

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 21st November**

Current Topic: **'We Are Time Travellers'** Current Value: **Self-Awareness**



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

- EYFS— Chicks 94%
- KS1— Robins 99%
- LKS2— Kingfishers 97%
- UPKS2— Toucans 98%

End of Week House points totals:

- Spitfire — 112
- Lancaster — 124
- Hurricane — 195
- Wellington — 133

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:
 Arthur (Doves) Flo (Robins) Pip (Robins) Maisie (Doves) Joshua (Parrots) Nate (Robins)

Stars of the Week

EYFS

Chicks: William S: For excellent partnering work in pirate PE.

Ducklings: Albie: For working super hard on writing k in phonics.

Year 1 and 2

Penguins: Reggie: For always following the class and school rules and being an all-around awesome Penguin. Milena: for always pushing herself to improve her work and for giving 100% effort all the time.

Robins: George: For his excellent History detective work investigating the Great Fire of London! Freddie: For his determination and effort in using exciting adjectives to describe the Great Fire of London.

Parrots: Oliver R: For trying really hard in history and maths and sharing his ideas. Dakota: For always trying hard in her learning and helping others.

Year 3 and 4

Owls: All Year Four: For their amazing effort and participation in the Dance Festival. Ava: For trying her best in all areas of learning and being super helpful. Seren: For showing lots of confidence and skill in the Dance Festival.

Kingfishers: Noah: For working hard in his maths this week. Eleonor: For always working hard and being a fantastic role model in Kingfishers.

Doves: George K: For always striving to do his best in all of his learning. Freddie: For giving his absolute best in the Dance festival and being encouraging and supportive to all his peers.

Year 5 and 6

Eagles: Oliver M: For showing determination and focus during our WW1 lesson on the causes of the war. Jameson: For really engaging in our new topic on WW1 - you had some fantastic ideas!

Peacocks: Lily-Ann: For being so brave for reading out in our UKS2 assembly. Blake: For trying hard with our Maths and asking for support when he needs it.

Toucans: Logan: For thinking carefully and persevering to solve a maths problem. William S: For thinking carefully about his answers during whole class discussions.

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club: Tommy: For a very positive start to the week at Breakfast club, well done!

An update from Mrs Anstee

Our School Uniform: Comfortable, Practical, and Proudly Purple!

We're incredibly proud of our distinctive purple Gateway uniform—it really helps our children stand out with pride and confidence. When making decisions about uniform, our priority is always to support children's learning and ensure they feel comfortable throughout the school day.

To help with this, we introduced a hoody and fleece option some time ago and moved to black trainers, making the uniform more practical and play-friendly. As children come to school in their P.E. kit twice a week, we're also happy for uniform days and P.E. days to look very similar. Hoodies and fleeces can be worn on uniform days, and children are welcome to wear a T-shirt instead of a polo shirt if they prefer.

Overall, there should be very little difference between what children wear on P.E. days and non-P.E. days—keeping things simple, comfortable, and consistent for everyone.



An update from Mrs Gardner

This week, all students in Years 1–6 took part in an assembly introducing our new school value: Self-Awareness.

The aim of the session was to help children understand what self-awareness means and how it can help them in their everyday school life.

During the assembly, we talked about how being self-aware means noticing our feelings, thinking about our actions, and understanding how what we do can affect others. Students listened to examples and watched scenarios that showed real situations they might recognise—from playground moments to classroom choices.



An update from Mrs Summers

I attended a wellbeing course organised by the Royal Air Force Association called Finding It Tough. They offer these courses to service personnel, dependents, veterans and people that support service personnel. In fact on my course, there were people that were just utilising some free training. They run them regularly, if you are interested check out their website. My course focussed on 6 habits for developing resilience. I have a PDF version, if anyone would like to get an idea what it is about, if you would like a copy please let me know. I felt the course could benefit non service families too as it was more about situations that cause stress and how to cope with these situations, this can happen to anyone. The course is an accredited course so you receive a certificate for attending and learn about some strategies to help yourself and others when things are tough.



EYFS

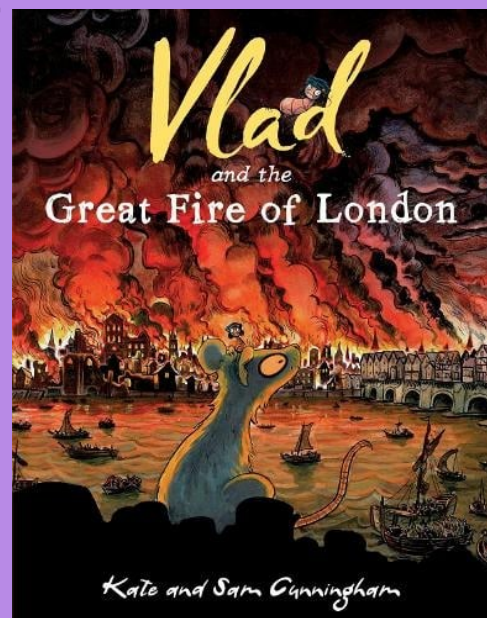


In EYFS this week it has all been about Birthday Celebrations! We have listened to stories about how Kipper the dog and Winnie the Witch celebrated their birthdays. We have talked and written about our own, or friends, birthday parties. We have been busy making birthday cakes out of playdough and putting the right number of can-

dles on, decorating cake pictures in the style of artist Andy Warhol, designing birthday cards and invitations and writing lists of friends to invite, or foods we might have at a party. We have used our scissor skills to cut out and decorate cakes. Even the number puppets had a party in Maths! We have been pirates in PE, and have enjoyed exploring the ice that has been forming around the garden space now the weather has turned so cold! We are practising our Nativity songs so that our show will be amazing!

Year 1 and 2

We have had an exciting start to our topic all about the Great Fire of London. We started our time travelling adventure by comparing what London was like back in 1666 before the Great Fire. We have also been learning what the Great Fire of London was like from a very helpful character called Vlad in English. He was a very helpful flea who has given us a great start in our understanding of what happened and how people reacted. In maths we have been learning about part-whole models with Year 1 and in Year 2 building on our addition and subtraction strategies. Our value this term is self-awareness and we will be thinking hard about ways we can deal with tricky situations in a calm way. We will also be thinking about what we are good at and things we find tricky. Thank you to all those who came along to parent's meetings on Wednesday. We enjoyed sharing all the wonderful things the children have done and we are looking forward to seeing the rest of you next week. Have a lovely weekend.



Year 3 and 4

On Tuesday, the Year 4 children attended a dance festival at Carterton Community College, 'Step-up' came in and taught us some moves, including the helicopter and 'eggs on your legs' to create a basketball inspired street dance. The Year 4 pupils did us proud and showed all of the Gateway Values. Whilst the Year 4 children were at the Community College, the Year 3 children did some PE games and maths activities with Miss Baker and Mrs Binnian, they had a great time.

In Science this week, we have been observing and describing rocks and using information to begin to identify what the different types of rocks are. The children loved exploring the rocks with magnifying glasses.



Year 5 and 6

A fantastic start to our new topic – We are time travellers. Children have begun the week very excited to be learning about WW1 and they have really immersed themselves in their first lesson looking at the causes of WW1. This caused much debate and discussion and ultimately an understanding that there was more than one cause. Children had the opportunity to decide which cause they thought was the most important and they were very polite in building on and challenging the ideas of others. In other afternoon learning, children have begun to explore light as part of our science topic. Exploring what light is and how it travels. In a few weeks, children will be able to investigate this in more detail.

This week has also been assessment week for lots of our children. This can be daunting however everyone has approached this with calmness and determination just to showcase what they can do. We are immensely proud of how they have handled this week and what they have already learnt since September.

We also had the pleasure of taking a group of girls to the U11 Football tournament at Carterton Community College. We are beyond proud of how this group of girls conducted themselves throughout the tournament, both on and off the pitch. They were incredibly supportive of each other, praising each other's actions on the pitch as well as also cheering on other teams.

We would also like to thank you for your continued support. It was fantastic to see so many parents at our sharing assembly this week and I know the children, albeit a little nervous, were really excited to share what they had been learning.



Dates For The Diary

Tuesday 25th November — Monday 1st December — Book Fair

Wednesday 26th November — Parent Meetings

Friday 5th December — Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day

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

**Wednesday 10th December — Chicks Class Performance to Parents
2:15 — 3:15pm**

**Thursday 11th December — Ducklings Class Performance to Parents
2:15 — 3:15pm**

Tuesday 16th December — Whole School Panto

Wednesday 17th December — Mingle In The Mess 8:30-9:30am

Wednesday 17th December — Carols

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

Monday 5th January — Start of Term 3

Monday 26th January — Young Voices — Year 3 and 4

Thursday 12th February — Valentines Break The Rules Day

Friday 27th March — GSA Easter Bingo



Scholastic Book Fair



On Tuesday 25th November, we are excited to share that the Scholastic Book Fair is returning to school. The Book fair will be held outside the double doors of the Key Stage Two corridor on Tuesday 25th November, Thursday 27th November, Friday 28th November and Monday 1st December. It will also be in the library on Wednesday 26th November during parent's evening.

Please come along and buy some great, educational Christmas gifts for your children.



Payments can be made via scanning a QR code and paying on your phone, we **will not** accept cash. Please note we also **cannot** reserve books.

Thank you.



Bar & Refreshments available

Christmas Bingo

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