

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 13th March**

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



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

EYFS— Ducklings 95%
KS1— Parrots 97.8%
LKS2— Owls 95%
UPKS2— Toucans 97.5%

End of Week House points totals:

Spitfire — 326
Lancaster — 297
Hurricane — 285
Wellington — 262

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:
Connie (Peacocks) Charlie (Owls)
Lily (Owls) Matty (Peacocks) Esala (Peacocks) Albert (Robins) Daisy (Parrots) Lucas (Peacocks) Oliver (Owls) Charlie (Parrots)

Stars of the Week

EYFS

Chicks: Sophie R: For following instructions very carefully when drawing her penguin for World Book Day.

Ducklings: Albie: For engaging in all of his learning this week, especially PE.

Year 1 and 2

Penguins: Finley: For his amazing art skills during the draw-along on World Book Day, your resilience and perseverance created a fabulous Squirrel picture. Eden: For her positive attitude and resilience after being in hospital.

Robins: Freddie: For his enthusiasm and determination in PE to try tricky balances on one leg. I am super proud of you! Nate: For his absolutely wonderful story writing and striving to use adverbs, adjectives and conjunctions. I am so proud of you, Nate!

Parrots: Eric: For fantastic writing of his Bo the Brave adventure around the UK. All the Parrots: For all creating some fantastic fairy-tale inspired weavings about fairy-tales. Well done, I am very proud of all of you.

Year 3 and 4

Owls: Penelope: For an excellent story in English and earning her publishing pen! Joe: For creating a vibrant visual representation of a word in our reading lessons.

Kingfishers: Bronwen: For fantastic focus in maths all week, showing excellent understanding of using the column method for subtraction, including regrouping. Sienna: For an incredible attitude in maths all week, showing excellent use of column subtraction as well as multiplying by 10.

Doves: Marty: For showing excellent effort and resilience in all of his learning this week, especially in English with his writing. We are very proud of you. Esme: For writing an amazing, descriptive story based on the Tin Forest. You really challenged yourself with the vocabulary chosen and used a variety of different types of sentences. Such great quality of writing.

Year 5 and 6

Eagles: Jack: For showing fantastic attention to detail to create a Medusa themed Greek Vase as part of our vector drawing lesson. Megan: For creating a brilliant vector drawing depicting the Greek gods on a vase.

Peacocks: Freddie: For excellent teamwork when making their Greek pots in DT. Blake: For excellent teamwork when making their Greek pots in DT.

Toucans: Amelia: For her exceptional high standard of homework during our topic about the Ancient Greeks. Tate: For his positive attitude to his work across all areas of the curriculum.

Breakfast Club: Thea: For having a really positive week at Breakfast Club!

An update from Mrs Anstee

From time to time, schools recruit staff during the academic year, and this is a completely normal part of school life. Staff move on for many positive reasons, and in-year recruitment helps us ensure that we continue to provide the very best support for our pupils.



This week, we were pleased to share further information about Miss Morgan who will be joining our teaching team in Lower Key Stage 2, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming her to the school community. We are also beginning the process of recruiting a new Key Stage 1 teacher to join us after the Easter break.

We are confident in our ability to attract high-quality, dedicated professionals who share our values and commitment to the children in our care. Our focus remains firmly on maintaining continuity, stability, and excellent teaching and learning in every classroom.

Thank you, as always, for your continued trust and support. We are excited about the skills and experience new team members will bring and the positive impact they will have on our school.

An update from Mrs Gardner

I am pleased to announce that next week's Mingle in the Mess will be joined by SEND & Friends.



This coffee morning will take place on Wednesday 18th March from 8:35am in The Mess with Mrs Summers.

Rainbow Trees Pathway is a West Oxfordshire-based not-for-profit organisation supporting neurodivergent children, young people, and their families. They offer neuroaffirming, trauma-informed and person-centred support, including parent guidance, practical SEND advice, and LEGO®-based therapy. Their approach is always tailored to the individual and grounded in Total Communication.

Rainbow Trees Pathway believes everyone deserves the right support at the right time, and that no one should have to navigate challenges alone.

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

We hope you are able to join us.

An update from Mrs Summers

Many of you have been sharing with teachers, during parents evening, about times of separation. I am also happy to be contacted via Dojo or email if you feel your child needs some extra support. Buddy Club has changed times and this has been really successful and has enabled me to extend the invites to EYFS. It is a chance for children to be together with others in the same situation as them.



In order to not miss anyone out, we have some deployment forms available and I can then add children to my lists. The criteria to attend Buddy Club: deployment, those that work away all week and are only home for weekends or those that have parents that go away frequently. There are times when I invite children for emotional support reasons too.

This week in EYFS we have been authors, busily writing our very own stories. We have talked about, characters, settings, a problem and a solution so that everyone lives happily ever after. We really enjoyed World Book Day last week. We found Wally, saw Gruffalos, princesses and people who help us and we loved showing off our dioramas!

In PE we have been climbing, balancing and jumping, using the wall bars and equipment safely.

This week in number we have been ordering numbers and looking for 1 more and 1 less.



Year 1 and 2

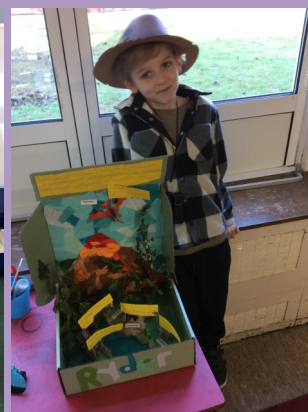
This has been a very exciting two weeks in KS1. We have been busy completing our writing all about the adventures of Bo in the UK and have been impressed with the creativity of the storylines. We have completed their fantastic fairy-tale weaving with some super results from all classes. Thursday 5th March saw KS1 fully on book mode for World Book Day. We loved the character costumes, comfy clothes and the dioramas that the children created. Unfortunately our live draw didn't happen but still had a go at drawing some different book characters. The children demonstrated great positivity and we were really proud of our results. As our 'We are investigators' draws to a close, we have been looking at different jobs and thinking about what characteristics we need to do these. Next week is the start of our next topic - 'We are environmentalists'.



Year 3 and 4

In year 3 and 4 we have been rounding off our English on the Tin Forest by writing our own stories based around the themes of hope and environmental change. Some have written about cleaning up beaches, parks and turning something quite disastrous into something beautiful. They have challenged themselves with using speech and varieties of sentences to make their writing more interesting to the reader. On the theme of stories, we have also enjoyed World Book Day last week. In year 3 and 4 we focused a day of learning on the book 'The 13 Storey Treehouse' where the treehouse features a variety of floors such as a bowling floor, theatre, shark tank and games room. The children were tasked with coming up with their own floor that they would include in their treehouse. We were also really impressed with the Dioramas that were brought in. We are very proud of the efforts made to produce these and thank families with their support with helping and encouraging their children to make them. They truly were spectacular. Next week we continue with our topic focusing on finishing our leaflets on the UK and why people should come and visit and finishing our light boxes/frames using sawing techniques.

Thank you for attending the phase assembly, it was lovely to share our learning with you.



Year 5 and 6

It has been another busy week and the children have shown great resilience during our assessment week. Our English this week, has been influenced by a picture book we reviewed for World Book Day, 'The Viewer' by Gary Crew, illustrated by Shaun Tan, who incidentally, illustrated the book we used in September, 'Rules of Summer'. It is a fantasy picture book about a boy named Tristan, who finds a mysterious View-Master-like device at a dump, which shows him cyclical images of human civilization's rise and fall, leading to his own disappearance as he becomes obsessed with the device. The book is known for its complex, symbolic story about observation, history, and the cyclical nature of life and decay, which is enhanced by Tan's haunting.

The children really enjoyed producing art work using illustrations from 'The Viewer' as inspiration.

Peacocks and Toucans classes have used mod rock to model their Greek vases, while Eagles class, have used their own original designs to paint their vases.

Peacocks class continue to enjoy learning to play the Guitar. In indoor P.E., the children continue to practice their circuit exercises and focus on core, leg and cardio exercises and for our outdoor P.E., the children are learning the rules and skills of Hockey. For our topic about the Ancient Greeks, the children produced beautiful double page spreads on how the Ancient Greeks impacted the modern western world.



Dates For The Diary

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

Wednesday 18th March — Tuesday 24th March — Book Fair

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

Friday 22nd May — GSA Non School Uniform Day — Donate a Coloured Item For Rainbow Raffle — More Information to Follow



Book Fair

The Book Fair is coming to school on Wednesday 18th March until Tuesday 24th March. This is a great opportunity to buy books and help the school raise funds.

Please note we can only accept payment via the QR code link and we cannot reserve books.

The book fair will be outside Mrs Gardner's office during parent's evening on Wednesday and outside the double doors at the bottom of the KS2 corridor from Thursday - Tuesday.

Thank you.



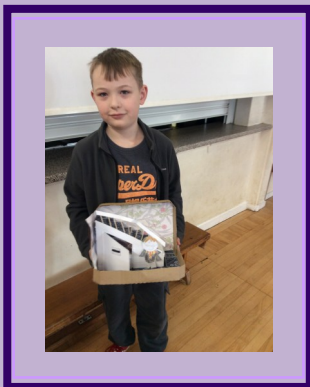
WORLD BOOK DAY®

5 MARCH 2026

Thank you all for your participation and enthusiasm with World Book Day. It was great seeing the children being able to express themselves in what they wanted to wear, a new tradition which I hope we will continue with. The day started with an assembly where we did a twirl in our outfits and shared our dioramas. The effort and detail in the dioramas was fantastic and we are so impressed with all of the efforts of the children. Congratulations to Sophie, Piper, Dexter (who was off so Oliver graciously accepted the award for him) and Oscar with their winning entries.

All class participated in either a live lesson or a draw along activity and explored their recommended reads further. EYFS explored penguins and the Antarctic, KS1 have made it very clear that they 'Don't trust fish!', Year 3 and 4 have invented an extra storey for the 13th Storey treehouse and Year 5 and 6 have engaged with the plot of 'The Viewer.'

The theme of this year's World Book Day is 'fun' and we have certainly demonstrated that!



The GSA invite you to...

Easter Bingo

Join us on

Friday 27th March

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Gateway Primary School Hall

Doors open at 7:00pm

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£10 – All In

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Easter Holiday Tennis Camps Ages 4 - 16 years old

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Week 1:

- Monday 30th March - Friday 3rd April
- Witney Lawn Tennis Club
- Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Tennis Club

Week 2:

- Monday 6th April - Friday 10th April
- Witney Lawn Tennis Club

Week Long Course Bookings:

Mornings:	9am - 1pm	Ages 4 - 16 yrs	£192
Afternoons:	1:30pm - 3:30pm	Ages 8 - 16 yrs	£96
Full Days:	9am - 3:30pm	Ages 8 - 16 yrs	£245
Short Courses:	9am - 11am	Ages 4 - 7 yrs	£96

Individual Day Bookings:

Morning:	Ages 4 - 16 yrs	£48
Afternoon:	Ages 8 - 16 yrs	£24
Full Day:	Ages 8 - 16 yrs	£65
Short Courses:	Ages 4 - 7 yrs	£24

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1st Sept 2025 & 31st Aug. 2026

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We Are OPEN

Easter Weekends
plus additional dates:

30th March, Monday, 10AM-3pm

3rd April, Friday, 10AM-5PM

6th April, Monday, 10AM-5pm

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