is a big purple sign to help. I can also open the side gate by the school main entrance.



Younger siblings are welcome to tag along too, we have plenty of toys to keep them occupied. Please come and join me for a chat, cuppa and cake, see you there!

EYFS

In EYFS this week we have been talking and writing about our pets, or a pet we would like to have if we don't have one at home, including dogs, cats, hamsters, kittens and even a crocodile! We have started our Bug Club phonics this week and have learned to say, see and write s and a. Please support our learning in class by helping your child with the letter formation homework.

We have continued with our Mastering Number and have been helped this week by our new puppet friends, Digit and Numbers. We have been counting objects accurately by putting them in a line and pointing to each one in turn, and have found out that we can also count sounds and big things like doors and windows using a counting wand.

We had a story called Beegu about a little alien who gets lost on earth after crashing her spaceship. We could talk about how Beegu was feeling and sort out some feeling emojis into happy, sad and angry.

We have been busy in PE playing listening games, balancing, throwing and catching, and moving safely in the hall!

We have been looking for signs of Autumn in our garden and in Forest School and have used our handprints to make an Autumn wreath for the doors in EYFS. Take a look when you collect or drop off!



Year 1 and 2

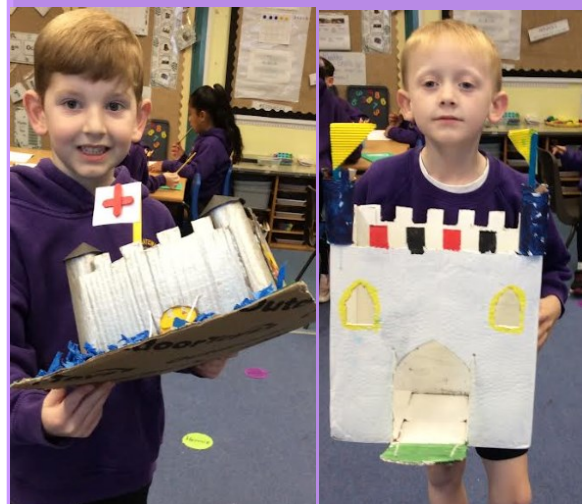
Wow, what a fabulous week in KS1!

It all started Monday morning with an amazing variety of castles being made as part of some children's homework, fabulous work!

KS1 has continued to explore castles, including answering the questions 'WHY were Castles built?' and 'What made castles so strong?' Next week children will be using all their amazing facts to write their very own fact file about castles.

In Science have explored properties of materials in science including dough, rocks, plastic and wood, looking at their suitability for everyday objects.

Next week is our big trip to Warwick Castle - please keep an eye on your Dojo for updates and reminders.



Year 3 and 4

Last Friday year 3 and 4 had a great Viking day. Erik from marvellous History joined us and brought the Vikings to life.

We looked at Viking artefacts and clothing, re-in-acted a shield wall, and a Viking burial and had a look at Viking Runes. The children learnt a lot from the day and really enjoyed it - the costumes were amazing!

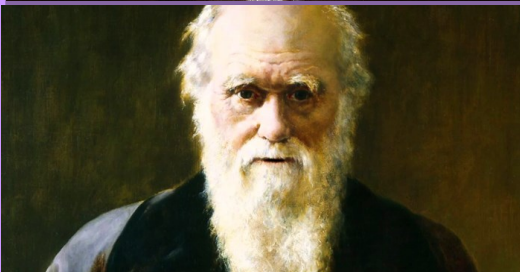
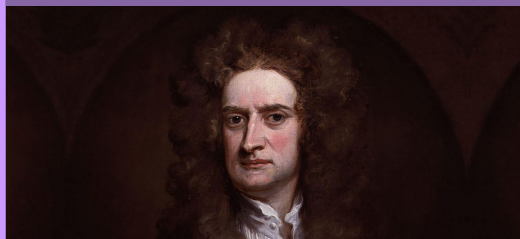


This week we have written some fantastic dragon poems, investigated reasons why the Vikings came to Britain in history and learnt the names of instruments in French. We are very impressed with the quality of the homework. Thank you.



Year 5 and 6

The Year 6 children have returned from their hugely successful residential in Yenworthy, with a great deal of enthusiasm for all of the activities they experienced. We have begun our new topic of, 'We are Invaders', starting with the inquiry question, 'Who were the Romans?' In Maths, the children continue to learn about balanced equations, using redistribution, adjustment and compensation, as well as representing problems using part whole models and bar models to represent the problem. Our new English unit has begun by looking at the features of a chronological report and making comparisons of a report about Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin. In French, the children continue to practice phonics. In R.E. they have been learning about the origins of Islamic beliefs. In science, the children continue to learn about evolution and how living things adapt to their environment. In D.T. we have been thinking about the purpose and designing Roman catapults.



Dealing with anger in 5 - 11 years olds

How to teach children to express anger?

Be a role model with how you express your anger. This can include modelling how you respond to frustrations. For example, if something has sold out in the supermarket, voice your frustration, talk about how you're going to manage, show how you problem solve a negative situation. You might also try something like telling a child what you are going to do to feel better after getting stuck in a traffic jam. This is showing children, through observation, that it is okay to feel angry, and to start thinking about how to move through it.

If you do lose control and express anger in a less healthy way in front of your child, you can apologise and reflect on it in an age-appropriate way when you've calmed down. You can also point out when characters in books and TV shows handle anger particularly well or badly or use it as a jumping off point for conversations later.

Consider what helps you express your anger. It might be screaming into a pillow or doing deep breathing exercises. Both of these are healthy ways to release anger as they don't hurt anybody. You can tell your child about how you cope with feelings of anger.

When your child is calm and receptive, drawing an anger firework together can help:

1. On a sheet of paper, support your child to draw a firework.
 2. Include a fuse.
 3. Describe how anger can build up and burn up the fuse.
 4. Explain that if the anger is not dealt with it can cause an explosion.
 5. Encourage them to draw or write down the triggers that light their fuse and frustrate them.
 6. They can also think about what things calm them down. What's the water that can cool their lit fuse?
 7. You could create a time out word and action plan together for when they're feeling overwhelmed.
- That way, when a child feels like their fuse is being lit, they know there's something to say and steps they can take.



How to de-escalate an angry child?

It's important to listen rather than try to fix things. Try not to overstimulate them by asking too many questions. Help them regulate their emotions and thoughts. That might mean giving them space or redirecting them to hit a cushion rather than something that will hurt them or be damaged. De-escalating is about setting up tools to use before a situation arises. That might be:

- agreeing a time out word.
 - teaching a breathing technique.
 - spotting your child becoming angry and distracting them.
 - having a weighted blanket they can lie under to feel relaxed and secure.
- Do not threaten your child that you will tell their teacher, Social Worker or anyone else as this can result in not trusting adults when they need help. It's important children can speak out when they need help.

Become a Parent Governor – Make a Difference at Our School!

Are you passionate about our children's education and future? Do you want to play an active role in shaping the direction of our school? We are looking for enthusiastic and committed **Parent Governors** to join our Governing Body.

What does a Parent Governor do?

- Support the aims of your school.
- Visit and get to know your school.
- Work in partnership with the Headteacher, senior leadership team and other governors to raise standards and improve outcomes for all children.
- Prepare for meetings by reading papers beforehand.
- Take responsibility for your own learning and development as a governor including attending training.
- Attend full governing body and relevant committee meetings promptly, regularly, and for the full time.
- Read briefings and newsletters for governors.
- Be loyal to the decisions made by the governing body
- Respect the confidentiality of governing body affairs and to sign a legally binding confidentiality agreement.
- Declare an interest and withdraw from any meeting where you, a partner or close relative or associate stands to gain, or where you are so close to a matter discussed it is difficult to be impartial.

Who can apply?

In order to apply for this position you must have a child on the school roll at the time of the election and one of the following must apply:

- Natural parents whether they are married or not;
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person and;
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.

In addition:

- You must be aged 18 and over.
- You must be living in the UK.
- You must be committed to the role and able to dedicate enough time (see below) to being an active member of the governing body.
- You must not be an elected member of the County Council.
- You should meet the relevant statutory eligibility criteria for school governors as set out in the Regulations and agree to DBS checks as required.
- You will have: an interest in all the children's futures, a desire to make a difference, a willingness to accept responsibility, an ability to work in a team, ask questions, listen and learn.

Why become a Parent Governor?

- Make a real impact on children's education.
- Develop valuable skills in leadership, teamwork, and strategy.
- Gain insight into how schools are run.
- Represent the parent community and ensure every child has the best opportunities to thrive.

If you're interested, please follow the link provided:

<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fprimarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com%2Fgateway-primary-school%2FUploadedDocument%2Ff277dc09-26a7-47a6-9cce-479c8c06d4c4%2Fparent-governor-recruitment-pack-oct-2025.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>

Dates For The Diary

Wednesday 15th October — Year 1 and 2 Warwick Castle Trip

Friday 17th October — Parent Book Looks 8:35am

Friday 24th October — End of Term 1

Monday 3rd November — Start of Term 2

Wednesday 5th November — EYFS Open Day

Friday 7th November — Halloween Disco EYFS/KS1 3:30-4:15pm,
KS2 4:30-5:30pm

Tuesday 11th November — EYFS Walk To Memorial

Friday 14th November — EYFS Nursery Rhyme Event To Parents —
2:30pm — 3:30pm

Friday 14th November — World Diabetes Day

Saturday 15th November — Christmas Market — 10-3pm

Wednesday 19th November — Parent Meetings

Wednesday 26th November — Parent Meetings

Friday 5th December — Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day

Friday 5th December — GSA Christmas Bingo, Doors Open 7pm

Tuesday 16th December — Whole School Panto

Thursday 12th February — Valentines Break The Rules Day

Friday 27th March — GSA Easter Bingo



THE GSA PRESENTS A...

HALLOWEEN Disco

7th NOVEMBER 2025

£3.50

EYFS/RS1: 3:30-4:15 PM

RS2: 4:30-5:30 PM

TICKET PRICE INCLUDES A DRINK AND SWEET BAG
BEST COSTUME WINS A PRIZE!

THRILLING DJ MUSIC, HAUNTED VIBES, AND
DANCING!

BOOK THROUGH PARENT PAY
IF YOU DARE...



GATEWAY SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION
JOIN US FOR A

CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2025
FROM 10 AM TO 3PM

Gateway Primary School, Netheravon Close,
Carterton, OX18 3SF

STALLHOLDERS WANTED
£10 A TABLE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A TABLE PLEASE CONTACT:

GATEWAYSCHOOLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM

REFRESHMENTS, CAKES &
RAFFLE



FarmED **AUTUMN**
Literature Events
PROGRAMME



In partnership with
Jaffé & Neale
BOOKSHOP & CAFE

**A passion for reading, writing,
farming or nature? Join us for**

Nicola Baker's Farming stories adventure

Tickets £12.50

**Child's picnic lunch
box included.**

**Plus a pop-up
bookshop and
book signing
opportunity.**

**Sat, 18th Oct,
10:30-12:30**



**For
age 7+**

For info & tickets: farm-ed.co.uk

FarmED, Shipton-under-Wychwood, Chipping Norton

October Half Term

 The North Wall
Arts Centre



**Ages
8-11**

NW Inventors

Musical Theatre - Sing, Dance, Act!

27 - 29 Oct
9am - 12pm

Join us this October half term to explore fun-filled storytelling and characters as you combine acting with singing and movement for an upbeat, musical workshop that's a 'triple-threat'!

**"I learned to
express myself"**

Tickets £60 for 3 half days

Double the Drama, Double the Fun!

SAVE when you
£15 book both
workshops!

Stage Combat

27 - 29 Oct
1pm - 4pm

Dramatic combat is all about angles – find out how to create effective combat moves at a completely safe distance for scenes that pack a punch!

Tickets £60 for 3 half days

**"Really fun and interactive,
highly recommend"**



Book now: thenorthwall.com/type/workshop
Full bursaries available

To Apply: Email Laura on howellsgreenl@thenorthwall.com