

Diary Dates

- **Monday 13th April**
Return to school.
- **Tuesday 21st April**
Year 3 Swimming Lessons start
- **Monday 27th April**
Year 5 Bikeability (All week)
- **Friday 1st May**
Reception Assembly
9.00am
- **Monday 4th May**
May Day Bank Holiday—
School Closed
- **Monday 11th May**
Year 6 SATS start (All week)
- **Wednesday 20th May**
Class Photo Day
- **Thursday 21st May**
Athlete Visit
- **Friday 22nd May**
World Bee Day
Celebrations (Non-Uniform Day)
School Closes

Diary Change of Date

Please note that Sports Day will now take place on **Thursday 18th June 2026**.

Not on Wednesday 17th June as shown on the current year planner.

Message from Mr.B

What a fantastic final week to round off an extremely productive short half term! Thank you all so much for attending the wonderful Enterprise Fair yesterday and supporting the children in their endeavours—it was a tremendous success! Thank you also to our reading volunteers and mystery readers; your support has been fantastic this term and the children have really enjoyed the experiences.

We have conducted a curriculum review this half term and standardised our teaching, meetings have been held with all the teachers and action plans updated and modified. Our Maths and English approaches remain very strong and our broader foundation curriculum is more balanced and enriched. Our results will be shared with Governors at our curriculum meeting on the 22nd April. Governors are forming links with subject coordinators in order to conduct learning walks, book scrutinise and pupil voice activities to quality assure our curriculum. Pupil performance meetings have also taken place with the teachers following the children's Spring assessments; new targets have been set to facilitate the next steps for the summer term. The focus for our school improvement work next half term will be history, Art and our continued drive to improve the oracy of our children. The local authority conducted an audit this week on our development of the opportunities for speaking and listening in school and were very complementary about our approaches. Our target is to make them more consistent across school.

Many thanks for those parents who completed the survey recently. The results have been shared with Governors and we are working on addressing the points raised. We are working on the constructive comments raised.

Our building work over Easter will be replacing the fascia boards outside the lower junior door and begin the work of painting the external fascias and sills. We are also planning on replacing the external doors and we are in the process of securing quotes in order to get the best value for money. This work will be carried out as soon as possible. As you will appreciate, money is tight and our building work has recently been on maintenance—we value the environment our children work in and the improvements to the fabric of the school will bring it in line with the excellent practice inside the building. Over the Easter holiday we are having parking control measures installed outside of school. Parking pencils will be placed on the pavement opposite school to stop parking and a new path will be added to the grass verge near the layby to allow safer access to the school gates. Please park sensibly on the surrounding roads as the relationship with our neighbours has been difficult due to parking issues.

Enjoy reading the amazing experiences the children have had, have a wonderful Easter!

Lovely Ladies Celebration

The "Lovely Ladies" Celebration was a spectacular way to kick off our spring festivities, filling the school with vibrant smiles, laughter, and plenty of glitter. It was a true joy to welcome mothers, grandmothers, aunties, and special friends into our classrooms, and we extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us; it is our wonderful community that makes these moments so meaningful. Throughout the morning, our children from Early Years and KS1 were busy hosts, sharing "tasty treats" and refreshments while engaging in heart-warming activities.

The classrooms buzzed with creativity as students crafted hand-painted cards and bespoke keepsakes for Mother's Day, but the true highlight was the quality time spent reading stories and proudly showing off school work. While we cherish these memories, we haven't forgotten the gents—planning is already underway for our "Marvellous Men" event, so keep an eye on the calendar for your turn to get stuck into the fun!



Exploring the Future of Farming in Year 6

As part of our Science Week celebrations, Year 6 took an immersive look into the world of agricultural technology by participating in a live national event hosted by NFU Education. The session, titled *The Big Farming Quest*, offered a unique opportunity to see how core scientific principles are applied in the real world to feed the nation.



During the interactive broadcast, Year 6 explored the vital role of STEM in modern food production. They investigated how farmers use sophisticated data and robotics to manage crops and livestock sustainably. From understanding soil health to seeing high-tech machinery in action, the session sparked brilliant discussions about how we can protect the environment while maintaining food security.



The engagement from Year 6 was fantastic; they demonstrated great curiosity and represented the school excellently during the live Q&A. It was a wonderful way to highlight the diverse career paths available within the science and engineering sectors.

Year 1 Explorers

What a busy half-term we have had and to finish off with such a wonderful assembly, we were all very proud of the children. They were so confident and sang so well! We also really enjoyed our trip to the library, the children behaved brilliantly and loved looking at all the different types of books. We have loved our Art topic this half term of print making, building up to our final piece of relief printing our daffodil observational drawings. They turned out fantastic and the children liked learning a new skill. Finally we had our class treat where we used our fieldwork skills and using a map, we discovered the secret password to unlock the treasure!



Scientists in Year 2

It's been another busy half term in Year 2! We have learnt lots about different Scientists in our STEM lessons in Science. The children have also built towers using paper cups and rolling up paper in different ways, tested the best ways to roll an egg the furthest and become Bees and Flowers in our Science Week lesson to recreate the process of pollination. We, also, got creative in our DT lessons, designing and making our own moving vehicles using wheels and axels effectively. Most of all the children have enjoyed reading with their grown ups on World Book Day and celebrating Mother's Day through our Lovely Ladies event. Thank you to all those who attended! "



My favourite was Lovely Ladies because I could do different activities with my Mummy." - Olivia

Torkington's Mystery Readers

What an exciting and magical experience we have had in EYFS with our speciall Mystery Reader sessions!

Over the past few weeks, we have welcomed some very special surprise guests into our classrooms—our wonderful parents! The children did not know who would be visiting, which made it even more exciting. Before each visit, they were given a series of clues to help them guess who the mystery reader might be. There was lots of laughter, curiosity, and fantastic guessing as the children tried to work it out!

When the mystery reader was finally revealed, the children were delighted and eager to listen. Each parent shared a story with the class, helping to bring books to life in a warm and engaging way. It was lovely to see the children so captivated, enjoying stories read by familiar faces in a new and special setting.

These sessions have been a wonderful way to promote a love of reading, build confidence, and strengthen the connection between home and school. The excitement in the room was truly special, and the children have continued to talk about their favourite stories and surprise visitors long after the sessions ended.

A huge thank you to all the parents who took part—we really appreciate your time and enthusiasm in making this such a memorable experience for the children.

We look forward to welcoming more mystery readers in the future... who will it be next?



Teacher-Led Clubs

Teacher-led clubs will begin on Tuesday 21st April and continue until Tuesday 7th July. Information will be shared during the first week back.

Clubs will go live on ParentPay at 7pm on Wednesday 15th April.

New Menu after Easter

Our new menu will start after Easter. This has been shared on Dojo and is available to view on our Website. Alternatively, a copy can be obtained from the school office. The cost of school meals for junior and Nursery children is **£2.60 per day**. Please use ParentPay to make all dinner payments.

Please note that we require a week's notice to change lunchtime arrangements.

Please let us know if your child has any special dietary requirements.

Kickstart Clubs

Monday's After School Club will be changing to Archery after the Easter Break. Wednesday will remain as Multi-sports. These will start during the first week back (week commencing 13th April) – Information has been posted onto each relevant year groups DOJO page.

Attendance from September

- Reception 95.0%
- Year 1 96.1%
- Year 2 95.8%
- Year 3 97.5%
- Year 4 97.3%
- Year 5 96.3%
- Year 6 95.6%
- **Overall 96.2%**

Well done to **Y3** for achieving the highest % attendance, almost hitting the school target!

School Target : 98%

Attendance has been impacted by stomach and vomiting bugs this half term. Hopefully, after the Easter break illness wont be so prevalent and we'll get closer to our target.

Year 3 Inventors

Year 3 explorers dived into the fascinating world of British Inventors. We traced the sparks of genius that changed the world, from the thunderous steam engines of the Industrial Revolution to life-altering modern breakthroughs.

Students investigated the "How" and "Why" behind famous creations, sharpening their own problem-solving skills through hands-on design challenges. We looked closely at pioneers like Alexander Graham Bell and John Logie Baird, discovering how their original blueprints paved the way for the technology we used every day. It was a week filled with curiosity, sketches, and brilliant "Eureka!" moments.



Nursery and the World Around Us

We've had a wonderfully busy and exciting time in nursery over the past few weeks, filled with celebrations, creativity, and lots of learning!

To begin with, we had great fun celebrating Chinese New Year. The children explored traditions and learned about how the festival is celebrated around the world. They enjoyed making colourful decorations, trying themed activities, and talking about the animals of the zodiac. It was lovely to see their enthusiasm as they shared what they discovered.

Our learning has also focused on the natural world. We have been learning all about plants—what they need to grow and how they change over time. The children have been busy planting seeds and observing how they develop, showing great curiosity and care as they watch them grow.

Alongside this, we have been exploring mini beasts! The children have loved discovering tiny creatures such as insects and bugs, learning where they live and why they are important. We've had lots of fun searching for mini beasts and talking about their different features.

It has been a joy to see the children so engaged, curious, and eager to learn.



Year 4 Greenhouses

Our Year 4 classroom was transformed into a busy construction site this half-term, as the children took on a sustainable engineering challenge: designing and building their own mini greenhouses. This project combined science and design as our young engineers worked to solve the problem of how to trap heat and light effectively for plant growth.

Using a mix of lolly sticks and repurposed recyclable materials, the pupils navigated the full design process from initial sketches to finished prototypes. A major focus was structural integrity; the children experimented with complex joining techniques and discovered how "bracing" can turn a wobbly frame into a rigid, stable structure.

"I learned that using lolly sticks to make triangles made my frame much more stable and less wobbly." Ronnie

"I had to be resilient when making my structure as it kept falling down at first!" Theo



School Walkways

For the health & safety of everyone, please ensure that you are keeping to the school walkways when coming into school and refrain from walking through the carpark.

Bikes & Scooters should also not be ridden within the school grounds

Enterprise Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended the Enterprise Fair. We are delighted to let you know that we raised an amazing £514 !

The children worked so hard to design their products, plan their marketing strategies and budgeting.

A big well done to year 1 who raised the most money, a massive profit of £102.25. They will decide on how the money will be spent next half term.

Thanks for your support, its very much appreciated.

School is open as usual on Polling Day Thursday 7th May

School will be used as a polling station for the local elections this year but school will remain open as usual.

Alternative provision will be made for the children in Year 5 and Year 6.

Year 5 Powering the Future: Our Net Zero STEM Challenge

This term, we stepped into the shoes of environmental engineers to tackle the mission of reaching Net Zero. We wanted to find out how we can stop greenhouse gases from building up in the atmosphere, so we took on a hands-on STEM project: designing and building our very own solar ovens!

To start, we investigated how solar radiation can be a clean alternative to fossil fuels. We used our scientific knowledge of thermal conductors and insulators to build our ovens out of cardboard boxes, reflective foil, and insulating materials. It was a bit like a puzzle, making sure we angled our solar collectors perfectly to catch every bit of sunlight. The best part? We successfully generated enough heat to toast marshmallows and melt chocolate! It proved to us that sustainable technology really can work without producing any carbon emissions.

Beyond the tasty treats, we had some big discussions about reaching a "carbon balance." We explored how things we do every day, like heating our homes or travelling, contribute to global warming. We now understand why switching to green energy is so vital for the planet's future. This project showed us that while Net Zero is a huge global challenge, it all starts with innovative thinking and our commitment to protecting the environment for generations to come.



Poet Oliver Sykes in KS2

Our classrooms buzzed with energy as we welcomed the acclaimed poet and author Oliver Sykes. It was a fantastic session where the children saw first-hand how personal stories can be transformed into powerful performance poetry.

Oliver shared his inspiring journey and performed animated readings that had everyone captivated. The children then stepped into the spotlight, practicing their own rhythm and wordplay under his expert guidance. They explored themes of resilience and identity, proving that every voice matters.



Reception keep growing!

It's been a fantastic half-term in Reception, filled with wonder, muddy hands, and a growing curiosity about the world around us. We kicked things off with a bang, celebrating the Lunar New Year, where the hall was transformed by the sights and smells of a traditional Chinese feast. The children were absolutely mesmerized by the energy of the lion dancing and loved learning about how families around the world welcome the new year with so much joy and colour.

The excitement continued as we jumped into World Book Day, which took a bit of a mysterious turn! The children arrived to find a "crime scene" involving a very famous egg—Humpty Dumpty. We spent the day as detectives and scientists, conducting egg experiments to see if we could find a way to keep Humpty from cracking. It was wonderful to see everyone dressed up as their favourite book characters, and the highlight was definitely a visit from the NK Theatre group, who brought stories to life with a fantastic interactive workshop.

Building on that curiosity, we dove straight into our planting project. The children turned into budding botanists, exploring the different parts of a plant and setting up experiments to find the perfect conditions for growing a bean. This sparked some fascinating chats about the life cycles of living things, which we then took outside for some real hands-on exploration. Our young explorers had a blast pond dipping to uncover hidden aquatic life and spent plenty of time as expert "minibeast hunters" both inside and outside the classroom.

As we approached the end of the term, we shifted our focus to the story of Easter, blending the traditional history with some festive Easter Bunny fun.



ECO COUNCIL NEWS

Eco Council have been busy this half term! We took our Year 6 Eco Councillors to the Town Hall last week to participate in the Climate Action Summit. They represented our school brilliantly! Eco Council also led a whole school assembly about World Water Day, raising awareness of the importance of saving water and supporting charities in this effort. They have also held a poster competition in support of this event!

