

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 17th October**Current Topic: **'We Are Invaders'** Current Value: **Empathy**

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

EYFS— Ducklings 97%  
KS1— Penguins 99%  
LKS2— Owls 98%  
UPKS2— Toucans 99%

End of Week House points totals:

Spitfire — 284  
Lancaster — 134  
Hurricane — 162  
Wellington — 149

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:  
Amelia (Toucans) Eadie (Parrots)  
Sienna (Penguins) Eden (Penguins)  
Daisy (Parrots) Jack (Penguins)

### Stars of the Week

#### EYFS

**Chicks:** Aubrey: For working hard and trying hard in Phonics.

**Ducklings:** Hugo: For being an amazing new Duckling who is already making lots of friends, trying new things and being awesome.

#### Year 1 and 2

**Penguins:** All of Penguins Class: For all being super stars! You were amazing at Warwick Castle. You showed amazing resilience, teamwork, communication and empathy.

**Robins:** All of Robins class: For being absolutely amazing at Warwick Castle and representing the school beautifully. William: For overcoming his fear and climbing all the way to the top of the tallest tower and back down again! Excellent resilience!

**Parrots:** All of Parrots Class: For showing excellent Gateway behaviour on our school trip to Warwick Castle. We were very proud. Joshua O: For great reasoning in maths to solve problems.

#### Year 3 and 4

**Owls:** Scarlett C: For being a fantastic friend to others and trying her best in everything. Esmee: For settling in amazingly and being an outstanding Owl.

**Kingfishers:** Lily-May: For always being an excellent role model and for a fantastic start to Year 4, showing maturity and independence. Olivia S: For excellent concentration and engagement in all her work this week, especially our Time to Talk lesson about friendship.

**Doves:** Eliza: For producing a fantastic Viking Long Boat Collage. Penelope: For always showing a fantastic learning attitude in all of her lessons.

#### Year 5 and 6

**Eagles:** Thomas: For consistently working hard, always making contributions and challenging yourself in maths. Poppy: For demonstrating excellent focus and determination in English lessons, carefully crafting sentences that included well-constructed relative clauses.

**Peacocks:** Aleena: For showing perseverance and excellence with swimming 25 metres. Liam: For showing perseverance and excellence with swimming 25 metres.

**Toucans:** Medine: For consistently producing quality pieces of work for her topic homework. Lincoln: For producing a very interesting power point about Roman Gods for his topic homework.

### An update from Mrs Anstee

Earlier this week I sent a letter to year 6 parents seeking support in monitoring our pupils mobile phone usage - as is often the case as our older pupils grow in independence, mobile phones become a bigger part of their day to day life. I am sure we have all experienced the complexities of social media and managing communication on our devices - it can be a difficult balance and the online world is huge! There are lots of articles available to guide you in best supporting your child with a mobile phone. This site is a great place to start: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zfcctcw#z922g2p>

From our experience at school dealing with friendship falls out, inappropriate content, spam and more, I would strongly recommend you hold off introducing your child to their own phone for as long as you can! I can confirm, that on our recent year 6 residential trip, no child used their mobile phone, and they all survived! ;-)



### An update from Mrs Gardner

Over the past week — and continuing into next week — class teachers have been meeting with parents and carers for our SEND Review Meetings. These important meetings provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to work collaboratively to discuss each child's progress, strengths, and next steps.

Together, we create personalised targets that are tailored to each child's individual needs and learning journey. These targets help guide the support we put in place both at home and in school.

We review these targets three times a year to ensure that every child is making progress and that the support remains right for them.

We'd like to thank all parents and carers for taking the time to attend these meetings and for your continued partnership — your insight and collaboration are invaluable in helping us provide the best possible outcomes for every child.



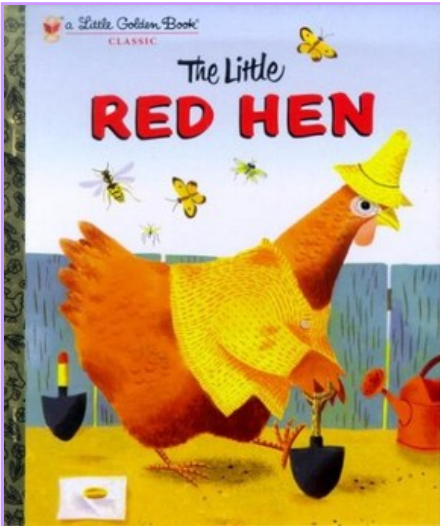
### An update from Mrs Summers

Thank you to those that attended the coffee morning. It is always lovely to get to know people better and to offer the chance to chat in a relaxed environment. I will send out a poll soon to see if you would like to have things changed at all for instance the day or timings.

Hopefully, we will soon have invited guests to come along, the school nurse team or Support for instance. It would be great if these could be well attended to make it worth their while attending. When we have confirmed details, I will ask for the information to be added to the newsletter.



## EYFS



In EYFS this week we have been thinking all about Autumn. We went on a walk around the school grounds looking carefully for signs of Autumn. We looked at the colours of the leaves and how they had fallen from the trees.

We wrote all about what happens in Autumn and have been making combine harvesters using our scissor skills and 2-D shapes.

We have learnt some Autumn songs about a Big Red Combine Harvester and some little peas in a pod.

We listened to the story of The Little Red Hen and have all made some delicious bread rolls.

We have continued with our Bug Club phonics and have been working on the sounds t and p this week. In Mastering Number we have met some new Number block friends 1, 2, 3 and 4 who have helped us with number composition.



## Year 1 and 2

KS1 have outdone themselves this week!

We have been working hard learning about castles during our topic 'We are Invaders', and on Wednesday, we travelled to Warwick to visit 'a real life castle'.

KS1 spent the day exploring Warwick Castle, climbing the towers, walking the battlements, visiting the state rooms, and finding out what life was like living in a castle.

We are so proud of how all the children demonstrated our school values while on the trip and their enthusiasm for learning and challenging themselves to be the best version of themselves.



### Year 3 and 4

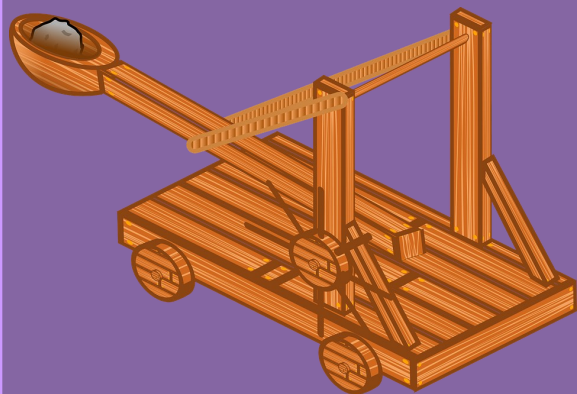
We've had a busy week in Lower Key Stage Two this week. In English, we have explored a new book 'The Clockwork Dragon' which began with investigating and racing clockwork toys, this helped build understanding of the concept of clockwork before we moved on to explore the book more through questioning, oracy and drama.



In maths we have been measuring length in centimetres and metres and estimating how long different objects are.

During our PE lessons, we used hoops and ribbons and practising different movements and practised balancing on one leg in different ways.

Our art is coming together nicely, we have been creating collages to show a Viking long ship on the sea.



### Year 5 and 6

It has been another very busy week. On Monday, several children from Year 5/6 represented the school at the Cross-Country event at Carterton Community College. In our topic, the children have been very excited to learn more about the rise and fall of the Roman Empire. In DT, the children have thought about what makes a successful catapult and before making their own, the children drew a 3D design of a catapult. In Science, the children continue to learn about evolution and think about Darwin's observations of how finches on the Galapagos Islands adapted to become a different species. The children carried out an experiment, using different objects as beaks, to see which 'beak' would be the most successful at picking up a variety of different types of food. The children in Eagles class continue with their music lessons learning how to play the guitar. In English, the children have been practising their writing skills, writing different types of sentences, using commas to clarify meaning and how to accurately use possessive and contraction apostrophes and also how to use fronted adverbials and relative clauses to build cohesion in their writing. In Maths, the children continue to learn how to use compensation and adjustment to use mental methods to find missing parts of an equation.

# 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

**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

7<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:GATEWAYSCHOOLASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM)

REFRESHMENTS, CAKES &  
RAFFLE

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# October Half Term

**25 October - 2 November 2025**

This October Half Term, join us for spooky science experiments, make your own modroc mummy, get creative with autumn art, and enjoy trick or treat fun! Plus discover our NEW 'I Grew Up 90s' exhibition opening for October Half Term.

Discover more at [discoverbucksmuseum.org](https://discoverbucksmuseum.org)  
or scan the QR code



SCAN ME





# HALLOWEEN FAMILY YOGA & CRAFT



Friday 31 October  
Halloween inspired yoga  
poses and mask making!



Book  
Online



Scan the QR for more  
information and tickets

THE  
ZO

# Calling young filmmakers!



# EVOLVE

## FILM FESTIVAL

21st June 2026

- **Short film competition**
- **FREE entry**
- **FREE workshops**
- **Cinema screening**
- **Great prizes!**
- **Submit now** →



[filmfreeway.com/EvolveFilmFestival](http://filmfreeway.com/EvolveFilmFestival)

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Yrs

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