



“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow”

Through having high expectations for all, we constantly strive to promote the overall development of all members of our school community to enable them to reach their full potential. We are a welcoming, and motivational school that nurtures and supports pupils to learn transferable skills for life-long learning.

Message from Simon Roberts

This week is Children’s Mental Health Week, which has provided us with an important opportunity, in school, to explore what good mental health looks like. This year’s theme – “Let’s Connect” – has encouraged the children to look at how we can make meaningful connections. They have been participating in activities which have helped them to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways.

Parents’ Evening

Appointments are now available to book in the usual way on Arbor. All parents’ evening appointments will be face-to-face in school with your child’s teacher.

Staffing Updates

- In addition to her existing teaching commitments in school, Mrs Huntley will now be working in reception covering Miss Hardy’s period of maternity leave.
- We will be welcoming Emily Foote to year 3, during the Spring 2 term, to cover Mrs Keeling’s maternity leave. Emily has previously worked in the Ventrus Multi Academy Trust as a SENDco and prior to that has experience elsewhere working across different year groups in Key Stage 2.

I hope your children have a fantastic break, and we look forward to seeing them back on Monday 20th February.



School Improvement

As communicated previously, as part of ongoing school improvement work, I am now looking to engage further with the school community. I believe that it is essential that, as part of any review work, I gather your thoughts and opinions. This will help support me in reviewing existing systems, procedures and practices and when considering where and when changes could be made

If you would be interesting in sharing your ideas and thoughts, please complete the questionnaire via the link below. Thank you in anticipation of your support!


<https://forms.office.com/e/0E0Sq4y725>

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far!





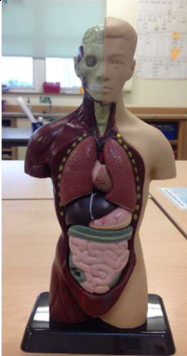


Celebrations

Mathematicians of the Week		
		
Our mathematicians for the last fortnight were:		
	03.02.23	
Acorn	Evie	
Andrews	Alfie	
Scott	William	
Daley	Grace	
Acland	Teddy	
Reynolds	Jasper	
King	Leo	

Stars of the Week		
		
Our stars for the last fortnight were:		
	03.02.23	
Acorn	Bessy	
Andrews	Olive	
Scott	Lily SV	
Daley	Emmanuel	
Acland	Noah	
Reynolds	Jamie	
King	Tyler	

Questions of the Week		
		
Our impressive questioners for the last fortnight were:		
	03.02.23	
Andrews	Natalie	
Scott	Solly	
Daley	Murray	
Acland	Stanley	
Reynolds	Anabelle	
King	Lewis	

Our fortnight in photos

Acorn class	Andrews class	Scott class
		
<p>In our health and wellbeing lessons, we have been learning about the importance of keeping our teeth clean and healthy.</p>	<p>In science, we have been learning about our senses. We went on a walk around school hunting for things that would stimulate our senses!</p>	<p>In art, we have been creating clay sculptures in the style of Friedensreich Hundertwasser.</p>
Daley class	Acland class	Reynolds class
		
<p>In computing, we have been developing our skills using Scratch programming.</p>	<p>In science, we have been exploring the different organs within our digestive system.</p>	<p>In PE, we have been developing our skills in tag-rugby.</p>
King class		
		
<p>In PE, we have been completing a range of activities during circuit training.</p>		

Diary Dates

Term	Commences	Finishes
Spring	3 rd January 2023	31 st March 2023
Summer	18 th April 2023	21 st July 2023

Date	Item
10 th February	Non-Pupil Day (school closed)
13th – 17th February	Half-Term Week
27 th February	Daley class Parent Appointments
8 th March	World Book Day (re-arranged)
8 th March	Parents' Evening (All classes)
9 th March	Parents' Evening (All classes <u>except</u> Acorn and Daley class)
15 th March	Parents' Evening (Acorn class only)
13 th – 17 th March	British Science Week
17 th March	Parent event linked to British Science Week (14:45 to 15:25)
17 th March	Red Nose Day
31 st March	The Duchy Mile
31 st March	Last Day of Term

The Duchy School Uniform

The school places great importance on the wearing of school uniform. It is a valuable sign that children have pride in their membership of the school and in the team spirit it creates.

- We ask that all items of clothing and personal items are marked with your child's name.
- Sweatshirts, cardigans and purple tee shirts are available from the school.
- Black PE hoodies are optional and can be ordered from the school office. No nail polish, added hair colours or make-up.

Please do check for availability with the office before paying for any items on Parent Pay first.

UNIFORM
Purple sweatshirt/cardigan available from the school
White polo shirt or blouse
Grey trousers/shorts/knee-length skirt/knee-length pinafore
Grey or white socks/tights
Black shoes (not boots) - trainers are not permitted
Purple and white summer dress/ blue, white or black summer sandals with socks
Purple PE tee shirt/black PE shorts/ white PE socks/white or black trainers/optional black PE hoodie

World Book Day 2023

Wednesday 8th March

The Potato Challenge!

This year, to celebrate **World Book Day**, we will be holding a **Design a Potato Book Character** competition. Entry is optional.

Take **one raw potato** and use any craft materials you might have to make it look like a character from a book. Your potato should stay whole, but paint, pen, glitter, tissue, cardboard, paper, and other materials, can be added to the outside.

If we can help with any materials, we will; please ask your class teacher.



A winning entry will be chosen from each class and a prize awarded.

Please bring your potato character into school on Wednesday 8th March, clearly labelled with your name, class, and the name of your character.