

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 13th March**

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



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

- EYFS— Chicks 99%
- KS1— Parrots and Penguins 96%
- LKS2— Owls 100%
- UPKS2— Peacocks 98%

End of Week House points totals:

- Spitfire — 204
- Lancaster — 224
- Hurricane — 230
- Wellington — 203

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:  
Molly (Toucans) Maisie (Toucans)  
George (Parrots) Esme (Doves)  
Daisy-May (Doves) Eadie (Parrots)

Stars of the Week

**EYFS**

**Chicks:** Aubrey: For being a thoughtful and kind Duckling watcher. Aubrey noticed every change when they were hatching.  
Lorenzo: For working super hard on his letter formation and focus in handwriting all week.

**Ducklings:** Lincoln: For being an excellent duck watcher and helping remind everyone else about how to be kind to our Ducklings. Arlo: For some super focused writing and amazing letter formation

Year 1 and 2

**Penguins:** Oliver L: or his amazing work in maths, Oliver has been sharing his learning and supporting his peers to be successful. Milena: For always being a positive role model and always demonstrating the school values

**Robins:** Lucy: For her beautiful and detailed observational drawings of flowers using a range of media. Trixie: For her excellence in Art, observing closely and completing beautiful, detailed drawings of flowers.

**Parrots:** Kaleb: For great progress in phonics and reading. Great job. Mason L: For great progress in reading and using expression. Well done.

Year 3 and 4

**Owls:** Ryder: For working hard in maths and showing different ways of 'diving deeper'. Esmee: For producing some great vocabulary about the Lascaux cave paintings.

**Kingfishers:** Millie: For a really positive attitude this week and for excellent improvement in her times tables. Well done Millie!  
Elsie: For good progress in her English, considering her presentation carefully. Well done Elsie!

**Doves:** Maisie: For always striving for excellence across all of her learning and encouraging those around her too. Teddy: For always trying to be the best version of himself by seeking challenges in his learning and supporting others too.

Year 5 and 6

**Eagles:** Iona: For a fantastic focus during maths this week - you have shown great perseverance when trying to answer short and long division questions. Poppy: For a fantastic focus during maths this week - you have shown great perseverance when trying to answer short and long division questions.

**Peacocks:** Ivy: For showing excellent concentration when learning the Greek dance. Aleena: For editing and improving her direct and indirect speech.

**Toucans:** Grace: For using formal language to write an excellent newspaper report about the victorious triumph of Theus defeating the hideous Minotaur to save the children of Athens. Jordan: For a thoughtfully presented double page spread on how the Ancient Greeks impacted the Modern Western World.

**Breakfast Club:** George V: For being a bundle of positivity at breakfast club! Thank you for making us smile.

**Afterschool Club:** Emilia: For being a wonderful friend, kind and having a huge smile all week.

### An update from Mrs Anstee

We were incredibly fortunate to receive a generous donation from the Armed Forces Education Trust at the start of the academic year. The trust work to support children and young adults who have a parent in the armed forces. You will have seen our new reading shed in Mrs Morgan's Class Dojo post last week - this has been funded by this grant, as well as further quality texts across the school and the ongoing work of Mrs Millard-Wilson who supports group and individual reading in all classes. You can find out more about the work of the trust on their website - <https://armedforceseducation.org/about-us/>



We all know the value of strong, fluent reading in supporting our pupils' learning across the curriculum. We are proud of our reading culture and outcomes at Gateway.

### An update from Mrs Gardner

This week, our school proudly marked Sign Language Week with a special assembly for Key Stage 2, delivered on Monday. The assembly encouraged pupils to think about the different ways we communicate and highlighted the importance of inclusion for everyone in our community.



The children were fascinated to learn some key facts, including how many people in the UK rely on British Sign Language (BSL) and that many deaf children attend mainstream schools. We talked about how, with the right support, deaf children can achieve anything—an important message about equality and opportunity.

A highlight of the assembly was giving pupils the chance to try signing themselves. They were encouraged to practise spelling their names using the BSL alphabet and to share something new they had learned with a partner. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and engagement, with many pupils eager to continue learning more signs.

The assembly reinforced a simple but meaningful message: learning even a few signs can make a big difference in helping others feel included.

### An update from Mrs Summers

Thank you for attending Mingle in the Mess with our guests from Send&Friends. It was really nice to hear about the great work they do and all the events they arrange to make sure families with SEND children do not miss out. As well as this there is scope to reach out to them for advice or offload.



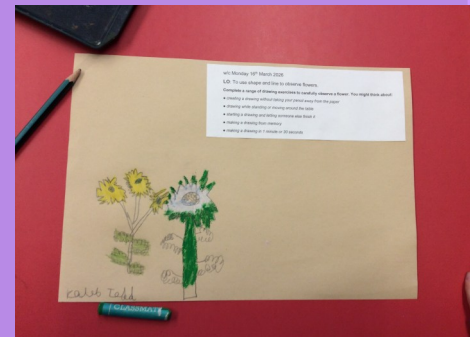
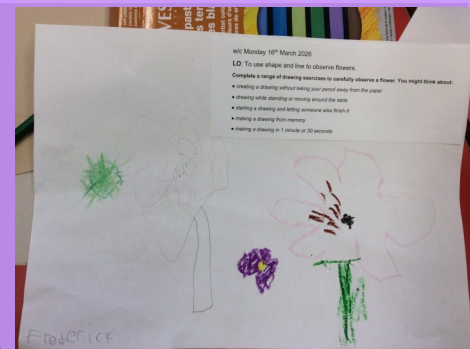
If you were unable to make the coffee morning and would like to know more, please get in contact and we can point you in the right direction or alternatively scan the QR code on their poster in last week's newsletter. Next month we will have guests from the HIVE and People & Families Support previously known as Community Support. I will send out a reminder closer to the time.

What an exciting week we have had in EYFS. On Tuesday we received a letter from Farmer Rob who asked us to look after some eggs from his farm. The trouble was he wasn't sure who had laid the eggs. We predicted what might be inside (suggestions included lambs, giraffes, dinosaurs and cheetahs) and then waited to see what would hatch..... we now have 5 fuzzy little Ducklings to look after, and watch grow. We have written all about them in our Egg Diaries, made them beautiful welcome to the world cards, and even got to gently stroke and hold them. We are looking forward to Duckling swimming lessons next week! In number this week we have been learning about doubles. We have continued to focus on climbing, balancing and jumping in PE and are getting very good at taking turns and using the wall bars and equipment safely. We have been enjoying the sunny weather and have been building structures and playing imaginative games in our outside space.



Year 1 and 2

This week we have started our new topic of 'We are environmentalists' and have been busy thinking about spring. In geography, we have been focusing on the weather and creating our own weather diaries thinking about the type of weather and the temperature. We recorded 17 degrees Celsius on Wednesday! In art we are looking at developing our observational skills and have enjoyed drawing a variety of flowers. As an extra challenge we had fun using our non dominant hand, not taking the pencil off the paper, drawing in 60 seconds and even allowing someone else to complete our picture. The results were great. Our value for this topic is 'excellence' and we have been recognising that this means trying our best and not giving up. We are very excited about our farm visit on Monday and can't wait to tell you all about it next week.



## Year 3 and 4

This week, we began our exciting new topic, "We Are Environmentalists."

In Science, we wrapped up our learning on circuits by making our own switches. We discovered that when a switch is "on," it completes the circuit, allowing electricity to flow and light the bulb.

We have also started a new Science topic all about our teeth. We've been learning the names of different teeth and their functions. This week-end, why not have a look in a mirror and explore your own teeth? Can you name them? Think about how you use each type of tooth when you are eating.

We have also really enjoyed continuing to read our class book, *The Cave Explorer*. We generated verbs, adjectives, adverbs and metaphors in preparation for creating our very own haiku poems. During one reading lesson this week, we became archaeologists, discovering different artefacts found in an ancient cave and identifying what they were.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. The children have thrived in their learning this week!

In P.E., we challenged ourselves to beat our personal best by seeing how many times we could pass a cone between our hands while holding a front support posi-



## Year 5 and 6

In maths this week, the children have been solving problems using short and long division. In English, they have used formal language, reported and direct speech, to write a newspaper report to recount the story of how Theseus defeated the Minotaur, saving future generations of Athenian children from being sent to Crete, to be fed to the hideous beast. Also, to finish off our Ancient Greek topic, the children designed a double page spread, detailing how the Ancient Greeks have impacted the modern Western World. They were surprised to learn, that amongst other things, they invented the alarm clock. We also celebrated the end of the topic with a Greek afternoon. The children had the opportunity to taste different Greek foods, learn some Greek dancing and also to write their name, using the Greek alphabet.

We began our new topic, 'We Are Environmentalists'. The children have looked at how our Earth is structured, what causes earthquakes and where the major fault lines are on the Earth. Alongside our new topic, we have begun to read a new book, 'Flood Lands' by Marcus Sedgwick. In indoor P.E., the children continue to practice circuits, concentrating on core and cardio exercises to increase their level of fitness and in outdoor P.E., the children are learning the rules and skills of hockey. In science, the children have been learning about how materials can be separated and the different stages of water filtration to make dirty water safe to drink.

On Wednesday, some children attended the County Cross Country Finals at Radley College and in an amazing result, came joint 6th and an individual result for Tommy W, who achieved a fantastic individual 3rd place! Well done to all who took part!



## Dates For The Diary

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

**Monday 23rd March — Tuesday 24th March** — Book Fair

**Friday 27th March** — Water Aid — Wear Something Blue £1 Donation

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

**Friday 27th March** — GSA Easter Bingo — Doors Open 7pm

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

**Monday 13th April** — Little Troopers Dandelion Day — Wear Something Yellow £1 Donation

**Wednesday 15th April** — Mingle In The Mess

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

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

**Monday 11th May — Thursday 14th May** — Year 6 SATs Week

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

**Friday 19th June** — Colour Run and Rainbow Raffle from 3:30pm



# THEATRE KIDZ



**Join us at Gateway Primary School!**

**We're so excited for another amazing term of Theatre Kidz at Gateway Primary School — get ready for fun, creativity, confidence-building and lots of show-stopping moments!**






## Club Details

- **When:** Thursdays, 3:15pm – 5:15pm (a 2-hour session straight after school)
- **Where:** Gateway Primary School
- **Start Date:** Thursday 16th April 2026
- **Monthly Cost:** £40.00 – Payments are prorated and spread evenly across the year to cover all sessions - working out at around £5.75 per hour. Payments are taken automatically on the 7th of each month (excluding August).

**Please note: While classes are rarely cancelled, if this does happen we will apply a credit to your account.**

**👉 If your child is already part of the club, their place will automatically be secured for April – no action is needed.**


## What the Class Offers


-  Engaging drama and dance games to spark creativity
-  Confidence-boosting performance and movement activities
-  A warm, inclusive environment where all children are supported
-  A chance to build friendships and learn new skills each week
-  The opportunity to really learn and develop skills in dancing, drama and singing

## How to Register (for new joiners)

1. Sign up online at: <https://app.gostudiopro.com/online/tpa>
2. Set up your payment details and enable auto-pay
3. Select “Gateway – Theatre Kidz Club” to enrol


Once registered, your child's place will be secured for the new term.

** What to Bring Each Week** - Please send your child with a drink and a small snack (no nut products). Comfortable clothing and footwear are recommended for drama and dance activities.

** What Other Parents Say** - “My son has been attending Theatre Kidz for several years now. It's his favourite activity of the week, and we've seen such a boost in his confidence. He always comes home excited to show us what he's learned. Friendly and professional teachers – highly recommend!” – **Laura, Oxford**



BOOKING SYSTEM

 07930980038

 [info@theatrekidz.com](mailto:info@theatrekidz.com)

 [www.theatrekidz.com](http://www.theatrekidz.com)

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.

# GSA Colour Run and Rainbow Raffle 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May - Colour Run logo competition and Colour Run booking opens** (collect logo form from classroom or download from Dojo, colour run booking to be made through on Parenthub)

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Non School Uniform Day** - bring in an item in the colour of your year group and we will make coloured hampers for the raffle.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - Colour run logo competition ends** (all entries need to be handed into office before end of school)

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Colour Run and Rainbow raffle from 15.30**

Please bring a donation in the colour of your year group to add to a colourful family hamper, which will be available to win during our summer raffle on 19th June.

Your donation could be snacks, sweets, chocolates, drinks, toys, stationery, toileteries, games etc

## **GSA RAINBOW RAFFLE**

*Non Uniform Day 22nd May*

EYFS - **Red**    Yr1 - **Green**

Yr2 - **Orange**    Yr 3 - **Blue**

Yr 4 - **Yellow**    Yr 5 - **Pink/Purple**

Yr 6 - **Black/White**



# Easter Holiday Performing Arts Clubs Oxford!



**AGES 6-9**

**MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
1-5PM MUSICAL THEATRE**

**TUESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH  
1-5PM FUN DANCE FOR  
ALL ABILITIES!**

**AGES 10-16**

**MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
1-5PM JAZZ AND  
CONTEMPORARY DANCE**

**TUESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH  
1-5PM MUSICAL  
THEATRE**



**CHERWELL SCHOOL  
MARSTON FERRY ROAD  
OXFORD OX2 7EE**

**£25 PER 4 HOUR CLUB**

**LIMITED SPACES!**

**TO BOOK**

**INFO@MISSBREEZEDANCE.CO.UK**

**07554 304 544**

# The SAXONS

28 March - 1 November 2026

## Easter Holidays

28 March - 12 April  
Also this Easter holiday enjoy family-friendly Easter crafts, science fun and hands-on Saxon-inspired activities across the museum.

Discover Buckinghamshire's Saxon past in this major new immersive exhibition at Discover Bucks Museum

## Why visit?

- Meet the Saxons through engaging films, sounds, and immersive experiences.
- Hands-on interactives and digital storytelling bring history vividly to life.
- Discover real artefacts and try the fun family trail and creative activities.

**A great day out for curious minds and young explorers!**

## Opening Fun Day!

**Saturday 28 March, 10am - 5pm**

Join us for our fun family opening day featuring **re-enactors**, **storytelling** and **hands-on crafts**. Meet Saxon warriors and craftspeople, hear stories inspired by real discoveries, and take part in activities for all ages — the perfect way to bring the Buckinghamshire Saxon world to life.

Make a day of it and visit the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery this Easter holiday for hands-on discovery and amazing science inspired by Roald Dahl's stories.

**For more details, charges and to book please scan the QR code or visit [discoverbucksmuseum.org](https://discoverbucksmuseum.org)**



SA26SCH

Discover Bucks Museum, Aylesbury HP20 2QP  
01296 331441 | [discoverbucksmuseum.org](https://discoverbucksmuseum.org)

Art Fund



Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust Registered Charity No. 1153345



# THE | OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Singing School was established in 2013 to provide children with the opportunity to sing great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop their confidence and ability in singing and performing.

This Easter, we will be learning some beautiful seasonal music and, as always on our courses, we will be giving sessions on vocal technique, music theory, music appreciation and history.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see [www.oxbridgesingingschool.com](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.com) or email [oxbridgess@gmail.com](mailto:oxbridgess@gmail.com)

**30 & 31 March 2026**  
**OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE**

[www.oxbridgesingingschool.com](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.com)



# Wantage

## Children's Books Festival

Saturday 30 May 2026 at The Beacon Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BX

A new family-friendly festival  
celebrating reading and stories!

- Author events
- Illustrator activities
- Everyone welcome!



**FREE**  
RESERVE  
YOUR  
TICKET  
HERE



**FOR  
ALL  
AGES**

**BABY +  
TODDLER  
DROP-IN**

Illustrations by Carly Gledhill [www.carlygledhill.com](http://www.carlygledhill.com)

For the full programme:

[www.wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk/childrens-festival](http://www.wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk/childrens-festival)

Email: [childrensfestival@wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk](mailto:childrensfestival@wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk)

**GO  
ALL  
IN.**

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

# Easter Holidays



## NW Explorers

Ages 0-7

### Family Dance Party Cutteslowe

Saturday 11 April  
10.30am & 1pm

Join us for a 'hip-hopping, toe-tapping' daytime disco for all of the family. Featuring bubbles and balloons, movement activities and dance games, sensory play and face painting! With DJs playing party classics, for you and your little ones.

Tickets Pay What You Feel

## NW Inventors

Ages 8-11

### Make a Musical

30 March - 1 April  
9am - 12pm

Explore different ways of making music and devising theatrical stories, then work together to combine your new skills and create an original mini-musical!

Our holiday workshops for children focus on building confidence, developing drama skills and having fun!

Tickets £60



Full bursaries available

Email Abie on [waltona@thenorthwall.com](mailto:waltona@thenorthwall.com) to apply

Book now: [thenorthwall.com](http://thenorthwall.com)