

Weekly Newsletter: **Friday 1st May**

Current Topic: **'We Are Environmentalists'** Current Value: **Excellence**



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

EYFS— Chicks 99%  
KS1— Penguins 95%  
LKS2— Owls 96.9%  
UPKS2— Peacocks 97.6%

End of Week House points totals:

Spitfire — 222  
Lancaster — 257  
Hurricane — 178  
Wellington — 226

Tea Party Guests

These children have attended this weeks value tea party:

Eadie H, Thomas P, George F,  
Oliver M, Jasleen K, Maisy S

Stars of the Week

EYFS

**Chicks:** Morgan: For using his sounds to write clues for his riddle independently.

**Ducklings:** Vinnie: For awesome maths this week, recognising odd and even numbers, doubles and counting in 2's.

Year 1 and 2

**Penguins:** Oliver H: For working really hard and enthusiasm in maths this week. Well done! Litea: For working well in our English lessons this week, and for starting her story off so well. Well done!

**Robins:** Parker: For clearly explaining his excellent understanding of bridging through 10 when adding or subtracting 2, two digit numbers. Leah: For her positive and enthusiastic engagement with all our learning this week, and for wearing a huge smile everyday!

**Parrots:** Bella: For showing excellence when completing her work and independent challenges. Eva: For showing excellence in her work and supporting others.

Year 3 and 4

**Owls:** Logan: For showing creative different representations of fractions. Jayden: For making an excellent effort when reading aloud.

**Kingfishers:** Olivia T: For perfect presentation when writing instructions. Olivia C: For being resilient and confident when learning fractions.

**Doves:** Penelope: For consistently trying her best in all subjects and being such a supportive and kind friend to anyone who truly needs it. Elsie: For showing great resilience in learning tennis skills this week. You persevered and were really encouraging to others too.

Year 5 and 6

**Eagles:** Olivia L: For creating a beautifully presented and well-written leaflet on how to stay safe during an earthquake. Rose: For a positive attitude and hard work in understanding how to add and subtract related fractions.

**Peacocks:** Liam: For showing excellent focus in Maths with our adding and subtracting fractions work. Leah-Mai: For showing excellent focus in Maths with our adding and subtracting fractions work.

**Toucans:** Millie: For being an amazing Toucan and consistently giving 100% effort and focus in all of her lessons. Harley: For working hard to improve his writing when writing a balanced argument.

Wraparound Care

**Breakfast Club:** Thiago: For always being a superb role model at Breakfast Club!

### An update from Mrs Anstee

You may know that in year 6 our pupils sit a series of tests, known as 'The SATs.' Year 6 SATs (*Standard Assessment Tests*) are national assessments taken by pupils at the end of primary school. They focus on key areas of the curriculum, including reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling, and maths. These tests are marked externally, with results shared later in July.



This year, SATs will take place from **11th–14th May**, mainly in the school hall. This shouldn't cause any disruption around the rest of the school, but you may notice our year 6 cohort in earlier to enjoy a shared breakfast before their first test. The tests are used to give a snapshot of each child's attainment and to help secondary schools understand pupils' learning as they transition to Year 7. Results from schools' SATs tests can be found online in the Autumn Term.

Whilst we try to maintain a sense of calm and low pressure, we understand that this period can be worrying for families - if you feel your child needs further support during this time, please do get in touch.

### An update from Mrs Gardner

This month, we were honoured to welcome a group of RAF veterans into school to speak with the children about their experiences serving in the military. The visitors shared fascinating stories about their roles, the training and discipline expected of them, and the importance of teamwork, resilience and dedication throughout their careers. The children were highly engaged and asked thoughtful questions, gaining a deeper understanding and appreciation of military life and service.



As we come to the end of April, we have all enjoyed reflecting on the themes of *Belonging, Resilience and Community* linked to our military children and families. It has been wonderful to see these themes explored so naturally across different areas of the curriculum, with the children producing some thoughtful and meaningful work throughout the month. I am currently compiling a video celebration of the activities and learning that have taken place and look forward to sharing this with you shortly.

### An update from Mrs Summers

What a wonderful way to finish Month of The Military Child with a trip to watch the RAF Falcons launch. Those that didn't come with me watched it from the playground which was very exciting. For some of our younger children, this was their first time seeing anything like this, we are so lucky to have the team located here. We had a lovely picnic lunch, whilst we soaked up the atmosphere, leading up to the launch and made lots of noise so they knew where to land.

We were lucky enough to meet one of the team after the launch and ask him lots of questions, hold the parachute and wear his backpack. I am very proud to share that the children demonstrated Gateway values throughout the trip.



## EYFS

Another busy week in EYFS working on our In the Garden topic. This week we have been looking at riddle writing. We had to think of some clues to describe a minibeast and use our sounds to write them down. We had fun trying to guess what the riddle was about! We have been minibeast hunting around the garden and Forest School and found lots of slugs, snails and wiggly worms. We have built dens and made potions in the woods and enjoyed some 'cooking' in the new mud kitchen. We have been taking turns, jumping, climbing, and balancing in PE. We can use the apparatus safely and with good control. In Maths this week we have been looking at composition of numbers and all the ways to make

5 and 6. We have used clay to make some minibeasts and as part of our Month of the Military Child have created a big banner for the community (more about that later!) We have been practising our songs and words for our upcoming Assembly for our families and can't wait to share all the things we have been learning about with you.



## Year 1 and 2

We've had a great week in the sunshine once again! We have enjoyed more outdoor learning including: physical maths games, a fun ball skills PE lesson and exploring the school grounds to find different plants. Year 2 have visited Carterton Community College to be part of the Chance to Shine cricket session. Great fun was had by all! In Maths this week, Year 2 have applied their learning to solve word problems involving bridging 10 when adding or subtracting. Year 1 have started a new unit on measure, and have carefully used rulers to measure length and height. In English, we have started to write our own stories that involve a mysterious sea creature that needs to be saved. Finally, in Art we have used



clay to create sculptures with texture and form. Next week is our last week of We Are Environmentalists. We are looking forward to David Attenborough Day - please let us know if you can join us! A reminder as well to please ensure children are wearing sun cream and have a water bottle in school as it gets warmer.



### Year 3 and 4

After our busy week last week, it has been nice to get back into a bit of a routine this week.

We have been learning about all of the skills needed to write instructions in English. On Tuesday we got to explore the orienteering signs we now have on site and found hidden letters to make prepositions. We then applied these prepositions practically on Wednesday, by instructing a

partner to recreate a picture and using prepositional language in sentence writing. We have also spent some time this week immersing ourselves in our reading books, please make sure these are in school every day. In maths, we have continued with fractions. Children now understand the terminology numerator, denominator and division bar and can compare and order unit fractions.

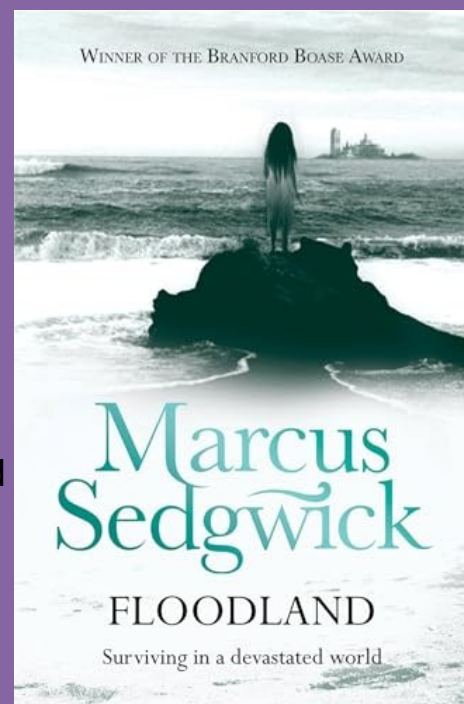
In time to talk, we discussed the importance of keeping our teeth healthy and created posters to show our knowledge. As the weather gets warmer, we will be making the most of outdoor learning opportunities so please make sure water bottles, hats and sun screen are in school.



### Year 5 and 6

This week in year 5 and 6, we have excitedly finished our text Floodland. Children were really excited to discover how Zoe's journey would end with plenty of gasps of surprises at the ending. In English, children have then begun to think about what could happen next for Zoe and as we continue into next week, they will be able to continue the story as they would want it to. In maths, children have continued to explore adding and subtracting related fractions and how to solve problem questions, breaking down the relevant information and using this to reach a solution.

During afternoon learning, children have continued with their art. They have been able to finalise their designs and transfer this onto their polystyrene printing block. This was a very methodical process which took much patience and resilience. In PE this week, Eagles and Peacocks took advantage of the lovely weather on Monday to have a house rounders competition. There was some fierce competition but despite this the teams used brilliant communication skills to work together. Year 5 children also continued with their cricket lessons, practising their catching skills before learning how to carry out overarm bowling correctly – this was a very tricky process with focus and perseverance from all. Toucans continued with their guitar lessons and are definitely becoming more confident in playing a variety of strings. Please do encourage your children to continue practising at home.



## Dates For The Diary

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

**Tuesday 5th May** — EYFS Vision Screening

**Thursday 7th May** — EYFS Sharing Assembly to Parents — 2:45pm

**Friday 8th May** — David Attenborough Day

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

**Wednesday 20th May** — Mingle In The Mess 8:30-9:30am

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

**Friday 22nd May** — End of Term 5 — Finish 3:15pm

**Wednesday 10th June** — Mingle In The Mess 8:30-9:30am

**Wednesday 17th June** — Sports Day — KS2 AM — EYFS KS1 PM — Please can all children come in PE kit for the day and wear a coloured t shirt that represents there house colour

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





Introducing COMPASS – Peer Support for Military Families with Children with SEND



Are you a military family caring for a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)? You're not alone.

COM-

PASS is here to provide a supportive community where you can connect, share experiences, and find practical advice from others who truly understand your journey. This group is open to serving personnel and their spouses or partners.

Wheth-

er you're seeking emotional support, information, or simply a friendly chat, COMPASS offers a safe space tailored to the unique challenges faced by military families.



Join COMPASS today and become part of a caring network that helps you navigate SEND with confidence and hope.

For more information or to get involved, email us at [BN-](mailto:BN-COM-)

[COM-](mailto:PASS@mod.gov.uk)

[PASS@mod.gov.uk](mailto:PASS@mod.gov.uk) or join our private Facebook group: 'Children of Military Parents Accessing SEN Support (COMPASS)'.

We also hold weekly 'Coffee & Catch-

Up' sessions for parents during term time, every Wednesday from 11:00 to 13:00 at Flat 12, Ely Close. Feel free to pop along for a chat – it's a welcoming space for both mums and dads.

**SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES PEER SUPPORT GROUP**

A friendly space for parents to connect, share experiences, and enjoy a coffee and catch-up

☕ Every Wednesday | 11:00am – 1:00pm

📍 Flat 12, Ely Close Outreach Hub, Carterton

• ♥ Families Welcome ♥ •

- ♥ A relaxed, welcoming environment
- 👥 Peer support from like-minded parents
- 📅 Opportunities to share experiences and advice
- 📅 School holiday & seasonal activities
- 💻 Online support via a secure Facebook group

**Get in Touch**

✉ [bnz-compass@mod.gov.uk](mailto:bnz-compass@mod.gov.uk)

📘 Children of Military Parents Accessing SEN Support (COMPASS)

Knowledge empowers you ♥



This May half term, Earth Trust invites families to Spring on the Farm, a hands-on Springtime adventure for curious young nature explorers. Step into the role of the farmer and help with real jobs on the farm – filling water buckets, topping up hay for the cows, and feeding the sheep. Meet the calves and lambs already thriving on the farm and discover what it takes to care for animals at this busy time of year! Explore the fields and gardens to uncover the minibeads and wildlife that flourish here, thanks to the nature-friendly way we farm around the Wittenham Clumps.

Spring on the Farm is designed especially for families with children aged 2-8, and makes for a relaxed and joyful alternative to busy holiday attractions

For more information follow the link below

<https://earthtrust.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=831146f42019bf4d5effcec92&id=beb3d71268&e=19e6b9008c>





# ATTENTION PARENTS!

BRAND NEW CLASSES LAUNCHING NOW IN CARTERTON!

GATEWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL | NETHERAVON CLOSE |  
CARTERTON | OXFORDSHIRE | OX18 3SF

AWARD  
WINNING  
PROGRAMS  
(AS SEEN ON  
TV)

## WEDNESDAY

MINIS 3 - 6 YEARS / 17:00 - 17:45

JUNIORS 7 - 11 YEARS / 18:00 - 18:50

TEENS 12+ YEARS / 19:00 - 19:50

BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL NOW!

Our award winning MINIS dance programme is specifically designed to support children aged 3 to 6 in developing confidence, coordination, listening skills, and self control. Through fun, structured movement and music, children learn discipline, respect, and positive behaviour while building a strong foundation for learning and self expression.

Our JUNIORS dance programme works hand in hand with a child's school life, providing many benefits both physically and mentally. Through focused and consistent training, students are taught the value of dedication, teamwork, and perseverance, learning that with effort and commitment, worthwhile goals are achievable.

Our TEENZ dance programme is designed to support older children and teenagers in building confidence, discipline, and self belief. Students develop creativity, fitness, and resilience while learning how to express themselves positively, work as part of a team, and challenge themselves in a supportive environment.

WWW.MFDANCE.CO.UK



FREE TRIAL | FREE UNIFORM | MONEY BACK GUARANTEED



# Is your child finding it hard to make a friend?

The award-winning makers of *The Dog House* are **casting** for a brand-new **BBC** series about **friendship**.

We are looking for **children aged 5 to 8** from all over the UK who need a little help navigating the world of friendship. Over three days, a team of child psychologists will help them build the social skills and confidence to make real, lasting connections with other kids.

If you'd like to help your child make a friend (with no pressure to take part), please apply at:

**[bemyfriend.tv](https://www.bemyfriend.tv)**

