

Five Ways Primary School Newsletter

March 2025
Issue 2 for 2024/25

Inform Magazine

Headteacher: Mrs R Mander



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Upcoming Events

Summer Term Begins:
Monday 28th April 2025

Polling Day — Thursday 1st
May 2025 (School closed
to pupils.)

May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 5th May 2025

Half Term
Monday 26th May -
Friday 30th May 2025

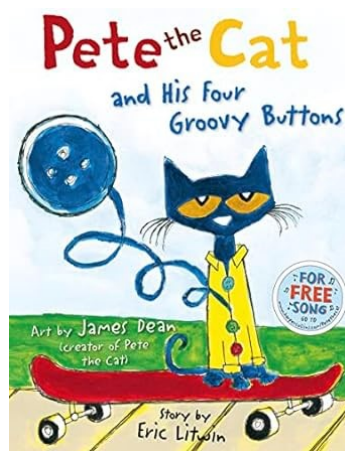
Inset Days
Friday 20th June
Monday 23rd June 2025

Last day of Summer Term
Friday 18th July 2025

Nursery News

What a fantastically busy spring term we have had in Nursery!

During Maths Day, the children took part in an active Maths challenge where they had to turn over as many cones as they could in 30 seconds. The children's activities that day were based around the story of Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons!



Nursery News

We explored the celebration of the Lunar New Year, we tried on traditional clothing, talked about how people around the world celebrate the Lunar New Year with festivals and dragon dances and even tasted some delicious Chinese food! We learned all about 'The Great Race' and why each year is named after a different animal. This year is the year of the Snake.



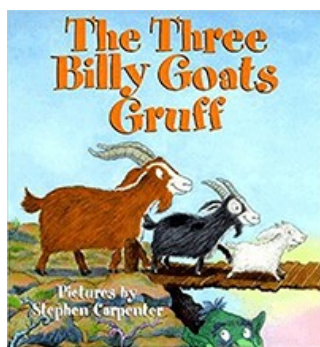
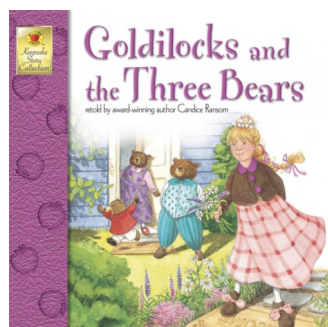
My Happy Mind - Celebrate

In our 'My Happy Mind' sessions this term we have been learning about the importance of character strengths. We have discussed how we can use our strengths to be our best selves and how to practice using these different strengths.



Nursery News**My Happy Mind — Celebrate****Traditional Tales**

This term, we have enjoyed reading traditional tales of The Three Billy Goats Gruff, The Gingerbread Man, The Three Little Pigs and Goldilocks and The Three Bears. To help us celebrate World Book Day, Nursery enjoyed watching a performance of The Gingerbread Man by Aesop's Theatre Company.

**March Marathon Challenge**

At Five Ways, we believe it is important for the children to learn about the importance of supporting others in our wider community. Each year group selects a charity to support by raising awareness of the work they do and by raising funds for them. Nursery's chosen charity is The Katherine Allport Foundation. During March, Nursery children completed a sponsored challenge of collectively walking a Marathon. All money raised went to The Katherine Allport Foundation, who help people in Staffordshire who are having treatment for cancer by providing them with beautiful free care hampers. For more information about The Katherine Allport Foundation or to apply for a free hamper, please follow the link:

<https://www.thekatherineallport.foundation/>



Reception News

Wow, over half way through the year! We have been enjoying lots of exciting themes.

We had a Chinese restaurant at school, where we enjoyed tasting noodles, prawn crackers and Chinese tea! Here are Darcey, Evie-May and Bonnie in Miss Lewis' class using the chopsticks to try the noodles. We looked at Chinese artefacts and even some authentic Chinese clothes. During PE, we did traditional dragon dancing and experimented playing musical instruments



Pancake Day

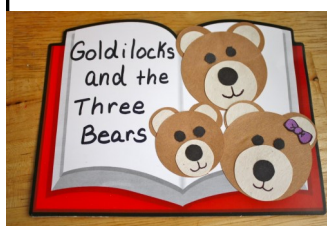
Reception loved making and eating pancakes. We measured the ingredients and chose different toppings.



Reception News

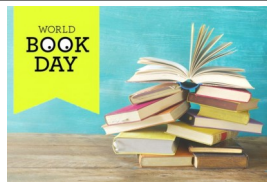


We have enjoyed learning about different traditional tales. We have covered Little Red Riding Hood, The Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Beanstalk, Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We enjoyed trying the Three Bears' porridge.

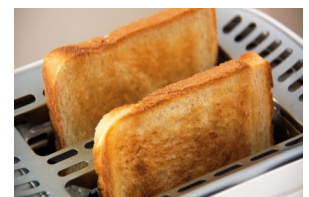


Reception News

We all dressed up for World Book Day and had a great time. Here is Ruby as 'Mr Bump' and George as 'The Beast'. Even the teachers dressed up! We enjoyed a performance of 'The Gingerbread Man' by the Aesop's travelling theatre company.



Reception News



We made Elmer toast by using a pipette to drip a combination of milk and food colouring onto the bread. We then toasted it and enjoyed it for our snack.

It was yummy!



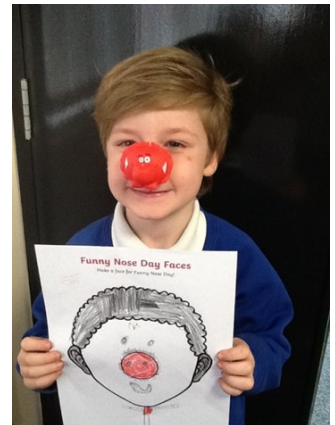
Year 1 NewsMagic Maths Workshop

On Monday 10th February, Year 1 were joined by Mr Tony Charles who visited us here at Five Ways. He completed a '**Magic Maths Workshop**' with each Year 1 class. The children absolutely loved the maths and enjoyed showing off their ever growing mathematical knowledge. We completed exciting activities and Mr Charles showed us some fantastic magic tricks. We revisited our learning on careful counting, repeating patterns, counting in groups, 2D and 3D shapes and their properties, positional and directional language, and much more!

We even learned a maths magic trick that we could show our grown ups at home!



As part of our Year 1 Design and Technology project, we have built bug hotels. We have looked in detail at stable structures and what is needed. We then designed and created our own bug hotels situated in our very own Acorn Wood, outside Miss Buchan's classroom.

Year 1 News

Here are Margot S and Teddy D from Miss Wilson's class taking part in our Comic Relief activities. We enjoyed completing a range of activities, including designing our own red nose. We also loved showing each other our own red noses that we had purchased from the charity itself.

Year 2 News

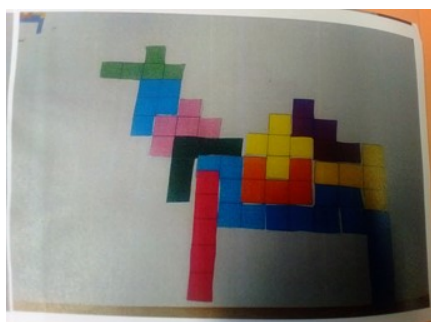
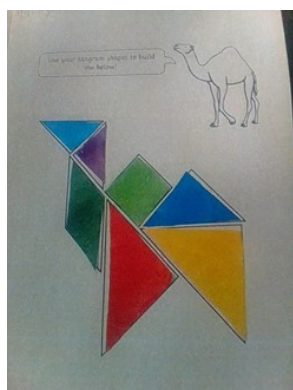
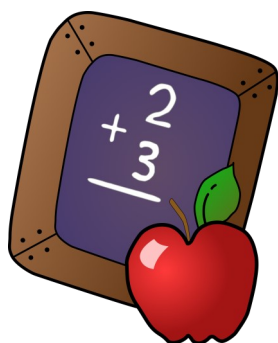
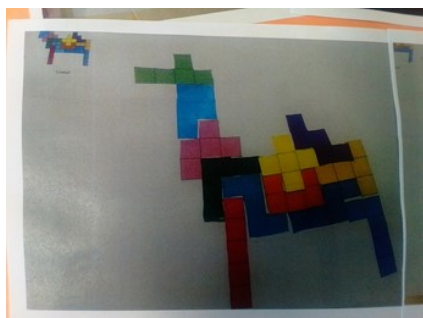
In the week beginning 3rd February, Year 2 participated in Mental Health Week. During assemblies and PSHE sessions, we discussed books about emotions, such as 'My Monster and Me' by Nadiya Hussain and 'The Lion Inside', by Rachel Bright. We used books such as 'Don't Be Sad, Sam', 'My Mixed Emotions' and 'My Strong Mind' to discuss strategies for coping with emotions such as anger, sadness and worry.

Here are some photographs from Miss Wright's class: Fabulous worry monsters by Mikael, Olivia and Rudy.



Year 2 News**Maths Day**

We really enjoyed our Maths Day on Friday 7th February. We took part in lots of different Maths challenges. The children took part in 'shape and space' challenges and tried to beat their partner to build tangram and pentomino pictures. Our sponsored event was a number hunt. Some children also faced the 'triangle' challenges and investigated how many different shapes they could make using triangles and how many different triangles they could build from strips of different lengths. Some children revised their knowledge of 2D shapes and 3D shapes and played 'shape' games such as, 'What shape am I?' We had great fun! Here are some photographs from Mrs Robinson's class of their camel tangrams.

**World Book Day**

On World Book Day, we all came to school dressed as our favourite book characters and lots of fun was had! Throughout the day, we completed a range of activities, explored a variety of texts and had plenty of opportunities to get our 'noses' stuck into some fantastic books. Mrs Darby and Miss Malpass challenged us to use a wordless book to develop our oracy skills. In Year 2, we used Window by Jeanine Baker which linked beautifully with our previous learning about environmental activist, Greta Thunberg and our English text, Greta and the Giants. Using this book, we were able to have a rich discussion that developed our ambitious vocabulary and creative imaginations. We created some excellent artwork of looking out of our own windows. Some children decided that they were going to live amongst the movies stars in Hollywood, whilst others thought about how transport will develop in years to come, such as by travelling by hot air balloons and even flying cars!



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

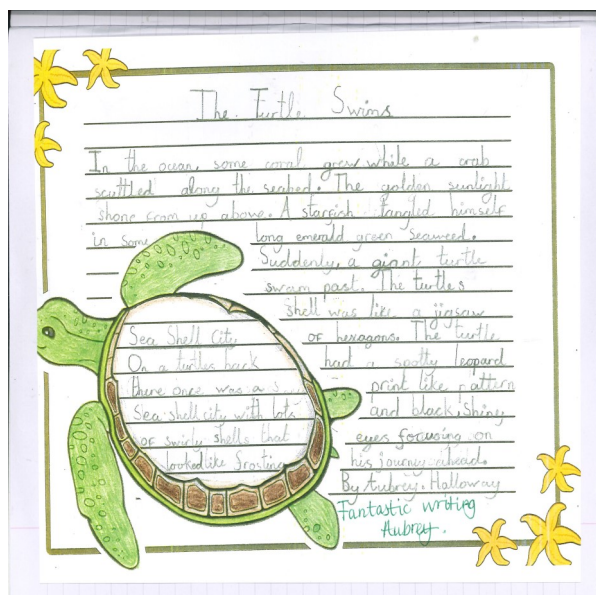
Here are some photographs from Miss Cattell's class:



Year 3 News

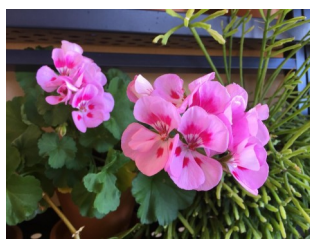
For World Book Day, Year 3 children studied 'Flotsam' by David Wiesner. The theme this year was 'Read Your Way' and there was no better way of doing this than sharing a wordless picture book. The children told the story by identifying key events in the plot and recognising the setting and characters along the way. The book follows the journey of a camera on an underwater journey. The children used ambitious vocabulary to build super sentences and completed descriptions of the illustrations in the book.

Here is an amazing example of the writing that was produced by Aubrey Holloway to accompany one of the illustrations.



In science in Year 3, we have been learning all about plants and how they grow, what they need to grow and different parts of the growing process. We have completed an investigation as shown here where we have learned about water transportation by using food colouring and cut flowers.

We have also begun to grow some plants, investigating what a flower needs to grow.

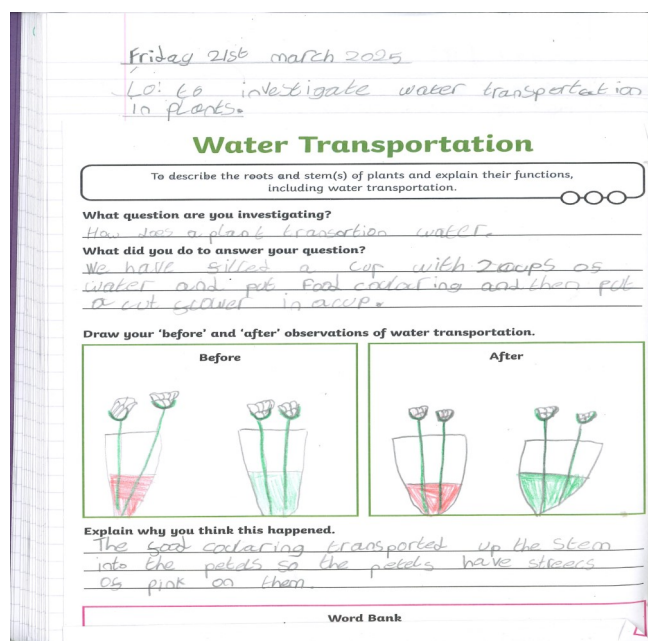


In the leopards class, we have investigated temperature by having two plants in the classroom and two outside.

In the Tigers class, we have investigated light by keeping two plants away from the sun and having two plants grown in the sun.

In the Lions class, we have investigated water by watering two plants and not watering the other two.

This will show us what conditions a plant needs to grow.



All children enjoyed learning about the importance of perspective when participating in a landscape painting lesson. Each pupil developed an understanding of background, middle-ground and foreground. Terminology such as, the horizon was defined by where the ground meets the sky. Media such as pencil and paint were used to create a masterpiece such as the painting seen below.



Year 4 News

This term, the children in Year 4 have enjoyed reading their year group text, 'The Accidental Prime Minister' by Joe McLaughlin. Each Year 4 class have written letters to the Prime Minister explaining why Joe's favourite park should be kept open using the features of a formal persuasive letter.

**Willow Dawson — Miss Myatt's class**

Dear Prime Minister,

Subject: Urgent Appeal to Keep Our Local Park Open

I hope you understand this letter I give to you. I would like to remind you about our local park closing. Everyone enjoys the park so I deeply need you to know that if the park closes everyone will be sad so hopefully you understand this letter.

Did you know that 80% of people prefer learning outdoors than indoors? The park is a place you can make friends.

Furthermore, if the park closes, our time to play on the park will be gone and there will be no happy kids in our local area. Don't you understand you are taking loads of green space away?

In addition, if you want every kid happy and to have loads of friends, you would need to keep our local park open. Our park is an outside classroom where kids can play and have fun. If you take away our park, kids won't be able to learn about the environment.

In conclusion, shutting down our park will make dog walkers frustrated with you and there will be no room for people to play football. If you want a happy and a calm area around this area, our park is amazing for that.

Yours sincerely,
Joe Perkins.

Year 4 News**Ila Sweeney — Miss Lane's class**

Dear Prime Minister,

Subject: Urgent Appeal to Keep Our Local Park Open

My name is Joe Perkins and I am writing to you to keep our park open.

Firstly, children need the park for learning social skills and exploring about how nature thrives. If the park is closed, how will they learn these essential skills?

Furthermore, children need the park for a sunny day when their friends are all playing out and when they are older, they will be thankful for all their memories and they will look back and smile. The park is a place to play, learn and where friendships blossom and grow.

Finally, the threat of the closure of the park in our community is causing stress for the children around the town. This treasured green space is not just for children. Adults can enjoy the vibrant space to be calm and relax. Everyone has and will enjoy the nature, mostly young people by doing activities like running. Mental health is also an important thing so going in the park will help.

In conclusion, keep the park open and make everyone happy.

I am looking forward to your response,

Yours sincerely,
Joe Perkins

In the story, the main character (Joe Perkins) 'accidentally' makes a speech expressing what he would do if he was to become Prime Minister. Mr Garner's class wrote their own speeches explaining what they would do if they were to become Prime Minister.

Iyla Russell — Mr Garner's class

Hello everyone,

Please vote for me to be the next Prime Minister because I will be a good person in this country and I promise to be kind and respectful to all people.

Firstly, I could make a change to rivers. They should be made shallower so that people can swim in them safely and clean them easier.

Also, school can sometimes be boring so we should put a life-size pool in all schools.

I am also planning to build luxury flats that are free to live in. Do you want to stay there? Then, vote for me. People will love staying in my luxury flats. They give me five stars and I have lots of exciting plans for the flats.

Please vote for me.

Year 5 NewsFantasy Writing

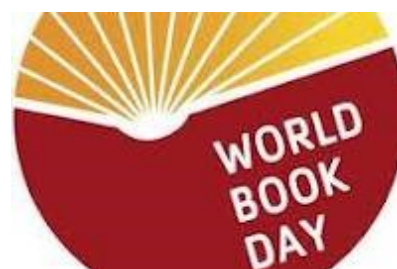
Year 5 have worked extremely hard this term planning and writing their own fantasy stories. Miss Emery's class created their own fantasy settings in a box. As part of the project, the children entered a competition for the most resourceful box produced and Georgia and Toby came first and second respectively. Well done to all of the children for their amazing efforts!

Sewing Club

Year 5 pupils have enjoyed taking part in sewing club after school this term. Pupils have brushed up on a long list of skills, including: cross stitch, sewing on a button, threading a needle, running stitch and blanket stitch. They have produced lovely bookmarks and small pincushions.

Year 5 NewsWorld Book Day

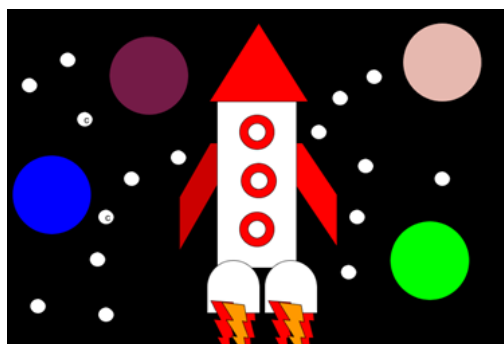
During World Book Day, Year 5 studied Anthony Browne's picture book 'Voices in the Park'. The children enjoyed finding hidden messages and layers of meaning throughout the illustrations. They completed some superb artwork based around the different perspectives in the book.



Eliza, Rosie, Summer and Scarlett's artwork.

Year 5 NewsYear 5 Computing

Year 5 children have been learning all about Vector drawings in their computer lessons. The children have learned how to use Google Drawings to create scenes using only shapes that they have combined to make larger creations! The children have worked very hard to develop their drawing skills and have learned: copy and paste, zooming, rotating, changing colours, undoing and redoing, ordering and resizing.



Above: Ceire and Elsie's designs.

Book in a Box

Mrs Lindsay's class created some amazing 'Book in a Box' projects for World Book Day. The projects were used as part of a guess the book activity on World Book Day and now a selection of them are on display in the KS2 library.

Year 5 News

Year 5 News

The children in Mrs Gosling's class have been writing their own fantasy stories. Below are a couple of extracts from their work.

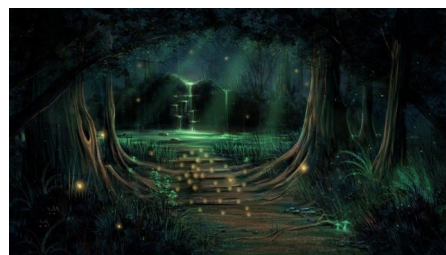
Eliza has written:

Lulu woke up and found herself in what looked like an amazing place. She stood up slowly, while she looked around trying to find something she knew. Once again, she remembered that strange dream. She knew she had to find the spiteful queen she'd heard the villagers talk about. Nervously, Lulu went out on her journey, stepping carefully on the ancient, wobbly bridge. Quite soon, she came across the uninviting Forest of Mystery, that no one had explored before. The next morning, Lulu started out towards the dangerous river and it wasn't long before she soon reached it. Suddenly a figure appeared out of nowhere. "Who are you?" Lulu asked in a confused way. "I'm Starlight, the Goddess of the Water and I have a gift for you," she replied. It was an enchanted bow and arrow. Before Lulu could thank Starlight, she disappeared.

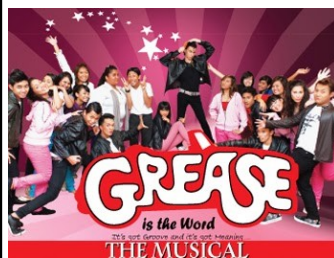
Year 5 News**Thomas has written:**

Tim walked carefully across the muddy spiky grass and he spied a giant cyclops.

"Who are you?" Tim said.
"Haha I'm..." and before he had finished, he disappeared.



Timous knew that he had to get to the giant Large Grand Mountain before nightfall. Timous saw that a storm was coming right towards him. He set up a wooden hut and waited until it was gone. Once the storm was finally gone he decided that he wasn't going to give up. Timous still didn't know where the magical rock was. He looked ahead at the enchanted tree that King Midas had destroyed. He came to two pathways and stood trying to decide which way to go. One of the paths said... This way :O)! He remembered that he was meant to be going right not left and decided that right was the correct way. He saw a massive hole in the ground and a broken trail. Timous then noticed out of the corner of his eye a rock that was glowing a bright, golden colour and decided to pick it up.

Grease is the Word!

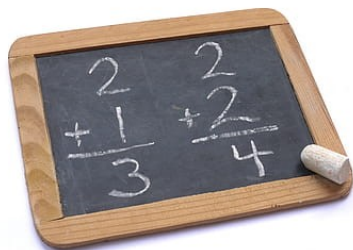
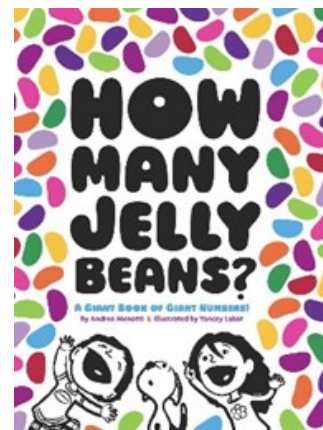
Year 5 also enjoyed visiting Kingsmead this term to watch their performance of Grease the Musical. Prior to our visit, a member of their music department came to deliver a workshop to pupils to learn a couple of the songs ready for our visit. It was wonderful to see such a polished performance and spot a number of past Five Ways pupils both on stage and behind the scenes.



Year 6 News

Maths Day 2025!

This year, Year 6 focused our maths activities around a book titled 'How Many Jelly Beans?'. We saw the amount of jelly beans grow and grow throughout the book and used this to inspire many challenges, including: translating jelly beans across a coordinate's grid, tallying data and producing a bar chart and partitioning large numbers of jelly beans into different flavours. Year 6 also completed their Sponsored Event: Number Chase on the playground. In pairs, the children needed to answer as many questions as they could against the clock. With questions hidden all over the playground, this event challenged mathematical skills but also speed, teamwork and efficiency. Here are some of the Year 6's completing the event:



Year 6 News

Introducing the newly-elected School Council!

Following a rigorous application process, we are pleased to announce that Five Ways' School Council 2024/25 has been elected! Our 15-strong council meet regularly to plan, budget, action and achieve projects throughout the year, with the first being based on 'myhappymind'. Each year group from Early Years to Year 6 is represented through members of our council, giving children a voice no matter their age. We look forward to publishing updates about our projects throughout the year!



Year 6 pupils have also been studying the book 'The Arrival.' From this the pupils came up with a poem linked to the text: How the man felt when he was leaving his land.

The Arrival

Fly high dove,
Loudly, I show my love,
Weakly, my hand slips,
Beautifully, she wonders in my mind,
Thoughts of her span miles,
Soon, I will see them again,
Often, they flash my mind,
Weakly, I remember you telling me
to be kind,
You I will always love,
So fly high above.
By Nixon Sketchley

The Arrival

Fly high dove,
Sadly, I packed,
Quickly, I gave my love away,
Madly, times goes away from
me, Cruelly, my dad leaves me,
Thoughts of her span miles away,
Desperately, I hold my love inside me,
Tightly, I tie the string to me and my dad,
Patiently, my possessions are waiting for new life,
My hands are slipping from my life,
You I will always love.
By Lacey-Mae Todhunter

Poetry



The following children have achieved 100% attendance during the Spring Term. Congratulations!

Reception

Harry A, Isabella A, Evie B, Lewis B, Alex B, Evie C, Jenson D, Esther E, Jacob G, Rose G, Darcey G, Charlie H, Olly H, Erin H, Sophia H, Loken L, Isla M, Imogen M, Patrick M, Jack P, Billy R-B, Henry R, Charlie S, Finlay Se, Finley Sh, Amelia W.

Year 1

Edie C, Maggie C, Florence C, Amelie C, Teddy D, Alexander D, Freddie F, Isabella F, Caleb G, Betsy G, Vinni H, Frankie H, Poppy H, Maddison H, Lorian L, Brendon L, Olivia M, Alysee Mc, Haydn N, Toby R, Romi S, Fern T, Iris T, Isla V, Phoebe W, Lewis W.

Year 2

Leo A, Issac A, Heath B, Dylan C, Mollie C, Tommy D, Oscar D, Oliver D, Angel E, Leonard E, Ivy H, Alex H, Jacob I, Isabella J, Emilia J, Lily -Jane J, Fleur L, Georgia M, Darcey-Rae Mc, Toby M, Jaxon P, Grace P, Raeya P, Millie R, Harry R, Olivia S, Lily S, Carter S, Daisy T, Alanna T-B.

Year 3

Frankie B, Jake B, Thomas B, Chloe C, Megan C, Daisy F, Poppy H-G, Leo H, Albie H, Joseph K, Lexie L, Skyla L, Eva M, Grayson M, Lola O, Arthur P, Arlo P, Mason R, Evelyn R, Ronnie S, Gracie S, Lily W, Ellie W.

Year 4

Thea B, Max C, Harry C, Brody E, Annabelle G, Isabelle H, Darcey H, Scarlett L, Poppy L, Mollie L, George N, Isabelle N, Jack R, Freddie S, Sofia S, Charlie S, Alanna S, Ila S, George T, Amelia V, Colby W, Esme W.

Year 5

Poppy B, Primrose B, Joshua C, Scarlett C, Elliot D, Ava D-Y, Eadie F, Stephen Erdrei G, William G, Evie H, Nancy-M H, Isabella H, Dexter L, Harrison M-S, Cecelia N, Joseph P, Willow P, Tobias P, Preah R, Harry R, Noah R, Eliza R, Emelia R, Amaia S, Ceire S, Isla-Rose S, Jack S, Oscar S, Issac T, Amelia T, Madeleine W, Seren W, Jack W, Jacob W, Huw W.

Year 6

Finley B, Harrison B, Georgia B, Sophie C, Harrison D-Y, Lacey F, Aaliyah H, Poppy H, Erin H, William J, Logan K, Charlie K, Yaroslava K, Mykola K, Ben L, Maisie P, Amber R, Louis S, Charlie S, Frank S, Harry S.

Mrs Mander would like to say...



Thank you to everyone for another wonderful term. I hope you all have a lovely Easter break with your families. I look forward to seeing you when we return to school on Monday 28th April.

