

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 24th October**

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



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

EYFS— Chicks and Ducks 94.35%  
KS1— Parrots 97%  
LKS2— Kingfishers 98%  
UPKS2— Toucans 100%

End of Week House points totals:

Spitfire — 322  
Lancaster — 187  
Hurricane — 138  
Wellington — 166

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:  
Willow (Toucans) Keeley (Robins)  
Scarlett CI (Owls) Emilia (Kingfishers)  
Gracie (Owls) Delilah (Robins)

### Stars of the Week

#### EYFS

**Chicks:** Elliott: For trying really hard with his phonics challenge.

**Ducklings:** Darcie: For excellent focus in Maths and being brave with her answers.

#### Year 1 and 2

**Penguins:** Eddie: For showing resilience with his fact file writing in English. Aiden: For his fantastic perseverance with his writing about castles.

**Robins:** Bowie: For being an enthusiastic, determined and conscientious learner who is always a role model in class. Thomas: For his fantastically detailed non chronological report on castles, which used lots of interesting facts and topic words.

**Parrots:** Michael: For fantastic writing about castles. Beau: For being a fantastic Parrot and super role model. We will miss you.

#### Year 3 and 4

**Owls:** Ryder: For trying really hard with his cursive handwriting and having a positive attitude to school. Dexter: For trying really hard with his cursive handwriting and having a positive attitude to school.

**Kingfishers:** Gabriel: For being such a calm, kind and caring member of Kingfishers who always works hard in all of his learning. Arwen: For working really hard in maths and explaining her mathematical understanding.

**Doves:** Teddy: For always striving for excellence across all areas of his learning. A super star role model. Olivia S: For showing super star enthusiasm and engagement in her maths mastery lessons.

#### Year 5 and 6

**Eagles:** Rose: For showing determination and persistence when learning to multiply two-digit numbers by two-digit numbers. Megan: For always showing a fantastic attitude to learning and giving her very best in everything she does.

**Peacocks:** All Of Peacocks: For amazing effort and resilience with swimming this term. Jack C: For excellent focus with his Darwin writing and producing super sentences.

**Toucans:** Oliver M: For making sensible observations during a whole class discussion about Roman artefacts. Molly: For always having a super attitude to her learning and giving 100% effort in all areas of the curriculum.

### Wraparound Care

**Breakfast Club:** Millie R: For always being kind to others and is always incredibly helpful. Such an asset to Breakfast Club!

**After school Club:** Olivia K: For being a big support on the playground and kind friend.

## An update from Mrs Anstee

We have reached the end of our first term, and what a busy and exciting one it has been! There has been so much to celebrate across the school, with pupils embracing every opportunity for learning and adventure.



Some of our standout moments include the Yenworthy residential trip for Year 6, the Warwick Castle visit for Years 1 and 2, and the Junior Citizens experience for our Year 6 pupils. Each of these events offered valuable opportunities for learning beyond the classroom and created wonderful memories for everyone involved.

Throughout the term, our pupils have been fully immersed in our 'We Are Invaders' topic. This week, we have refreshed our school display boards with exciting new examples of the children's work — a fantastic showcase of creativity, effort, and enthusiasm across all year groups.

We have also had the pleasure of welcoming many new children and families to our school community this academic year. Our numbers continue to grow, and we are delighted to now have 306 pupils on roll — a real milestone for our thriving school!

As we come to the end of this term, we would like to thank you for your continued support. We wish all our families a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 3rd November for another exciting term ahead.

## An update from Mrs Gardner

### Top 12 Tips for a Safer Halloween

1. Costumes can be highly flammable — keep children away from naked flames and heat sources.
2. Buy costumes from reputable stores or websites. Cheap ones may not meet UK safety standards.
3. Check costume labels for a UK CA or CE mark and preferably wording like "additional safety testing for flammability".
4. Layer normal clothes underneath the costume to provide extra protection between skin and costume.
5. Teach children the "Stop, Drop and Roll" technique in case their clothes catch fire.
6. Keep candles—and lit pumpkins—well away from children's paths, costumes and decorations.
7. Consider using LED or battery-powered candles instead, but check the battery compartment is secured (button batteries are dangerous if swallowed).
8. Make children visible: after the clocks go back it gets dark early. Use reflective tape, glow sticks, bright clothing.
9. Stay safe near roads: masks can impair vision/hearing; children under 12 should be accompanied by an adult; plan routes.
10. Carve carefully: if younger children can't handle knives safely opt for "no-carve" alternatives.
11. Beware of button batteries in light-up decorations (pumps, wands etc). These are very dangerous if swallowed.

For the full list of safety tips and free downloadable resources like posters, visit CAPT's Halloween safety guide here: [How to keep children safe this Halloween](#).



## An update from Mrs Summers

Wow! That term has gone so quickly and what a jam packed one it has been too. We have welcomed lots of new families and I am pleased to say that we have some more new starters heading our way next term. I am always very grateful to everyone for their support and in particular our children, who go out of their way to make sure new pupils feel welcome.

For those of you moving on, we wish you all the best for your next adventure and hope that you keep in touch. If you happen to be posted back to Brize we might be lucky enough to see you again in a couple of years.



## EYFS

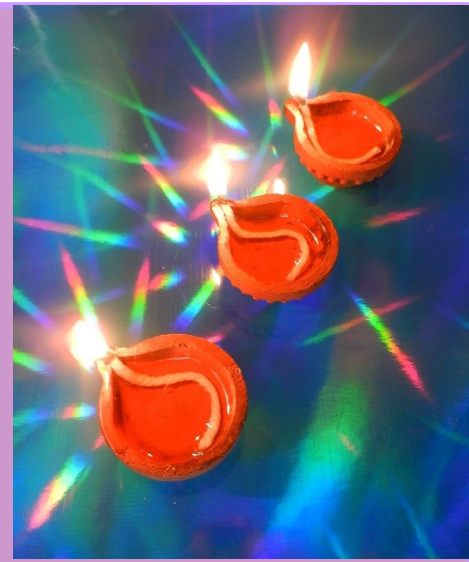
Happy Diwali.

In the EYFS this week we have been finding out all about the Festival of Light. We have listened to lots of stories about how Diwali is celebrated and have made some comparisons to the celebrations that we have at Christmas time. We have tried to create our own special Rangoli patterns which are used as decorations, and have tried some Indian dancing with sticks. It was lots of fun.

We made our own little clay lamps called Diya lamps, which are used during Diwali and on Thursday we enjoyed an amazing food tasting session where we tried some real Indian food. Yummy!

In the woods this week at Forest School we all enjoyed a delicious hot chocolate, the Ducklings even made theirs on a real campfire. We talked lots about how to stay safe around the fire and did some great instruction following. Whilst the Ducklings were in the forest the Chicks had a go at making some special Indian sweets!

In Phonics this term we have now learnt s a t p i n - these are the first group of sounds that we cover within Phase 2. The children should all be able to recognise them, saying the sound and be able to write them, forming their letters correctly. Do you know how many real words you can make with just these 6 letters?



## Year 1 and 2

What a busy week... KS1 have been planning, editing and publishing their castle fact files. It has been fantastic to see the children showing so much reliance and enthusiasm for this topic.

In maths this week we have been learning about decade numbers in year 1 and learning how to add three addends using a range of manipulatives and strategies.

We had a great time supporting the Wellington House penalty shoot-out on Wednesday and were very proud of the number of children who participated.



### Year 3 and 4

We have had a great week in Lower Key Stage Two this week, we have worked really hard to finish our Viking Longboat collages and we are really pleased with the results. We created the collage by using a wax resist effect for the sky, different brush techniques for the sea and we sketched the longboats before adding them on. In history this week, we have been exploring the inquiry question "What did the Vikings leave behind?" and we played a 'Bridge of Lies' game to help find out which words

were Viking words or not, before researching other areas of Viking life which still affect us now. The children loved playing the game and spotting the lies.

We are looking forward to continuing with our 'We are Invaders' topic after the half term break, and consolidating our learning about the Vikings.

Have a restful half term, thank you for your support during term 1.



### Year 5 and 6

The last week of term has been super busy. The Year 6 children visited Carterton Community College and were able to experience taster lessons in History. They examined picture resources and statements to discuss whether or not Christopher Columbus was a 'hero' or 'villain'. They also had a Science lesson, where they were able to use a Bunsen burner to test what colour certain chemicals made when they were put in the flame. Also, the children have been working very hard in Maths to learn and use new mathematical vocabulary when

writing subtraction equations, for example, minuend and subtrahend. In English, they have been writing and editing their chronological reports about Charles Darwin. In DT, the children have made Roman Catapults and for History, they have been thinking about why the Romans came to Britain. In RE they have been looking at how the Christian religion began.



# 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%2F277dc09-26a7-47a6-9cce-479c8c06d4c4%2Fparent-governor-recruitment-pack-oct-2025.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>

## Dates For The Diary

**Friday 24th October** — End of Term 1 — 3:15pm Finish

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

**Monday 5th January** — Start of Term 3

**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



Bar & Refreshments available

# Christmas Bingo

Join the holiday cheer with Christmas Bingo, where every number brings joy and yuletide surprises.

**FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DEC 25,  
DOORS OPEN 7PM,  
EYES DOWN 7.30PM**

Gateway Primary School,  
Netheravon Close,  
Carterton  
OX18 3SF

CSA  
Presents

# Story time with Santa

ho

ho

ho

£5

15TH  
NOV.



## Meet & Greet

**INCLUDES PRESENT, DRINK AND BISCUITS**

**BOOKING WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER SCHOOL IN  
PLAYGROUND 3<sup>RD</sup> - 6<sup>TH</sup> NOV, OR VIA EMAIL BELOW**

**LIMITED TO 150 TICKETS**

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

**THE MESS, GATEWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL BETWEEN 10 -3**

[gatewayschoolassociation@gmail.com](mailto:gatewayschoolassociation@gmail.com)



# CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

SAT 1ST NOV 2025

AT 13:00

BROWNES HALL, CARTERTON



**29**

**NOVEMBER**

**Carterton Fayre  
&  
Christmas  
Lights Switch On  
Lantern Parade**

**FOOD - STALLS - ENTERTAINMENT**

**Fayre 1pm -7pm Lights go on at 6pm**

**Carterton Market Square**



# Lantern Workshops

8	The	10:00 am
November	Family	-
2025	Centre	2:00pm

22	Carterton	10:00 am
November	Community	-
2025	Centre	2:00pm

Join one of the workshops and make a lantern  
Parade takes place 29 November 2025

£1 suggested donation for cost of materials.





## KIDS PHOTOGRAPHY



**Hello!**

We're excited to be in **Lechlade on Sunday, 23rd November!**

✨ **Christmas is coming** — and your photographs will be ready in perfect time for thoughtful gifts.

Book a **20-minute studio photo session**, designed especially for you and your family.

It's a relaxed, fun experience — a chance to capture beautiful memories together.

If you'd like to book or find out more, just follow this link:

<https://BookFamilySession.as.me/?calendarID=2683242>

We look forward to seeing you!

Lisa & Gemma

Love Kids Photography





MARRIOTT'S WALK

# CHRISTMAS MARKET



27TH - 30TH NOVEMBER

THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> 10AM - 6PM

FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> 10AM - 7PM

SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> 10AM - 6PM

SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> 10AM - 4PM

FREE ENTRY  
FREE PARKING



COTSWOLD MARKETS LTD.



**October Half Term**

**The North Wall**  
Arts Centre



**"I learned to  
express myself"**

**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'!

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](https://thenorthwall.com/type/workshop)**  
Full bursaries available

To Apply: Email Laura on [howellsgreen@thenorthwall.com](mailto:howellsgreen@thenorthwall.com)