

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 27th February**

Current Topic: **'We Are Investigators'** Current Value: **Positivity**



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

EYFS— Chicks 92.4%

KS1— Robins 97.1%

LKS2— Owls 99%

UPKS2— Toucans 98.7%

End of Week House points totals:

Spitfire — 301

Lancaster — 271

Hurricane — 269

Wellington — 290

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:

Eadie (Parrots) Molly (Toucans)  
 Hallie (Toucans) Grace (Toucans)  
 Jordan (Toucans) Grace (Toucans)

Stars of the Week

EYFS

**Chicks:** Margot: For excellent baking knowledge when making Gingerbread people.

**Ducklings:** Reggie: For awesome phonics work and great writing!

Year 1 and 2

**Penguins:** Hannah: For her amazing vocabulary in her story writing this week. Aoife: For her fabulous work in English, amazing use of vocabulary and punctuation.

**Robins:** Edward: For his enthusiasm and positivity when weaving. I am so proud of you! Keeley: For demonstrating resilience and perseverance when weaving. I am so proud of you!

**Parrots:** Mylo: For always demonstrating a positive attitude towards learning and trying his best. You are a great role model for Parrots. Oliver C: For great work on his reading and weaving. You are showing great positivity in both.

Year 3 and 4

**Owls:** Ava: For showing a growth mindset and perseverance in Maths. Iris: For showing a growth mindset and perseverance in Maths.

**Kingfishers:** Esme: For absolutely fantastic independent work in both Maths and English this week, showing focus and determination. Lily-May: For excellent column addition, confidently regrouping in ones and tens, with beautiful presentation throughout.

**Doves:** Leon: For being consistently on flying high this week for his star effort in all his learning. A super role model! Halle: For showing excellent effort and improvement in understanding regrouping in maths. Amazing!

Year 5 and 6

**Eagles:** Sophia R: For amazing focus and attention to detail to create her mythical creature as a vector drawing. Olivia C: For fantastic effort and engagement when dramatizing the story of Theseus and the Minotaur.

**Peacocks:** Ivy: For settling straight back into Gateway and Peacocks class and having a positive week. Harry: For sharing super ideas about Alexander the Great in our History lesson.

**Toucans:** Rory: For always having a positive attitude to his work, particularly with his recent English writing about the Ancient Greeks. Grace: For a beautiful double page spread about her mythical creature.

### An update from Mrs Anstee

Welcome back! You may have seen recent discussion about the newly released white paper. We want to reassure families that this document does not introduce immediate changes for our school. At this stage, it sets out long-term thinking and areas for future development rather than actions that schools must implement straight away.



As always, we are staying up to date with national developments and carefully reviewing what they could mean for our community over time. We are ambitious for our school's future and committed to making thoughtful, well-planned decisions that are in the best interests of our pupils, staff, and families.

Should any changes arise in the future, we will communicate clearly and ensure that our values, high standards, and commitment to providing an excellent education remain at the heart of everything we do.

### An update from Mrs Gardner

Have you heard of Rainbow Trees Pathway? They are a West Oxfordshire-based not-for-profit supporting neurodivergent children, young people, and their families. We offer neuro affirming, trauma-informed, and person-centred support, including parent guidance, practical SEND advice, and Lego®-based therapy—always tailored to the individual and grounded in Total Communication. We believe everyone deserves the right support at the right time, and no one should have to navigate challenges alone.



We're proud to partner with SEND & Friends, who create inclusive, welcoming spaces where children, young people, and families feel connected, understood, and part of a supportive community.

Take a look on the Gateway School Facebook page for more information.

### An update from Mrs Summers

A great opportunity is being advertised on the HIVE page regarding cycling lessons at the Faringdon cycle track. This is a great facility that can be used by all, not those that want to access the lessons.

Farcycles are running children's cycling lessons at the Cycle Park on two consecutive Sundays, starting on Sunday 19 April 2026, 11am and running throughout the summer.

There are two teaching groups:

- Balancers (new to balance bikes / building balance including kids currently on stabilisers)
- Pedallers (balance-experienced and ready to transition to pedalling)

The sessions are run by our experienced volunteer instructors in a friendly, traffic-free space. Further details and to book, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/.../two-consecutive-sundays...>



## EYFS

This week in the EYFS we have been finding out about the Gingerbread man. We have talked about his adventures and have been building boats to help him cross the river. We even had a go at baking our own little biscuit people who were absolutely delicious.

In Phonics we have been 'showing off' we have been using our Phase 2 sounds to write real words and sentences. In Maths we have been exploring one more and counting on beyond 20.

Next week we are super excited about World Book Day, don't forget to bring in your story in a shoe box on Thursday. We will be having a fantastic World Book Day with a penguin theme. We are going to try to be authors of our own stories, we will be putting to use all of our learning about settings, characters and plots.

## Year 1 and 2

We have been really busy this week planning our new adventure for Bo - from I can catch a Monster. The children have had some great ideas about Monsters she can visit in the UK and have been thinking of some interesting vocabulary they would like to include. In maths, Year 1s have been looking at addition and subtraction stories while the Year 2s have been applying their understanding of the 2 times table to solving doubling and halving problems. As part of our DT project, some classes have also been having a go at weaving and planning some very creative fairy tale inspired weavings. It has been lovely hearing about the activities the children have been doing during half term. and we think they have returned back to school for a rest. Thank you to all those who have already signed up for the March Parent Meetings (information on Dojo) and check out Parent Pay for all the information for our trip to the farm later this term.



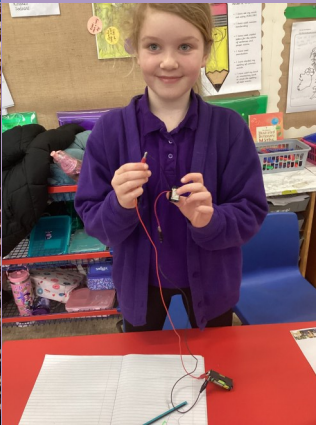
## Year 3 and 4

In Year 3 and 4, we have had a wonderful start to Term 4.

In Maths, the children have begun using regrouping of ones and tens to deepen their understanding of addition, allowing them to add more complex numbers. They have been applying the column method to support their calculations and build confidence for when we solve more complex problems. In our English lesson, we have continued to explore *The Tin Forest*, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. They have retold the story using their own story maps, carefully identifying the beginning, middle and end. To finish the week, they planned and began writing their own stories inspired by the book.



There was a lot of buzz around science this week! We have continued learning about circuits where the children built and drew their own series circuits, particularly enjoying those that included buzzers and motors.

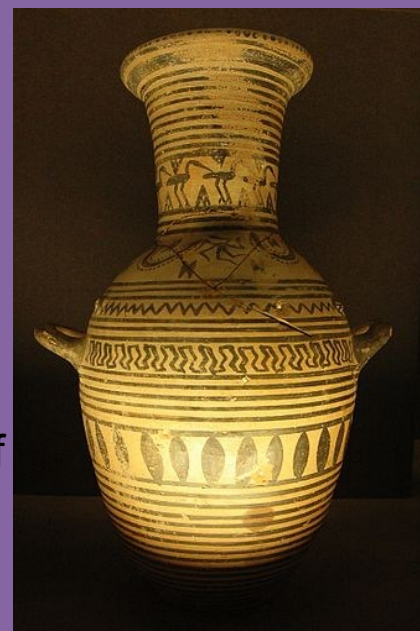


During indoor P.E., a range of equipment was set out for the children to explore different ways of travelling across it, including jumping and sliding. They also practised safe and controlled ways of jumping from the apparatus onto the mats.

Next week, we are very much looking forward to World Book Day and the opportunity to dive deeper into reading while exploring a range of exciting new worlds through books.

## Year 5 and 6

We have come back to the start of another busy term. In English, we are continuing with our writing about the Ancient Greeks and as well as writing letters as Theseus to his father, the children have also been practising their drama skills by acting out the mythical legend about Theseus and the Minotaur. They had to think about using effective dialogue, and a big emphasis on working together as a team in order to produce an organised sketch to showcase 6 major points of the story. In our topic, we have been learning how the Ancient Greeks impacted the modern western world - amongst other things, who knew they were responsible for alarm clocks and vending machines? In maths, we continue to look at dividing and multiplying fractions. Guitar practice is going well for Peacocks, who are performing pieces with the notes 'E' and 'F' and rests. During indoor P.E. this week, the children have started practising circuits and for outdoor P.E., Eagles have started to practice the skills of Hockey. In Art, the children have started to use modrock to make models of their Greek vases, based on their designs from last term.



## Dates For The Diary

**Thursday 5th March** — World Book Day

**Wednesday 11th March** — National Child Measurement Programme — Reception and Year 6

**Wednesday 11th March** — Parents Evening

**Wednesday 18th March** — Mingle in the Mess 8:30-9:30am

**Wednesday 18th March** — Parents Evening

**Monday 23rd March** — KS1 Trip Farmer Gow's

**Friday 27th March** — End of term 4 — 1:30pm finish

**Friday 27th March** — GSA Easter Bingo

**Monday 13th April** — Start of term 5

**Wednesday 22nd April — Friday 24th April** — Year 4 Hill End Trip

**Monday 4th May** — May Bank Holiday — School Closed



# World Book Day

**World Book Day is happening on next Thursday 5th March this year.**

This year, children can choose to either come in comfy clothes to snuggle up with a book OR fancy dress based on their favourite book character. As this is up to the children, this won't be the competition element this year.

For the competition, children will need to create a diorama - a box representing a scene from their favourite story. These need to be brought to classes on that day.

The boxes will be shared in classrooms after school and there will be a second hand book sale also taking place after school - with any money raised going to the GSA.

Thank you, we are looking forward to celebrating this fantastic event in school.

Mrs Morgan



# Second Hand Uniform Sale!

**SALE**

**ONE DAY ONLY!!!**

**When-**

***Thursday 5th March***

**Where-**

***to be confirmed***



The GSA invite you to...

# Easter Bingo

Join us on

*Friday 27th March*

**FOR SOME EGG-CITING FUN!**

Gateway Primary School Hall

Doors open at 7:00pm

Eyes down at 7:30pm

£10 – All In

Raffle will also be held.

Bar and refreshments available  
to purchase.

# DISCOVER ACTIVITY CAMPS

 HATHEROP CASTLE SCHOOL NEAR CIRENCESTER



FROM  
£53  
PER DAY  
CHILDCARE  
VOUCHERS  
ACCEPTED

- + Inclusive school holiday fun, open to all children aged 4-14
- + Multi-activity day camps designed for busy parents
- + Led by our experienced Discover Camps team
- + Visit the website for specialist camps and Discover Days Out
- + £20 block booking discount when you book a week



SCAN HERE!

BOOK YOUR PLACE AT [DISCOVERACTIVITYCAMPS.CO.UK](https://www.discoveractivitycamps.co.uk)



# SINGING LESSONS

in your school



**SIGN UP OR FIND OUT MORE:**  
[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest)  
Families on certain benefits can apply for free music lessons by completing the 'help with payment' section of the sign-up form



Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**OXFORDSHIRE  
COUNTY COUNCIL**



# Low cost and free activities for families to enjoy together!

Enjoy a fantastic range of activities, including

- Swimming
- Badminton
- Activity packs
- Stay and Play sessions
- Soft Play
- Children's holiday activities & so much more!



Find out more here:



## YOU MOVE

YouMove is here to offer free and low cost activities for children 0-17 and their families on benefit related free school meals or Universal Credit, refugee children, young carers, and children supported by early help services.





TARGET NETBALL ACADEMY

EST. 2024

Working on skills,  
tactics, match play  
and fun!!

# EASTER NETBALL CAMPS

## OXFORD

1st April 2026

9-14yrs

09:00-15:00pm

£40pp

(sibling discount)

Oxford High School,  
Belbroughton Road

## OXFORD

8th April 2026

9-14yrs

09:00-15:00pm

£40pp

(sibling discount)

Oxford High School,  
Belbroughton Road

**EMAIL TO BOOK!**

Or google forms on  
social media.

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

Coalesce Dance Theatre presents

# Mika and the Polar Bear

Saturday 14 March  
11am & 2pm

An imaginative and unforgettable journey into the wonders of our natural world.



For ages  
**4-11**

**Tickets: £12 (children £8, under 2s free)**

**Bookings: 01865 319450 / [thenorthwall.com](http://thenorthwall.com)**